

#### The Eternal State

"Heaven"
Part 8

# "Our Response to the Book of Revelation" Part 1

Rev. 3b-11

Oct. 27, 2019

#### Quiz

1. Numbers in the book of Revelation are all used literally. Name things numbered in Revelation.

#### Numbers in the book of Revelation are all used literally: 7 churches 7 messengers 12 tribes 12 apostles 10 lamps 5 months 1/3 of mankind 2 witnesses 42 months 1,260 days 12 stars

10 horns

three demons

42 months

3½ years

666

five fallen kings

Millions of angels

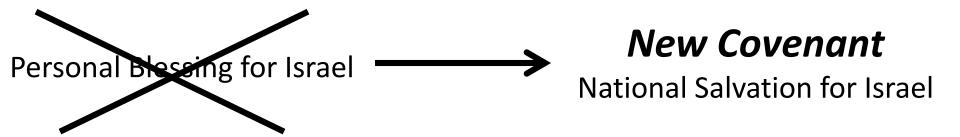
sixteen hundred stadia

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- 2. Name the O.T. covenants that are fulfilled in the Millennium.

#### **ABRAHAMIC COVENANT**

- 1. Palastinic Covenant Land for Israel
- 2. Davidic Covenant Kingdom with a King in Israel forever (Eternal House, Eternal Throne, Eternal Kingdom, Eternal Descendant)
- 3. Mosaic Covenant



4. Messianic Covenant – Israel and Gentile nations would be blessed through the seed of Abraham which is the Messiah.

#### Quiz

- Numbers in the book of Revelation are all used literally. Name things numbered in Revelation.
- 2. Name the O.T. covenants that are fulfilled in the Millennium.
- 3. Name 2 purposes for Satan being bound before the Millennium.
  - 1. To show how fallen and corrupt the <u>flesh</u> is. Man will yield to temptation apart from Satan.
  - To show that a perfect environment (free from Satanic influence) does not lead man to salvation. Salvation comes internally by the work of the Holy Spirit and not by the externals. Eden proved that.
- 4. Where in the Bible is it prophesied that the Antichrist will sign a treaty?

Dan. 9:27

5. Name 3 hymns that have prophetical thoughts in them?

One Day, Amazing Grace, When the Roll is Called Up Yonder, Dry Bones, Jesus Is Coming Again, What If It Were Today, The King Is Coming, Christ Returneth, How Great Thou Art, Soon and Very Soon.

#### Rev 22:1-11

- 1 Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb,
- 2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
- 3 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him;
- 4 they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads.
- 5 And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.

#### The curse is gone:

- The serpent is gone and no longer present in the New Heavens and the New Earth.
- 2. Satan is **gone**, and cast into outer darkness in the Lake of Fire.
- 3. The pain of childbirth for the woman is **gone**. Rebellion toward the husband and oppression from her husband is **gone**.
- 4. The struggle to make a living for man is **gone**.

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#### 3. The presence of God and the Lamb. (3b)

#### "and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it,"

- During the Millennium Christ will sit on David's throne on the earth.
- In the New Jerusalem the Father and the Son share the same throne.

#### Rev 3:21-22

21 'He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

#### 4. We will serve Him.

#### "and His bond-servants will serve Him;"

- Because we currently have the flesh to contend with, our service can be motivated with false motives, and filled with pride. In fact we often use service to get ahead or be famous. But in Heaven our service will be from a pure heart.
- Also the last thing heaven will be is boring and our lives left with idleness. We will have something more to do than to sing, and worship, and enjoy.
- The perfection of worship is service, activity for God, and the doing of His will. We will do work, heavenly work, the highest kind of work and we will LOVE it!

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#### 5. We will finally see God's face,

"they will see His face,"

#### Ex 33:20

20 "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!"

#### 2 reasons:

- 1. To see God's face as sinners would consume us with His holy animosity toward sin.
- 2. Our human bodies of flesh would be consumed with the brightness of the glory of God.

#### That changes in eternity.

- 1. We will be holy.
- 2. We will have glorified bodies.

Isn't it the longing of all of us who name the name of Christ, to see God and to see His Son, face to face?

#### 1 Cor 13:12

12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face;

Some day the silver cord will break, And I no more as now shall sing; But oh, the joy when I shall wake Within the palace of the King!

And I shall see Him face to face, And tell the story—-Saved by grace; And I shall see Him face to face, And tell the story—-Saved by grace.

- Fanny Crosby – "Saved by Grace"

Let me further illustrate -

#### 6. We are His personal possession.

"and His name will be on their foreheads."

#### **Rev 3:12**

12 'He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

#### 3 names will be written on our "identification badge" -

- 1. God's Name (Our Father the Creator and Sustainer of the universe)
- 2. New Jerusalem (Our Home)
- 3. The new name of the Lord Jesus. (Our Savior)

#### Rev 19:11-12

- 11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.
- 12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.
- This will serve as a reminder that our identity and therefore our security for all of eternity will be Christ.
- We never lose being "in Christ."

