

## 1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

### **LESSON 68**

## 2 **REVIEW**

- We are going into the 21st chapter in the Book of Revelation which will start a new subject
- The time period here is after the Rapture, after the Tribulation, after the judgement, after the Battle of Armageddon, and after the 1,000 years reign
- This is when renewal of the earth has been completed, redemption is finished, and the earth is perfect once more
- God has reclaimed the earth for His people and His redeemed people inherit the new earth and new heaven
- This is where we left off in our last lesson

## 3 **WORLD CONDITIONS**

- We are living in a time just prior to the Rapture of the church
- The world conditions and happenings of today are sometimes hard to believe
- The global turmoil, the fighting, the perplexities and the stress in people's lives have brought on a great interest in religion
- People are fighting, and clawing, and hating one another, lying about each other, and trying to destroy someone else in the name of religion
- Christian fundamentalism, based on the power and truths of God, has morphed into the Christian evangelical movement that has compromised God's power and truth for world acceptance and popularity

## 4 **WORLD CONDITIONS cont.**

- Biblical prophecy tells us these things will happen in the last days and that world conditions are building up to a one world religion
- World conditions will become so bad that people will be ready and willing to have a world religion that will control their lives

- One world religion will bring about a semblance of peace and prosperity
- The one people who will not be a part of the one world trinity religion will be those called by Jesus' name that believe in one God and are filled with His Spirit

## 5 **A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH**

Revelation 21:1

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

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- We know that the actual earth and the actual heavens were not destroyed
- Imagine what the world will look like after the 7 last plagues and the Battle of Armageddon and compare that to what John is seeing here in verse 1
- Then imagine the purity that would come by the 1,000 years of rule by Jesus Christ personally

## 6 **NO MORE SEA**

- We can see in our minds the 2 scenes; the destruction and then the reconstruction and what they must have looked like to John as he was shown these
- The question that was asked last week was: what does it mean there was "no more sea"?
- Take into consideration what we have already learned and remembering the Scriptures concerning this portion of Revelation
- Our answers must be backed up by Scripture
- The "no more sea" is part of the earth being returned to its original state
- Does anyone have Scriptures on how God did this?

## 7 **NO MORE SEA cont.**

- We have several chapters and verses in Revelation that show during the judgement period how the events of the trumpets/vials affected

the earth

- Changing the earth was part of God's plan and purpose with the trumpets and vials, especially the last 7 plagues
- God cleansed the earth of sin at the same time He was restoring the earth to its original form
- This is much like the world today where evolving conditions, natural and spiritual, are working to God's purposes and plans
- This especially pertains to His saints being the first born to follow after God, being made in His image

#### 8 **NO MORE SEA cont.**

- Therefore, because of Him, we can be purified and rule and reign with Him in worlds to come
- Let's go back to Genesis and look at the earth when God created it for man and woman
- God told Adam and Eve to replenish, repopulate, the earth
- The earth would be populated by mankind for the first time
- Before this it had been populated by Lucifer and his angels and other beings such as those found by paleontologists
- God re-created the earth in Genesis chapter 1 verse 2 for mankind

#### 9 **THE RE-CREATION FOR MANKIND**

Genesis 1:2-6

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

#### 10 **THE RE-CREATION FOR MANKIND cont.**

Genesis 1:7

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

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- Verses 6 and 7 are what we need to look at in detail
- The word "firmament", often called heaven, is the sky – the atmosphere above the earth
- This firmament was in the midst of the waters so that it divided the waters from the waters
- Then God divided the waters which were under the firmament, the earth, from the waters which were above the firmament

## 11 **THE RE-CREATION FOR MANKIND cont.**

Genesis 1:9-10

9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

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- The word for seas in both the Hebrew and the Greek may be used for bodies of water large or small
- God re-created the earth perfect for mankind
- In Revelation 21:1 John is seeing the earth returned to its original perfect state

## 12 **THE WATERS FROM THE WATERS**

- From what we just read in Genesis, consider this question: What difference do you see in what God said when He divided the firmament above from the firmament below and then He said let there be land and He called the land earth and the seas divided that were below the heavens?
- Is John saying there was no more water or no more bodies of waters?

- What is the difference between what the world is like today from what we see in chapter 1 of Genesis regarding waters and seas?
- The focus word here is "divided"
- Genesis suggests that the division was somewhat equal

13  **THE WATERS FROM THE WATERS cont.**

- This would mean that half of the waters were left in the atmosphere and the other half here below on the earth
- Currently the earth is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  water and  $\frac{1}{4}$  dry land
- John is seeing this division more equal than at present
- The reforming of the earth is a direct result of all the earthquakes mentioned in prophecy concerning the last days, especially the great mighty earthquake
- Again verse 1 is retrospect; John was summing it up
- He had seen the world as it is today
- He had seen the destruction in the Day of the Lord--the earthquakes, the falling stars, the fire, and the hail

14  **THE WATERS FROM THE WATERS cont.**

- John had seen every wall fall to the ground and mountains moved into the sea, bringing whole new continents into being
- He had seen the surplus water disappear
- John saw all the old pass away and now, in verse 1, he was looking at the new
- Regeneration is restoration to the original state
- Here in verse 1 John is seeing the completed work at the end of the 1,000 years reign; Satan has been once and for all cast away, the earth has been cleansed, and restored to as it was before the Flood
- Keeping in mind that seas can mean bodies of water large and small we must gather the meaning from the context where it is used here in verse 1

