

The Lamb of Revelation, Part 2

Revelation: How It All Ends

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Bible Text: Revelation 5:5-6

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Look at chapter 6 of Revelation, verse 12. “And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal,” and we talked about this, “and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.” Look at verse 15, “And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb.”

So, again, in chapter 5 we have this Lamb looking like it was just slain and he’s worthy to come and take the title deed to planet earth and to take it over. By chapter 19, he’s done taking over planet earth. Remember this? It’s coming back now, isn’t it? Good. You’ve got to do a good review even if it takes 5-6 minutes every week. That’s okay because we get about 20 or so minutes of new material so we need to make sure that we’re building upon the previous week. Remember, all of these lessons can be found on Sermon Audio thanks to the work of some of our class members in the back so, thank you very much.

The great day of his wrath. The sixth seal of Revelation. What we can ascertain from this, from verse 17, is that the wrath of the Lamb is either a part of the sixth seal of Revelation or it is introduced by the sixth seal of Revelation. Remember what we said last week about this sixth seal of Revelation which either precedes or accompanies the wrath of the Lamb? Remember, we said two things about it: 1. it comes before the Day of the Lord, after the Great Tribulation. So, it comes after this point here, the sixth seal of Revelation which means that the Day of the Lord doesn’t start until after the Great Tribulation, folks. Heavens and earth are going to pass away in the Day of the Lord. Is that right? Okay, so the question is: when does that happen? I’m glad you asked.

The book of Revelation, let’s look at chapter 20:1. Of course, we’ll get to this, it just might be 2018 when we do. So, chapter 20 and by then we might not need it. “And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and

Satan, and bound him a thousand years.” So, here the devil is bound 1,000 years. Verse 3, “And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.” So, Satan is bound here and cast into the bottomless pit and he is there until this 1,000 years is completed.

Verse 4, “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.” So, we have those who resisted the beast and are reigning with Christ for 1,000 years. Remember chapter 5:9? The 24 elders said, “We will reign on the earth.” Mark it down, the 1,000 year reign is a reign on earth. In chapter 19, Jesus came back to the earth, yes? Is everyone with me?

So, look at verse 5, “But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.” Here we have a first resurrection, here we have a last or a second resurrection. Isn’t that what your Bible says in verse 5?

Verse 6, “Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power,.” Well, I want to know when the second death takes place, don’t you. Well, you’re going to in just a moment. “They shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison.” Now, because it’s outside the scope of what we’re teaching today, I won’t talk about verses 8 and 9 too much but we’ll get to that.

Look at verse 10, “And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.” So, there’s a short period of time here of undetermined duration as far as I can tell where Satan is out of the bottomless pit, he coordinates a rebellion and then in verse 9, fire comes from God out of heaven and then verse 10, finally, the devil is put into the lake of fire and brimstone “where the beast and the false prophet are,” and if you look back one chapter to chapter 9:20, you’ll see that they have been there already 1,000 years. The beast and the false prophet have already been in the lake of fire for 1,000 years.

(...looks very significant. It surrounded the entire city.) The entire city of God, yeah, that’s right. It is a significant thing.

Someone said, “How can you get a rebellion when all they know is King Jesus?” Folks, this is just an elaborate review of the Garden of Eden. Adam didn’t know anything but the glory of walking with God in the Garden. That’s all he knew and he found a way to rebel. Sure, there is one major distinction: the serpent was not bound but there’ll be plenty of unglorified bodies walking around in the millennium to be the seed of sin.

(...) Right, the sin problem is innate within the sons of Adam. The reason you and I will not be susceptible if we're born again to the sin problem here, is because here at least, we have glorified bodies and we'll be like Christ, unable to sin.

Rachel? (...) No, the rest of the dead lived not again until the 1,000 years were finished. This is the first resurrection. In other words, the resurrection of those of verse 4 because you have people that were beheaded sitting on thrones now. Now, that would be a tad freaky if those were not resurrected folks, right? So, this is the first resurrection in verse 4, the second resurrection is spoken of in verse 5. Does that help?

Verse 11, chapter 20, "And I saw a great white throne." So, we have a Great White Throne happening over here, final judgment. "From whose face the earth and the heaven fled away." So, we have earth and heaven fleeing away. See it here? Heaven and earth fleeing away.