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#### 7. No need for any other light.

- "And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them;"
- His blazing and brilliant glory will be refracted in a spectacular display of dazzling color lighting up the entire newly created universe.

#### 8. Reigning forever.

"and they will reign forever and ever."

#### Dan 7:18

- 18 'But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.'
- As with the Millennial Kingdom, which had levels of rulership, so in the New Heavens and New earth there will be opportunities to rule and to reign —
  - Regions?
  - Nations?
  - Stars?
  - Galaxies?

"Who knows but what He will give to each saint a world or a solar system or a galactic system to operate. Remember that Adam was given dominion over the old creation on this earth."

- J. Vernon McGee

"Many consider "innocence" as man's perfect state, and wish Adam would have never done what he did. But we fail to realize that redeemed man is greater than innocent man, that we gain more in Jesus than we ever lost in Adam. God's perfect state is one of redemption, not innocence."

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  - Regions?
  - Nations?
  - Stars?
  - Galaxies?
- Reigning with Christ would be wonderful if it happened only for a day or for a year. John tells us that these things will continue always. They can never end.

#### Life in Heaven

#### "Summary"

- No tears
- No sadness
- No death
- No mourning
- No disease
- No crying
- No pain
- No curse
- No stress
- We will see God and His Son Jesus Christ and fellowship with them.
- We will sit on the throne with them.
- We will live in a city of transparent gold, transparent walls, transparent streets, transparent river, and every precious stone giving off their beauty, as the light of God reflects and refracts off all of the surfaces of this giant diamond that is 1,500 miles high, wide, and long, lighting the entire newly created universe.
- We will drink the water of life that flows from God's throne, we will eat
  of the Tree of Life, and we will find nourishment from the leaves which
  will enhance and heighten our enjoyment in the New Heavens, the New
  Earth, and the capital city of the New Jerusalem.

- We will be incredibly productive with no curse, we will work, we will need no sleep, we will serve, we will reign, and we will rule, we will worship, we will sing and rejoice.
- We will live, fellowship, and feast with:
  - All of the angels
  - All the Old Testament saints
  - All the Tribulation saints
  - All of those who were converted during the time of the Millennial Kingdom
  - All of the Church, including the apostles, NT prophets, evangelists, martyrs, missionaries, Pastor-Teachers, those who fought valiantly to defend the faith and guard the Word of God from corruption, error, and false teaching, and last but by no means least it also includes all of us sitting in this room and listening via the internet who know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

# And WE WILL DO ALL OF THIS FOREVER AND EVER!!

#### **Application:**

None of us can comprehend how wonderful Heaven will be.
 It will transcend all of our expectations.

#### Rom 8:18

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

#### 2 Cor 4:17,18

- 17 For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,
- 18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

As the Bible opens with the story of 'Paradise Lost,' so it here closes with the story of 'Paradise Regained.'" We see the return of Paradise in the ideas of a river, a tree of life, revocation of the curse, intimacy with God restored, and reigning resumed. It is a perfect consummation:

- No more curse Perfect Restoration
- Throne in their midst Perfect Administration
- Servants shall serve Perfect Subordination
- Shall see His face Perfect Transformation
- Name on foreheads Perfect Identification
- God is the light Perfect Illumination
- Reigning forever Perfect Exultation

"As some friends and I were cruising down the channel at South Haven that leads out to Lake Michigan, we were looking at the names on the other boats. Some were creative and descriptive, such as Witt's End, Last Resort, and Second Mortgage. One name in particular intrigued me: Heaven Can Wait. As I thought about it, I felt that this boat's name probably represents the feelings of many people, even Christians, whom God has entrusted with wealth.

Some of us enjoy our homes so much that we would just as soon wait to get to our heavenly home. Our good lives are so filled with comforts and pleasures that we aren't yearning for the delights of heaven. Besides, we're so wrapped up with our friends and family here that we've lost the anticipation of joining the wider family of God that awaits us in heaven. The pleasures of earth cannot be compared to the joys of heaven."

- David Egner

# What should be the believer's response to the Book of Revelation?

- 6 And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must soon take place.
- 7 "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."
- 8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things.
- 9 But he said to me, "Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God."
- 10 And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.
- 11 "Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and the one who is holy, still keep himself holy."

### 6 And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true";

- 1. Believe.
- "Faithful" is the Greek word  $\pi \iota \sigma \tau \circ \sigma$  and means, "reliable, trustworthy." "True" is  $\alpha \lambda \eta \theta \iota \nu \circ \sigma$  and means, "real, genuine, as opposed to spurious or false."
- "A book is valuable in proportion to its truth."

