CHAPTER 31
The End of Time
REVELATION 1-5, 19-22

THE STORY

Introduction
The book of Revelation was written by the Apostle John on the island of Patmos around 95 A.D. The Roman Emperor Domitian was trying to stamp out Christianity. Jesus gave John this revelation to encourage and strengthen the church.

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John’s vision isn’t just written to show us the future. It is written to show us the center. At the heart of everything, God reigns!

What do we see in Revelation?

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I. We see the Risen Christ.
REVELATION 1

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When Jesus came to earth at his first coming, there was nothing remarkable about his appearance. “He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.” Isaiah 53:2

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In Revelation, the vision John saw of Jesus is awe-inspiring. Revelation 1:12-18
This is Jesus in all of his glory. “He will come with the clouds and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be. Amen!” Revelation 1:7

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II. The Risen Christ has a message for the church.

*REVELATION 2-3*

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The churches Jesus addressed were in various stages of spiritual health.
- 2 were well commended – Smyrna and Philadelphia
- 2 were harshly rebuked – Sardis and Laodicea
- 3 were a mixed bag – Ephesus, Pergamum and Thyatira

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These are the same issues that can weaken and destroy churches today – false teaching, sexual immorality and losing our first love.

No wonder Jesus said, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

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The purpose of the church is to be a light to the world. If the church ceases to do that it has no reason to exist.

What kind of church will we be?

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III. God is at the center of it all.

*REVELATION 4-5*

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God is on his throne in heaven no matter what we experience on earth.

The Lord reigns! Psalm 93

There are many things that the world would like us to center our life around.

Only one thing is worthy. Only one thing will satisfy. Only one thing will last for all of eternity and that is God.
In chapter 5, we see John’s vision of Christ as our representative before the Father’s throne.

- Jesus is a lion – the lion of Judah. Genesis 49:10
- Jesus is a lamb – the lamb that was slain for our sins. Exodus 12:5-7 and I Corinthians 5:7
- The lamb that was slain is the lion who rules.

Jesus stands before the Father as our:

- Advocate – I John 2:1-2
- Mediator – I Timothy 2:5
- Intercessor – Romans 8:34
- Jesus’ presence before the throne is a constant witness to the security of our salvation.

IV. God’s grand vision to be with his people will be realized at last. REVELATION 19-22

Our world doesn’t want to hear it, but one day this world as we know it will end.

The world will end when Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, returns in judgment to establish once and for all God’s visible kingdom. And in that day, “every knee will bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:10-11

The Scriptures are clear that each person will one day stand before God to give an account for the life he or she lived. II Corinthians 5:10 and Romans 14:10-12

Our only hope will be the mercy of the cross.

Revelation 21-22 gives us a glimpse of what the New Heaven and New Earth will be like. We can’t even imagine all that God is preparing for us. Revelation 21:1-5

- No more sea – (sin or evil)
- No more death
- No more sorrow or crying
- No more pain
In that day God’s grand vision will be complete. 
Revelation 22:1-5
And gathered around his throne will be 
people from “every nation, tribe, people and language. And they will cry out 
with a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, 
and to the Lamb.” Revelation 7:9-10

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Conclusion
Eden was good, but the New Heaven and Earth 
will be better by far because we will see him 
for who he is, the God of our Salvation. 
The only question left is will you be 
there?

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Live today with this great truth as your hope – 
the Lord reigns!
Live today with the awareness that you will be 
asked to account for the choices you 
have made in this life. 
Live today as a minister of 
reconciliation, a representative 
of God to the world.

THE STORY