

Chapter 31—The End of Time



- I. The Book of Revelation presents to us the triumphant Christ.
- A. We are assured that in the end, God wins.
 - B. It appears that Rome rules the world as John the Apostle is in exile on the Island of Patmos, but *things are not what they seem.* *Revelation 1:8*
 - C. The triumphant Christ stays with his church. *Revelation 1:12-13*
 - 1. The Book of Revelation is a book of sounds, images and numbers.
 - 2. The lamp stands are the churches—that's how Revelation works.
 - 3. John is an artist with a pallet of metaphors and Revelation is more a book of imagination than explanation, more a symphony than a sermon, more theater than classroom lecture.
 - D. The number 7 is used 54 times in Revelation, being the number of completion.
 - 1. With Jesus visiting 7 of his churches means that he visits all of his churches. *Revelation 2-3.*
- II. The Book of Revelation presents to us the very center of the universe. *Revelation 4:1-2*
- A. The center of the universe is heaven, and the center of heaven is a throne, and there is Someone, our triumphant God, sitting on the throne.
- Application:** Rome was not in control of the world; God was. Washington, D.C., does not run our world. God does. God is up to something, and that something is the revelation of his glory.
- B. The center of the universe is full of the worship of God. *Revelation 4:6-11*
 - C. The Christ prevails and the church prevails against Satan and all adversaries. *Revelation 5-9*
 - D. God creates a new heavens and a new earth for his redeemed people. (***stand & read Revelation 21:1-6***)
- **All of us want a new home and all of us need clean water. That is the picture in *Revelation 21-22.*****
- III. The Book of Revelation and the whole Bible present the truth that God will make all things right.
- A. Genesis presents the creation of the heavens and earth; Revelation presents the new heavens and earth.
 - B. Genesis tells of the creation of the sun, moon and stars; Revelation tells that there is no need of the sun because God will be the light.
 - C. Genesis tells of paradise lost; Revelation presents paradise regained.
 - D. Genesis tells us that Satan was in the first garden; Revelation tells us Satan is banished forever from the new garden.
 - E. The “new” in new heavens and earth and new Jerusalem means rejuvenated, not replaced.

Discussion Questions

1. What was John's response when he saw Jesus in the vision? Why did he respond this way?
2. How do the warnings Jesus gave to the churches apply to your life?
3. What have you learned about God from his actions and descriptions in this chapter?
4. What steps can you take to set your hope more fully on what you know about eternity from this chapter?

- ☐ **Application:** Revelation promises a new heavens and earth and a new Jerusalem. The question that remains is: Will you be there? Imagine an angel shouting, “Move that bus!” Will you enter into the home prepared for you? On that day, everything we will have ever experienced will have been worth it all.
 - ☐ The question only you can answer is: Will you be there? The Story has been all about God wanting to be with you. Do you want to be with God?
 - ☐ We have finished reading The Story, but we must go on living The Story.