15  **THE WATERS FROM THE WATERS cont.**

- We can figure this out by going back to Genesis like we have just done

- The original seas did not take up nearly the space of our seas of today
- They could have been large enough for whales and still not be larger than the Mediterranean Sea
- We can look at a globe and see where continents could have fit together to form greater land masses
- On the other hand there could have been a great number of seas, all connected
- The whole new continents that will rise in the oceans will still leave room for plenty of water

## 16 **THE "SEAS" OF GENESIS**

- There is going to be no more seas as we know them today
- The earth itself was not destroyed by the Flood; everything on it was destroyed and that brought the change
- What John saw in verse 1 as he was brought ahead in time, was the "seas" of Genesis rather than the seas or oceans of our present time
- This shows us that if then there was less water at the beginning before the Flood and much more dry land; where was this extra water?
- Genesis tells us it was in the atmosphere above the firmament

## 17 **DIVIDING THE WATERS**

Genesis 1:6

6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

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- Remember the waters were divided about equally
- This means there was a great deal of water above the sky that was not upon the earth before the Flood
- Instead of being  $\frac{3}{4}$  water and  $\frac{1}{4}$  land, the surface of the earth might have been more land than water
- Even the remote islands of the sea could have been connected to main land

- Great changes have happened to the earth since those days in Genesis of re-creation

#### 18 **THE WATERS ABOVE**

- The Flood came about to cleanse the earth of the Nephilim, the offspring of angels and the daughters of men
- When the fallen angels fell to the earth during the Flood, it tilted the earth on its axis
- The canopy of water above the firmament would provide a vast amount of water needed for the Flood
- The water up in the sky at that height would be almost transparent
- The sun, moon and stars could be seen as it was absolute pure water
- Scientists think that this water was in the form of a ring, somewhat like the rings around Saturn only wider

#### 19 **THE WATERS ABOVE cont.**

- Under these conditions life on earth would be so much different
- The water canopy would act like air conditioning making the whole earth a paradise
- Life would be impossible now if it were not for the layers of atmosphere that sift out certain lethal rays of the sun
- The water canopy would sift out other rays possibly those which allow decay and fermentation
- The temperatures would be even and light would soft, a perfect environment for mankind
- This seems to have been the earth's condition between the time of the Garden of Eden and the Flood

#### 20 **FOUNTAINS OF THE GREAT DEEP**

- There was no rain or clouds before the Flood
- The canopy of water was reserved for the Flood

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Genesis 7:10-11

10 And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood

were upon the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

## 21 **THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN**

- We see here that God pulled the plug and the canopy of water came down to the earth
- The waters came from the windows of heaven being opened that God used as judgement and washed everything away
- These waters that came down at the Flood did not return whence they came
- This water rushed to the poles but much water remained so that large amounts of land would now be submerged
- Here we see in Job that God is talking about the time of the Flood and not re-creation in Genesis: how do we know this?

## 22 **THICK DARKNESS**

Job 38:8-11

8 Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?

9 When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it,

10 and brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors,

11 and said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

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- He could not be referring to Genesis: 1) there were no clouds in Genesis, 2) there was no breaking forth in Genesis

## 23 **BARS AND DOORS**

- God made the clouds to hold the water so we don't get it back all at one time
- God made the thick darkness a swaddling for the water at the poles

where darkness prevails for 6 months out of the year; this God did at the time of the Flood

- Here we see God broke up His decreed place of the waters that were half up in the atmosphere and half on the earth
- He then He set bars and doors on the waters, using gravity and tilting the earth on its axis
- Here again we find Scripture backing up Scripture

#### 24 **EARTH REGENERATED**

- We need to know these Scriptures; where to find them and how they relate to one another
- Until the Flood the earth was watered by the dew that came up from the ground
- The great mountain ranges could all have been raised up since the Flood
- We actually see the earth being regenerated in Revelation chapters 6 and 16
- Here in chapter 6 John is seeing events from heaven's point of view and in chapter 16 from the earth's point of view

#### 25 **EARTH REGENERATED cont.**

Revelation 6:14

14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Revelation 16:17-18

17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.

18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.

#### 26 **EARTH REGENERATED cont.**

Revelation 16:19-21

19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

27  **EARTH REGENERATED cont.**

- Here we see in these verses why these facts take place
- The mountains will move into the sea as a result of this final great earthquake
- God is simply restoring the earth to its perfect original form to ready for His people who have followed Him all through the ages
- God is getting the earth and the heavens ready
- No sin, no scars of sin left, no death, no sorrow, no pain, no sickness: a perfect, perfect world
- Just one thing – don't disobey
- The heat of the 7 last plagues would melt the ice at the poles but it would also cause water to evaporate drawing it into the sky to stay

28  **EARTH REGENERATED cont.**

- Then we would have again the waters above the firmament and the waters below the firmament
- The water below the firmament would be in seas rather than great oceans
- This would restore the heavens and the earth to their original state

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Revelation 21:1

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.