

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

### **LESSON 70**

## 2 **REVIEW**

- We are continuing in the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter of the Book of Revelation
- Last week we finished studying verse 6 in detail and the question was asked of the class: What Scriptures do we have that supports the new earth being the beginning of a great number of other worlds that will be the expansion of God's kingdom?
- The Scriptures teach us that this world will be a world without end, God's kingdom is not just the planet earth that we are on but the entire universe
- Isaiah mentions in several places about the increase of God's government, how the small shall increase greatly, and there will be worlds without end

## 3 **OPENING REMARKS**

- Isaiah saw into the future that this world we live on is just the beginning, the first of many to come
- As often is in the minds of man, having that portion of the Spirit of God that gives life in everyone, we have the thoughts and ideas we just don't know where to put them and how to put them together without the Word of God
- For us the important part is this earth and where we go and will be in eternity
- The Scriptures teach that God's kingdom will be an ever expanding kingdom not just our little tiny world
- The Scriptures also tell us He is the God of all things and heaven is His throne and the earth is just His footstool (Isaiah 66:1)

## 4 **OPENING REMARKS cont.**

- Heaven cannot contain God (1 Kings 8:27)
- We tend to think of the earth as so large and so mighty but it really is less than a speck of dust in the universe

- God is not going to stop with just the plant earth and us
- The Scriptures tell us that we are the first of our kind – the new creatures made in the image of God
- God's kingdom is not just going to be Jesus and His bride and it is not just going to be the throne of David
- It will begin with the throne of David and escalate and grow from this

#### 5 **OPENING REMARKS cont.**

- We cannot even begin to imagine what travelling about the universe will be like
- We go into eternity and the Scriptures stop
- We have in the Word the creation, the history, and the prophecies: Genesis through Revelation
- Time in the Bible ends with the coming down of the New Jerusalem and the bride of Jesus Christ going up to dwell there
- There is a little bit in the Scripture about the saints visiting back and forth between the earth and the New Jerusalem
- We do not have much in the Word showing what it will be like from then on but if we are there to see it, we'll know

#### 6 **OPENING REMARKS cont.**

- We are going to spend eternity wherever we are going to spend it: there will be no changes
- We have such a short, short while in this life before we go into eternity
- There are only two ways we are going to live in this life: one is to God and one is to Satan and we are going to make ready right here for where we will be for eternity
- It is hard to understand how most of the earth's population can live just for this life that's over with so quickly
- When you leave this life you have already made your choice and that choice is eternal

#### 7 **OPENING REMARKS cont.**

- We can look at our lives and see how much time we spend taking care of the natural needs and wants
- How much time do we spend for our souls that will live on for eternity?
- Your soul will live and not just be
- It will have awareness, knowing, feeling, understanding, and the sense of being; eternally
- How much time do you spend, between you and God, to make sure of your soul according to the Word of God?
- It is really a scary thing to know about eternity and to look around see most people give it very little thought

## 8 **ALPHA AND OMEGA**

- People give so much thought to today, this life and this world only
- Life will go on continually, eternally and it will be ever expanding
- We are in chapter 21 and verse 6 of the Book of Revelation

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Revelation 21:6

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

## 9 **RECAP**

- This is John on the isle of Patmos over 2,000 years ago
- He was shown ahead the time period from the catching away of the bride, through Tribulation, through Judgement, through the 1,000 years reign, then Satan being loosed again for a very short while, the great white throne judgement, and the saints going up to the New Jerusalem
- This period of time seen here in verse 6, is when John is seeing the very end portion of prophecy, the New Jerusalem that comes down out of heaven
- What this new city is like is described here in detail
- This is the ending of the old and the beginning of the new

## 10 "IT IS DONE"

- Jesus says in verse 6 "It is done."
- This marks the total finish of God's redemption plan
- Redemption started when God promised Eve that from her would come the Savior of the world
- These same words were said 3 times indicating 3 main divisions in the processes of redemption:
  1. John 19:30 "It is finished" – the words of Jesus on the cross. The redemption price had been paid.
  2. Revelation 16:17 "It is done." – the voice from the throne at the 7<sup>th</sup> vial; the Second Coming of Jesus
  3. Revelation 21:6 "It is done." – spoken by Him that sits on the throne at the time that He delivers up to God the perfected kingdom