Look at chapter 21:1, "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." Alright, good friends, we can hopefully see from this chapter of Revelation that the heaven and earth do not pass away until after the 1,000 year period which means the Day of the Lord is at least how long? At least 1,000 years, that's right. Good. That was off the beaten path a tad.

Let's look at chapter 7 of Revelation. I can't understand why it takes us so long. Beaten paths are so fun, though. Chapter 7. Only friends do that kind of thing, and mothers-in-law. Chapter 7:14. Please notice this is so important for you to see this because it will change your view of the book of Revelation: if the sixth seal of Revelation occurs after the Great Tribulation, then we have a small thing to solve. First of all, you have to realize that Revelation cannot be written in chronological order completely. In other words, you can't just say: first the seals, and then the trumpets, and then the vials, because the sixth seal is after the Great Tribulation. So, how do you fit trumpets and vials before the coming of Christ and after the Tribulation? Good luck.

So, we have it being unfolded for us how Jesus takes back control of the globe but it is not tv where you can put four images up on the screen at one time. John had to write about one thing at a time so sometimes these things, he records them in the order that the Holy Spirit moves him to but not necessarily in the order in which he sees them because if you're seeing 7-8 different things and you want to write about all of them, you can't always say, "Well, what he mentions first is the most important." You just can't do that. Just common ability to record an occurrence that you see in the parking lot might show you that. What cars did you see? Well, you're going to name one first and it doesn't necessarily mean it's the most important one in the parking lot or the most significant to the story. So, we've got to be real careful here that we're not putting structure where there was none intended.

Chapter 7, look at verse 14, "And I said unto him, Sir," this is John talking, "thou knowest." What are we talking about? Look at verse 13, "And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence

came they?" Please notice verse 9, these in white robes are of all kindreds, tongues, peoples, nations, standing in white robes with palm branches in their hands. Verse 14, "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me," so one of the elders, one of the 24 elders, folks. It means they're real individuals. One of the 24 elders says to John, "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." So, we have people that are living and washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb. These are martyrs who are now standing before the throne of God. We're going to talk about that but please notice they show up having come out of great tribulation. So, at the very least, this scene is somewhere here. Okay? Based on what we know about the Great Tribulation in Matthew 24.

Verse 15, "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them." Verse 17, "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters." Now, please notice the next phrase, this is interesting, "and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." That's the first time it's mentioned in the book of Revelation. Does everyone get that? The first time that this is mentioned in the book of Revelation, and might I say it's the first time we hear it spoken concerning those who are in heaven. I'm not trying to say there are tears in heaven now but I'm also not going to say something the Bible doesn't say which is there are no tears in heaven because we're told here for the first time that when we see a mass multitude of people coming out of the Great Tribulation, their tears are wiped away so we don't have a promise of that before this area here.

What does it matter? I mean, you're like, "So what? Who cares? That's stupid. Why are you even bringing it up?" Okay, because sometimes we get the idea that we can come off the cuff with answers. For example, here we are, are you ready, here's the question. Before you throw the answer back at me, just hear me out a minute. Here's the question: do people in heaven know what's going on here on earth? Of course. And if I say, "How do you know?" Well, because there's no tears in heaven. Hold the phone, Jack. We just saw in the book of Revelation 7...see it does matter how you study the word of God at least if you're going to have an answer. Let's at least inform ourselves.

It is mentioned in Isaiah but it's talking about this period, smarty. I see your smartphone out. It's mentioned in the book of Isaiah and Isaiah talks often about this period right here, the lamb and the lion walking side-by-side and the ox eating grass of all things and the lion eating grass with the ox. That's going to be a period to come. A child can reach into an asp's den, if you can imagine. He's just trying to say that the curse will be removed.

But I wanted you to see, please, that the blood of the Lamb washes away sins. Did you notice that? Chapter 7:14, "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." So, no one goes to heaven without having their sins washed away by the blood of the Lamb. It's not done

through the waters of baptism; it's never washed away a single sin or you won't be the first.

