

Revelation
The Lamb of God: On His Throne and Among His People
Jesus is Coming Again Soon!
Revelation 22
Study Notes

Home Group Questions

- Read Revelation 22:1-5. What questions arise? What captures your imagination?
- Revelation 22: Scripture does not tell us as much as might want to know about the new heavens and the new earth, but what we know about it comes from God's Word. In the same way that we should take our cues about interpreting Revelation from the Old Testament rather than the headlines, we should also take our cues about heaven from Scripture (especially the New Testament and especially Revelation) rather than from books written by people who died briefly and describe an experience they had.
 - Revelation 22:6 And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place."

7 "And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

- If God's Word is our guide for life and prepares us for heaven, discuss the following ways we should interact with Scripture:
 1. Read it – Revelation 1:3
 2. Study it – 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:14-17
 3. Memorize it – Psalm 119:11
 4. Meditate on it – Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:15
 5. Obey it – James 1:22-25
- What did you learn in our study in Revelation? What concerned/scared you the most and what comforted you the most? What do you still wish you knew? How will it change the way you live?

- Pray for our Mission Fair on Sunday evening, October 12. Pray also for our Teaching/Preaching Seminar with Mike Raiter on October 11.

Quotes and Thoughts from the Sermon

Connections between Ezekiel 40-48 and Revelation 22

From Louis Brighton's Revelation Commentary

- After a vision with a detailed description of the end-times temple (Ezekiel 40-46), Ezekiel sees a renewed and transformed creation with a river of water flowing out from the temple, bringing life to creatures and furnishing food for people (Ezekiel 47:1-12)
- As the river flows it wells up, as it were, and becomes greater in depth (Ezekiel 47:3-5)
- When it empties into the Dead Sea, “the waters are healed” (Ezekiel 47:8)
- Fruit trees grow on both banks of the river (Ezekiel 47:7, 12)
- The leaves of the trees never wither, and every month the trees bear fruit (Ezekiel 47:12)
- The leaves are for “healing” (Ezekiel 47:12)
- The river has the ability to create and sustain life because it flows from the temple of God (Ezekiel 47:12)

Statement About the Trinity, by Gregory of Nazianzus Late 4th Century Theologian – Bishop of Constantinople

The first portion of this writing is technical – it is massively important theologically. If it is too technical for you, skip to the highlighted section as you contemplate the Trinity.

“This I give you to share, and to defend all your life, the one Godhead and power, found in the three in unit, and comprising the three separately; not unequal, in substances or natures, neither increased nor diminished by superiorities nor inferiorities; in every respect equal, in every respect the same; just as the beauty and the greatness of the heavens is one; the infinite conjunction of three infinite ones, each God when considered in himself; as the Father, so the Son; as the Son, so the Holy Spirit; the three one God when contemplated together; each God because consubstantial (*or, of the same substance*); one God because of the monarchia (*the unity of God; God is one*). **No sooner do I conceive of the one than I am illumined by the splendor of the three; no sooner do I distinguish them than I am carried back to the one. When I think of any one of the three I think of him as the whole,**

and my eyes are filled, and the greater part of what I am thinking escapes me. I cannot grasp the greatness of that one so as to attribute a greater greatness to the rest. When I contemplate the three together, I see but one torch and cannot divide or measure out the undivided light.”

Application for the Message and for the Entire Revelation Series

1. Life is fragile – whether you are a Christian or not, give your whole life and heart to Jesus now
2. Live with eternity in view
3. Pray for Jesus to return soon

Hymn: The Sands of Time are Sinking, by Anne R. Cousins

The bride eyes not her garment, but her dear bridegroom’s face;
I will not gaze at glory, but on my King of grace;
not at the crown he gifteth, but on his pierced hand;
the Lamb is all the glory of Immanuel’s land.

Scripture Associated with the Message

Seeking – and Seeing – God’s Face

Exodus 33:18 Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” 19 And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 20 But,” he said, “**you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.**” 21 And the Lord said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, 22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

Psalm 27:8 Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!

8 You have said, “Seek my face.”

**My heart says to you,
“Your face, Lord, do I seek.”**

Psalm 105:4 Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually!

Revelation 22:3 No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. 4 **They will see his face,** and his name will be on their foreheads.

Ecclesiastes 7:10 Say not, “Why were the former days better than these?”
For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.

See Genesis 3:1-21

Revelation 7:13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” 14 I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Hebrews 10:1 For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. 2 Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? 3 But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. 4 **For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.**

John 1:29 The next day he (John the Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

Romans 10:9 if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

13 For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Colossians 3:1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.