## 11 THE FEARFUL

Revelation 21:7-8

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

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- What is meant by the "fearful" in the context used here?
- The Scriptures teach us that we are to fear God for the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10)

## 12 THE FEARFUL cont.

- These are the ones that fear the natural over the spiritual
- For example, when the white horseman in chapter 6 preaches the gospel from the air during the Great Tribulation saying; *you had better fear God who can destroy the soul the these who can only destroy the body* (Lesson 23)
- To fear God shows wisdom for what He will do if you disobey

- Here the fearful are fearful of mankind, the physical things around them, not having the fear of God
- Fear of being different, being thought of as peculiar, odd or not "fitting in"

### 13 **THE FEARFUL AND UNBELIEVERS**

- Those who want to be accepted by the world because of fear of rejection
- The Scriptures tell us: be you separated, come out from among them and be a peculiar separated people to God (2 Corinthians 6:17, 1 Peter 2:9)
- They would rather be a part of the world as the fear of being thought different or actually being different controls their lives
- Unbelievers are not just sinners; it's those who were as the Jews, they understood there was a God, they just didn't believe what would happen to them if they didn't obey the Word of God

### 14 **THEY UPON THE WIDE ROAD**

- There is also the abominable, murders, whoremongers, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars
- Those sins listed between the first one, the fearful, and the last one, all liars, are obvious and egregious
- It is when you add in the fearful and all liars that you can really see why the road is wide and why it is that the majority of people are not going to make the Rapture
- Fearful: don't want to be different, don't want to be thought of as too godly, peculiar, don't want to be separated from the world, want the world for friends
- If you are friends with the world you are at enmity against God (Romans 8:7, James 4:4)

### 15 **LIARS AND LYING**

- We are supposed to be friendly to those in the world: kind, thoughtful and considerate and certainly witnesses
- We cannot be friends with the world or do as they do

- All liars: children especially don't think anything of lying and sometimes the parents don't either
- Being sorry for lying, or sinning, might work for a little while but true repentance is a repentance not be repented of again (2 Corinthians 7:10)
- True repentance is a turning away from committing a sin
- The Scriptures say lie not one to another (Colossians 3:9)

#### 16 **WHOM DO YOU FEAR?**

- Lying will cast you into the lake of fire which is part of the second death
- To some lying can be really hard to get around and to overcome but it is not; you just need to stop and think about what is more important: your fear of God or your fear of man
- If you are more fearful of man, and you will lie, than you are fearful of God and God is the One who holds your soul and the keys to eternity, then your name will be blotted out

Revelation 20:15

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

#### 17 **DECIDE WHICH SIDE**

- Here we see a little bit more why they had their names crossed out
- Chapter 21 verse 8 lists 8 different kinds of sinners and at least 2 of them, cowards and unbelievers, encompass all sinners
- Those who commit these sins are part of the second death and send themselves to the lake of fire
- If we are going to inherit the good part, heaven, we are going to have to consider the bad part, hell, also as this is where fear springs from
- From verse 9 we are going into a description; the size, the design, the colors and the beauties of our new home

#### 18 **A CITY FOR OVERCOMERS**

- It is for those who will overcome and endure unto the end

- Those that have controlled their life by the power of the Holy Ghost
- These will inherit all things, He'll be their God and they'll be His children

Revelation 21:2

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

## 19 **THE PEACEMAKERS**

Revelation 21:9-10

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

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- When John saw this scene the bride had already gone up which is still in our future
- Jerusalem means "the city of peace"
- We must learn to be peacemakers and peacekeepers in this life if we are going to fit in there

## 20 **UNITED FOR ETERNITY**

- This great city is called "the bride, the Lamb's wife" for it is home of the bride
- The marriage of the Lamb, the ceremony that forever unites Jesus Christ and His saints, is mentioned in the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of Revelation, just prior to the return of Jesus to the earth
- When we have that close communion with God in prayer nothing else in our life or this world is important
- Not matter how close we can get to Him in prayer it can still be hard to fathom that one day we'll be united eternally with Him
- The closest we have been with Him is just the earnest of our inheritance