Look at chapter 13. Concerning the Lamb, he has a book. We're going to look at verse 8 and then I'm not going to comment much on this. Why? Because, if you look on the screen, we've already done it twice: the Lamb's book of life and the Lamb's book of life, part 2. We did it back when we were going through chapter 3 so if you have 30 minutes x 2 or however long that one is there. Wow, we talked a long time that time. How did that happen? Fifty minutes there. Long winded. How did that happen? I don't know. Anyway, 30 minutes and a 50 minute so we've already talked about the Lamb's book of life a lot but I want you to see chapter 13:8, "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him." Just so you know, we're not talking about the Lamb of that hymn there.

Let's look at verse 1, "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns." Now, if you're not careful, you're going to see all this stuff on the page and you're going to be like, "Man, I can't understand Revelation. I'm out of here." We haven't even gotten to this yet. Just be patient. We'll get to the ten horns and seven heads and thirteen eyeballs and six spleens. We'll get to that, okay? Just be patient. Imagine having six spleens. No, don't do that. That would be crazy.

Anyway, verse 8, "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him," that is the beast, "whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." So, if your name is not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, then you will bow to the beast. If you're alive during this time when the beast is running well, then you will bow to him if your name is not in the Book of Life of the Lamb who was, in the mind of God, "slain from the foundation of the world." And we talked about that during the Book of Life study. Onward.

Look at chapter 17 and we're going to look at verse 10, "And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition." Isn't that fun? "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and," look at here, this is discriminatory, "they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." Did you know that the Lamb discriminates? Yup, sure does. The Lamb discriminates: he has ones that are called and chosen and they are faithful. So, we find out near the end of the book of Revelation that the Lamb fights wars and he wins them.

(...speaking of Babylon, is that Babylon over there or is that....) That is a great question. Here's the question she's asking: are we talking about Babylon? Has anyone been to the Babylon. I have. You have. When were you there? I was there June 2003, I think. When were you there? (December). December, 2003. Man, we didn't even know each other.

What about that? Crazy. What about you, Jason, were you there? (...) Unofficially, right?

So, the question is: does it have to be rebuilt? Are we talking about Babylon, the proper Babylon, the Chaldean Babylonian Babylon or are we talking about that Babylon being rebuilt here? Or is it, some people say, Jerusalem? Or is it as some people say: New York because you have towers and it's a burning city and you know, people were really using that ten years ago to be sensational. We're going to talk about that, sister, just not today. Okay? Babylon. It is my contention that it need not be the literal city of Babylon rebuilt. There are many times in the book of Revelation where Jerusalem, for example, in chapter 11 when the witnesses are killed, the two witnesses that we'll get to in 2016, when they are killed, it says that spiritually Jerusalem is called Sodom. Okay, so, depending on the point that's being made at the time, cities are sometimes renamed horrible cities of the past to make a point so there is no need for us to right of the bat just assume, "Ah, Babylon has to be rebuilt." It sells books but it doesn't necessarily mean it's true. Good question.

Look at chapter 19:7. What's the next thing we find out about the Lamb? He has a bride. Here is where we have possession of planet earth. Are there any questions before we read this verse about anything we've covered thus far? None at all? You've got one, I can see it written all over you. Just take careful notes.

Let's start with verse 1, "And after these things," so this is that same phrase used in chapter 4, "After these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great," yeah, how is that for a great word. He's judged the great "whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever." Please notice: while things are burning on planet earth, there is no one in heaven saying, "Boy, I wish you'd ease up on those people." No, Lord, praise you. You are righteous and holy and everything you do is worthy and fitting of God.

Verse 5, "And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." So, we find out now that the Lamb has a bride. Now, let me give you a teaching point here, it's very important that you see this: what happens in chapter 19 is that they return to the earth. Please notice in verse 11, "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war." Look at verse 14, "And the armies

which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.” Notice what they’re doing in verse 15, “And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron.”

So Jesus is coming back to earth in chapter 19 and yet it’s the first time in the entire book that we hear anything mentioned about a Marriage Supper. There is no need to take this and all of a sudden assume that the Marriage Supper of the Lamb must occur in here. There is no need to assume it must occur during the Tribulation period. The first time we have it mentioned is as a soon pending event when he returns to earth. That’s a learning point because often we’re told that we have to have time here for there to be a Judgment Seat of Christ and a Marriage Supper of the Lamb yet you don’t even see the term “marriage supper of the Lamb” until the book of Revelation and you don’t see it in Revelation until chapter 19 when he comes back to earth.

