

Looking Ahead -

Nov. 10 - Class

Nov. 17 - Class

Nov. 24 - Class

Dec. 1 - Class

Dec. 8 - Class

Dec. 15 - No class

Dec 22 - No Class

Dec. 29 - No class

Jan. 5 - Class

"Our Response to the Book of Revelation" Part 2

Rev. 8-12

Nov. 3, 2019

Quiz

1. Name as many blessings of Heaven as you can that are given in Rev. 21 & 22.

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!!

Quiz

- Name as many blessings of Heaven as you can that are given in Rev. 21 & 22.
- 2. Tor F The 3 names that will be written on our foreheads in eternity are 1. God's Name 2. the New Jerusalem 3. the new name of the Lord Jesus.

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- 3. What 4 things are removed when there is no more curse?
- 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**.

Rev 22:6-12

- 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."
- 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

8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I

- 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."
- 12 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

Rev 22:8-12

- 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."
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I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things.

3. Worship.

 John is saying in amazement, "can you believe this? I John heard and saw."

1 John 1:1

- 1 What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life . . .
- Worshipping God is a common response in Revelation 4,5,7,15,19.

- ". . . 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."
- John is so overwhelmed by what he saw and heard that he collapses in worship. So far, so good . . .
- But who he worships is not so good.
- Angels are fellow servants with John and with the prophets and with us also, who protect and obey the words of Revelation.
- God is the Author, God is the Planner, God is the Designer, God is the Executor, God is the Finisher.

God alone is to be worshipped.

Rev 22:8-12

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"And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book,"

4. Proclaim.

- This is the third time John uses the word "words in this section. That tells us how we are to interpret Revelation – by the "words."
- If the truth is not contained in the "words", then what is there to proclaim.

There was a time when the book was to be sealed -

Dan 8:26

- 26 "And the vision of the evenings and mornings
- Which was told is true;
- Therefore **seal up** the vision,
- For it refers to many days in the future."

Dan 12:4

4 "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

Why seal it up?

- Events still have to happen Christ's first coming, the cross, redemption, Israel's apostasy, Jerusalem's destruction, many prophecies yet to be fulfilled.
- With the giving of the book of Revelation, much of the Book of Daniel has been clarified, expanded, detailed, and explained.
- So therefore John, in contrast to Daniel, was told not to seal up his book, for all prophecy can now be understood and its fulfillment could begin at any time.

Therefore:

- Don't hide the words, open the words up for all to see, proclaim the words, preach the words, teach the words people can understand.
- Men seal the book of Revelation today in defiance to God's command given in verse 10.
- The contents of the book of Revelation concern truths which are vital for the Church and the world to understand.

"What a rebuke to the negligence, the neglect, the sneering, ignorant arrogance, shown by most of Christendom toward The Revelation! Our Lord Jesus may declare it an open, unsealed, understandable book; men say it is filled with "unintelligible language" and "mystic symbols." Christ says: "Blessed is he that readeth"; men say: "Let it alone, you cannot understand it."

- William Newell

"To fail to preach revelation, to fail to proclaim revelation is not only foolish – because back in chapter 1, verse 3 – it says, "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy and heed the things written in it, for the time is near." Not only will you forfeit that blessing, it is not just foolish, but it is sinful." "And any preacher who fails to preach this book of the glorious realities to come in the return of Jesus Christ is sinfully unfaithful to His mandate. It is even normal, in the Church today, to have this book completely ignored. "

- John MacArthur

"for the time is near."

5 times in this last chapter of Revelation, John emphasizes the <u>imminent</u> return of Christ -

- vs. 6 "the things which must soon take place"
- vs. 7 "I am coming quickly"
- vs. 10 "the time is at hand"
- vs. 12 "I am coming quickly"
- Vs. 20 "I am coming quickly"

We, who believe in the rapture of the Church, say that it is "imminent."

Imminency

- "Imminency" Without the necessity of any event that must take place before the Lord returns for His church.
- Other things may happen before the event, but nothing else must take place before it occurs.
- If something else must take place before an event can happen, then that event is not imminent.
- The necessity of something else occurring first destroys the concept of imminency.
- When an event is truly imminent, a person never knows exactly when it will occur.
- A. T. Pierson states, "Imminence is the *combination* of *two conditions*: *certainty* and *uncertainty*. By an imminent event we mean one which is certain to occur at some time, but uncertain at what time.
- We are not rushing towards a distant brink of the consummation of all things; we are running parallel along the edge of that brink, and have been since the time of the apostles.

Rev 22:8-12

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- 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."
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"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."

5. Beware.

- Beware that when you proclaim the truths in Revelation, people will respond and fix their eternal destinies.
- If you reject the truth and still do wrong and still are filthy, then you will die that way.
- If you receive the truth and are righteous and holy, then you will die that way.
- As we are when we die, so we shall be forever.
- The wicked remain wicked, and continue adding to their wickedness. The righteous remain righteous, and continue practicing righteousness.
- If we die without Christ, we shall be without Christ for eternity.
- If we die with Christ, then we shall be with Christ for eternity.
- Reject the truths of Revelation and you fix your eternity.
- Habits fix character, and character fixes destiny.