## 21 **MARRIAGE AS GOD INTENDED**

- There is a lot to this marriage of the Lamb and the church and we ordinarily don't grasp the magnitude of this event
- We know down here what marriage is by the natural example of a marriage as God intended it to be, it's for life
- Once married you are with that person the rest of your life as God intended it to be
- It is a lifetime commitment and you are closer to your spouse than anyone else in the whole world
- God made marriage here so that we might just have an inkling of understanding of what this spiritual marriage is going to be like with Jesus Christ

## 22 **SPIRITUAL MARRIAGE**

- God made marriage that we might understand the spiritual relationship
- The apostle Paul goes into detail on this in Ephesians (Ephesians 5:21-33)
- This marriage of the Lamb is a spiritual marriage that we may understand by the natural marriage
- This marriage to Jesus Christ is the bride only: everyone else will be just family
- Even though this marriage is mentioned in chapter 19 there is nothing said about when this ceremony takes place
- It is only at the completion of the whole redemption program that we are united with Him in the New Jerusalem

## 23 **THE HOLY CITY**

- We do find in the Word that it is only after the Millennium that the bride goes to live in the New Jerusalem, the place that Jesus has especially prepared for them
- John sees it coming down out of heaven from God
- It is the complete fulfillment of Jesus' promise to His bride  
John 14:2

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

- This verse tells us that in the kingdom of God there are many places we will be able to go

#### 24 **AN ETERNAL ABODE**

- Jesus went especially to prepare a place for His bride, an especially prepared place
- When the Bible describes the future eternal state of things they differentiate at least 4 abodes, not just heaven and hell
  1. The New Heaven
  2. The New Earth
  3. The New Jerusalem
  4. The without place which is the lake of fire, 2<sup>nd</sup> death, and hell
- Time merges into eternity in these 4 places
- You will be in one of them forever: you are going to be where you are going to be

#### 25 **AN ETERNAL ABODE cont.**

- You'll have more rights in some places than you will in others
- The dimensions and size of this new city is given exactly and we know the area that it is going to cover as it hangs above the earth made new
- It is a cube about 1400 miles square (vs 16)
- Abraham saw this city and we need to understand how he did
- Hebrews chapter 11, called "the faith chapter", shows that by faith, his trusting in God, Abraham followed wherever God lead, even though he couldn't understand, he didn't see, and didn't know where he was going

#### 26 **ABRAHAM'S FAITH**

- Abraham was lead by his belief in God; it is the same for us today  
Hebrews 11:8-10

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which

he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

- Verse 10 tells us that Abraham was looking for this city New Jerusalem

## 27 **THE PRICE TO BE PERFECTED**

Hebrews 12:5-8, 11

5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

6 for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

## 28 **FOLLOW PEACE WITH ALL MEN**

Hebrews 12:12-16

12 Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;

13 and make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

15 looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any

root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

16 lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

## 29 **A TIME WHEN IT'S TOO LATE**

Hebrews 12:17

17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

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- There comes a time when it's too late
- No matter what you desire, if you have gone too far from God, you can seek for repentance and find no place of repentance
- This is spiritual fornication when you turn away from the truth and you go into that which is not true

## 30 **THE PERFECTED**

Hebrews 12:22-24

22 but ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

24 and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

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- This is who all that's going to be in that New Jerusalem keeping us company, going in and out, but it will be the home of the bride

## 31 **CHURCH OF THE FIRSTBORN**

- There will be those at the wedding supper from 3 of the separate domains that we read about earlier except those who are in the "without" domain (2<sup>nd</sup> death, hell, lake of fire)

- Everyone not in the "without" domain will abide either in the New Jerusalem, New Earth or the New Heaven
- Verse 22 tells us we will be in the presence of the living God
- In the New Jerusalem there will be innumerable companies of angels, especially at the wedding supper, the general assembly, the whole group of the bride, which is the church of the firstborn, Jesus

### 32 **JUST MEN MADE PERFECT**

- This does not mean there will be any certain church, by any certain name, by any certain denomination or organization: it is those who fulfill the Word

Hebrews 12:23

23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

- Who are these "just men made perfect"?
- Before the Holy Ghost this was the Jews starting with Abraham
- These were made perfect by their faith

### 33 **HIM THAT OVERCOMETH**

Hebrews 12:24

24 and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

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Revelation 3:12

12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

### 34 **LIKE A JASPER STONE**

Revelation 21:2

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband

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Revelation 21:10

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

11 having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

35  **JASPER STONE EXAMPLES**

36  **NEW JERUSALEM GRAPHIC**