So, the idea that we’re going to use that event to prove a particular doctrinal slant is just simply not good Bible interpretation. What you should see is that, wow, it’s being spoken of in the very same context as the Second Coming of Christ to earth. That must mean it occurs at some point around then. Any questions about that? Now, unless we have something to gain or lose by going another direction, we really don’t have a motivation for making that appear seven years earlier but we are definitely returning with him. (Right then?) Yes, and we are definitely a part of the armies of heaven. I can show you that and we will show you that. I think it’s important that I show you that but this week I wanted to finish up and just show you the part that the Lamb plays in the book of Revelation. The question is, let’s just say this: when I give you a statement like the following, “We’re going to come with him from heaven at the end of the Tribulation period,” I have just implied something. I have implied a doctrinal slant which says we are in heaven with him already. The problem is, you can’t find that in the book of Revelation. That’s the problem. It’s not a problem for me but it’s a problem for many who already want us in heaven by that point.

Now, the fact that many of you have returned after 13-14-17 weeks of this, tells me that I haven’t completely blown you out of the lifeboat yet because we keep having people in the chairs but what I’m concerned about is that you’re not hearing me, some of you. That you’re going to keep leaving through the door thinking, “Well, at least we won’t be here.” Wait a minute. What gives you the authority to say that? We’ve been studying a book of the Bible for 20 weeks and you’re going to say, “I know what he says but I know what I believe.” Hold on. At least in your own conscience, at least in the deep recesses of your heart, know from Scripture why you believe what you believe. If you disagree with me, fine but for your own conscience, believe something differently if you must because of Scripture.

In chapter 20, we have the 1,000 years.

Last thing concerning the Lamb. Look at chapter 21. Lastly, he has a city. How do I know that? Well, for one thing he’s the chief resident of the city and for another thing, he owns the registry known as the Lamb’s Book of Life to the city. When you’re the chief

resident of the city and you own the registry to the city, I think we can safely say it's your city. Look at chapter 21:14, "And the wall of the city," what city? Look at verse 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." So, we're talking about the New Jerusalem. Look at verse 14, "And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them," that is, the twelve foundations, "the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal." So, we have a city that's a cube and apparently, based on all the conversions I've seen, this city is no less than 1,400 miles wide, high, deep. 1,400 miles. As a matter of fact, if you just want to get down to what everyone says, 1,500 miles.

(This is the city that's going to be surrounded during the insurrection.) Yeah. The nerd in me is just wanting to figure out how big that compass is going to be. Do you want to do it after class? Get together and talk about how big the circle has to be to encompass a square that's.... Anyway, we have to know some tangential stuff happening there.

Verse 17, "And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits." So, the walls are going to be at least 144 cubits tall. That's large since a cubit is 18 inches. 72 yards so over 200 feet tall the walls would be. "According to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel." That's a significant phrase we'll talk about, the cubit of an angel. "And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite," isn't that a brand for your dishwasher? I don't know, "the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl." That's a tall and big pearl, "and the street of the city was pure gold." Now, I'm kind of a stickler for details here. Street of gold. Nothing in there about streets of gold but street.

Verse 22, "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." You don't get into his city if you're not in his registry.

So, we've talked about eight things concerning the Lamb in the book of Revelation. What questions might there be? Look, folks, if I have to say I don't have time to answer that, I will answer it in a recording so let's get the question out there and I'll send this lesson out in an email. If you don't get my emails, oh man, but leave me your email address. Okay,

please do and if you have a question, let's hear it and maybe I can answer it in the recording this week and send it back out to you in maybe a five minute sort of format.

Ryan. (Two questions.) Alright, let me write them. (...pearl...street...describe it that we have the elements of ...) Yeah, but remember, the elements are gone and then there's a new heaven and a new earth and the New Jerusalem comes out of the new heaven so new elements are created. New creation.

(My next question.) Okay, I follow what you're saying there. There must be a new kind of diamond. Is that what... I'm supposing that he's using the best language he knew of at the time to describe something that wasn't going to occur from his perspective for at least 3,000 years.

Thank you, dear Lord, for letting us have a copy of the word of God that we might read and be encouraged with and obey and be corrected with.