Ezek 3:27

- 27 "But when I speak to you, I will open your mouth and you will say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' He who hears, let him hear; and he who refuses, let him refuse;
- Teaching and preaching the book of Revelation draws the line. Its truths will either soften and bring men to repentance or it will harden the hearts of the unrepentant. Those same truths thus become either an instrument of salvation, or an instrument of damnation.

1 Cor 1:18

18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

2 Cor 2:15-16

- 15 For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;
- 16 to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life.

"If the warnings of this book are not sufficient, there is no more that God has to say."

- John Walvoord

Rev 22:8-12

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Scripture on Rewards

Isa 40:10

- 10 Behold, the Lord God will come with might,
- With His arm ruling for Him.
- Behold, His reward is with Him
- And His recompense before Him.

Matt 16:27

27 "For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS.

2 Cor 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Rom 14:10-12

- 10 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.
- 11 For it is written,
- "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME,
- AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD."
- 12 So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

1 Cor 3:5-15

- 5 What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one.
- 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth.
- 7 So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth.
- 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.
- 9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.
- 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.
- 11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
- 12 Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,
- 13 each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.
- 14 If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.
- 15 If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

1 Cor 9:24-27

- 24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.
- 25 Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.
- 26 Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air;
- 27 but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

Heb 12:1

12 Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Eph 2:8-10

- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;
- 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.
- 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Matt 6:16-18

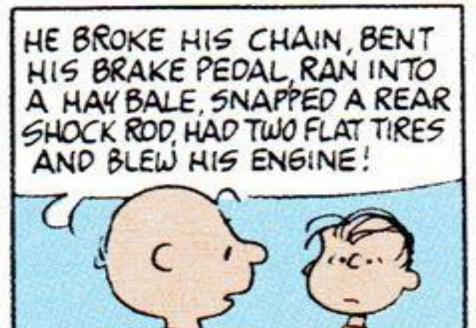
- 16 "Whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites do, for they neglect their appearance so that they will be noticed by men when they are fasting. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.
- 17 "But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face 18 so that your fasting will not be noticed by men, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

Matt 25:21

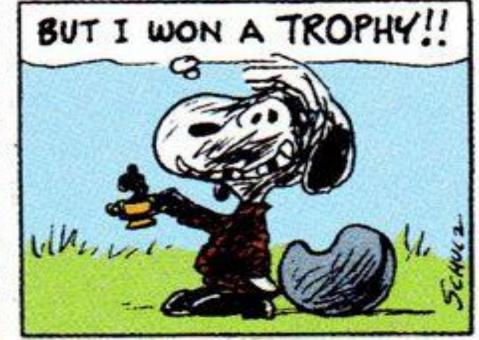
21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

The Doctrine of Rewards









Doctrine of Rewards

- One of the most neglected subjects in Scripture.
- By neglecting it, we have removed responsibility,
 accountability, incentive, motivation, and the joy that comes
 from achievement, and accomplishment for the glory of
 God.
- Because I am eternally secure, I may think I have arrived.
 Nothing more to do. I've got my fire insurance. So I'll waste my life and -wait to die or for the rapture to occur.
- All people, both saved and unsaved, who have and will ever live, will be judged by their works.
- Exhorting people to work for rewards at the end of Revelation is so powerful, because of all we have looked at.
- Rewards has nothing to do to determine whether you are saved or not. Never given for that purpose.

- The reward given to the believer is a capacity to manifest the glory of God throughout all eternity.
- Therefore, I am determining right now the size of the capacity. God will fill whatever capacity I bring to Him at the Bema – thimble, cup, bowl, 5 gallon pail, or 55 gallon barrel.



"What we weave in time,
we will wear in eternity"
- Spurgeon

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- The greater the reward, the greater the capacity to bring glory to God.
- Therefore in the exercise and use of the reward by the believer in eternity, it will be God and not the believer that will receive glory.

Rewards are given to glorify and magnify the work of God in our lives. It is not about me.

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- Therefore, I am determining right now the size of the capacity. God will fill whatever capacity I bring to Him at the Bema thimble, cup, bowl, 5 gallon pail, or 55 gallon barrel.
- The greater the reward, the greater the capacity to bring glory to God.
- Therefore in the exercise and use of the reward by the believer in eternity, it will be God and not the believer that will receive glory.
- Therefore, capacities to radiate God's glory will differ.
- You are not in competition with anyone else for your reward.
- You are unique. Your background, your personality, your talents, your spiritual gifts, all have been custom made into a package that is you.
- You are not accountable for that which you do not possess. You are to be faithful with what you have been given, make full use of it, and you will be given a full reward.
- Therefore you are the only limit on yourself and the capacity you will receive.
- You get one shot at it.