#### Isa 46:9-11

- 9 "Remember the former things long past,
- For I am God, and there is no other;
- I am God, and there is no one like Me,
- 10 Declaring the end from the beginning,
- And from ancient times things which have not been done,
- Saying, 'My purpose will be established,

  And I will accomplish all My good pleasure';
- 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east,
- The man of My purpose from a far country.
- Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass.
- I have planned it, surely I will do it.
- \*That is to say God will do exactly what He says He will do, and this is how it will be done. He is "faithful and true."

 God has tied the truth of His Scriptures to the integrity of His Name.

#### **Rev 3:14**

14 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:

#### Rev 19:11

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True,

#### **Rev 22:6**

6 And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true";

#### Ps 138:2

2 I will bow down toward Your holy temple

And give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth;

For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name.

# If God says this book is faithful and true, He means it will come to pass. His record is 100% perfect.

- He said Israel would go into captivity, and they did.
- He said Babylon would fall, and it did.
- He said Tyre and Sidon would be destroyed, and they were.
- He said the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, and He was.
- He said that Messiah would be born to a virgin, and He was.
- He said Messiah would be killed, and He was.
- He said judgment will come in the future on land, sea, water, and on men snd it will.
- He said war will come, killing half the world, and it will.
- He said nations will gather to battle at Armageddon, and they will.
- He says there will come an Antichrist who will rule the world, and he will.
- He says the Abyss will bring forth its demons to run over the earth and harm the world, and they will.
- He says believers will be martyred, and they will.
- He says the King is coming, and He will.
- He says there will be a Great Throne Judment for all unbelievers, and there will.
- He says He will set up His earthly kingdom, and He will.
- He said He will prepare a place for believers and return for them, and He will.

\*When God makes a statement, it is truth. When He makes a promise, it will come to pass. When He issues a prophecy, it will be fulfilled.

- "and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must soon take place."
- "Spirits" refer to the human spirits within the prophets who were the human agents in the reception and transmission of Scripture.
- Here is divine inspiration stated God guides the prophets to record what the angel reveals to them that will soon take place.

#### 2 Peter 1:21

21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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#### 7 "And behold, I am coming quickly.

- "COMING SOON!"
- We know it is for certain, we just don't know when.
- We anticipate, we don't speculate.

"Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."

#### 2. Protect.

- "heeds"  $\tau\eta\rho\epsilon\omega$  "guarding, protecting, attending to carefully, to hold fast." When he says "heed," it can be translated to "guard." It is a protective role.
- So we learn it, store it, as a result of careful study. We watch over it, protect what we have learned, we review it, keep it fresh and on our heart. We pay attention to it, obey it, i.e., we live in the light of it, we apply it to our lives.
- Notice we are protecting "words". Not ideas, not speculations, not assumptions, not philosophies but <u>WORDS</u> – every single word and its meaning.
- We guard the proper interpretation of the words. Believers are called to guard or protect the book of Revelation. It must be defended against detractors who deny its relevance, against critics who deny its truthfulness and authority, as well as against confused interpreters who obscure its meaning.

# How should the book of Revelation change our lives?

#### We should -

- Long for eternal fellowship with God.
- Desire heaven.
- Desire holiness.
- Desire Christ.
- Desire the end of the curse.
- Desire a new heaven and a new earth.
- Live for the eternal.
- Love Christ more than you ever loved Him.
- Live in the light of the fact that someday you're going to face Him.
- Disconnect ourselves from the perishing world and live in the light of the eternal world.
- Long for the day when you're made like Christ,
- Long for the time when He appears and you see Him face to face.
- Long to be given your eternal reward.
- Long for your resurrection body.

- Long to see the glory of Heaven.
- Long to see the majesty of Jesus Christ.
- Fear the horrors of hell.
- Feel the trembling of sinners at the Great White Throne Judgment.
- Long to reach the unsaved with the gospel.
- Understand the seriousness of the rejection of Christ
- Sense the joy of stepping onto Heaven's shores.
- Live a holy life to please Christ.
  Samus Cod with all our boorts now because we are going to receive an
- Serve God with all our hearts now, because we are going to receive an eternal reward.

## Therefore:

- The book of Revelation is not entertainment.
- It is not exhilarating fascination.
- It is motivation to live a godly life.

## 2 Peter 3:11

11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

"God does not command believers to read Revelation merely to satisfy their curiosity about the future. He did not inspire it to provide material for detailed chronological charts of end-time events. There is a seemingly endless stream of books on prophecy being churned out, with speculative prophetic schemes proliferating ad infinitum, ad nauseam. But it was not God's purpose to give Christians a detailed analysis of the prophetic significance (if any) of contemporary cultural, political, military, and social events or trends. God inspired Revelation for one purpose: to reveal the glory of His Son and call believers to live godly, obedient lives in light of His soon return. The purpose of Revelation is not to provide entertainment, but to provide motivation for godly living."