

The Revelation of Jesus

Final Lesson (chapter 22)

This is such an intriguing book in the bible. It is the last book in the New Testament, and it is very much linked to all the books in the bible, especially the Old Testament.

- It is linked to **Genesis and creation**.
- It is linked to the **Tabernacle of Moses** and to **Worship in the Temple**.
- It is linked to the **Prophetic Writings** of **Daniel**, **Ezekiel**, **Zacharia** and **Joel** many others.

It is a revelation of unseen realities and end time events. **People are fascinated by the apocalyptic imagery:**

- **Dragon** – **Beast** - **number 666** - **The battle of Armageddon**

People read it trying to find info on: **Rapture of the church** - the **Great Tribulation** - **who is the anti-Christ?**

- The **Pope?** **Putin?** Some thought it was **Hitler**; **Osama Bin Laden?** **Trump?** **Elon Musk?**! *Watch out Twitter!*

Well, is the book of Revelation **a prophecy about the end times?** Yes it is, but it is more than that!

It is a revelation of the glory, beauty, majesty, and work and wonder of the God Man Jesus Christ!

- **Rev. 1:1 ESV “The revelation of Jesus Christ...”**

Last week: I said if you want to go deeper **do a study in Revelation on the names, images, and descriptions of Jesus!**

- In the book (22 Chapters), I found that Jesus was given **36 Names** and **Titles**.

36! ---- I am going to teach on them today... Its going to be **a long Easter sermon!** Lol!

- We opened with the service today celebrating Jesus!
 - **Alpha and Omega** – the **First and the Last** – **Beginning and the End** (transcends time)
 - He is called the **Son of God** and the **Son of Man** (dual nature: both God and Man)
 - He is also called the **Faithful** and **True**.

Revelation is **truly a Revelation of Jesus...** our **incredible, matchless, glorious Christ!**

Lets, just focus on the last chapter in the last book of the Bible and see if we can find a revelation of Jesus there.

For those of you who have not been studying with us the last 10 weeks let me catch you up. In the last 2 chapters of the last book of the Bible (66 books) (Chapters 21 & 22) we find a **summarized description what life will be like for God's people at the end of this age.**

- **Satan**, **his fallen angels** and **all the people who rejected salvation** are cast into the lake of fire, forever at the final judgment.
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- Then the Apostle John saw a **New Heaven** and **New Earth** that marks a **New Beginning**.

21:1 NIV “Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...”

21:3 NIV And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

21:5 ESV And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”

- So in this New Sin Free; Evil Free; New Reality God’s original plan expressed to Adam in the Garden of Eden is fully and gloriously restored.
- This is all accomplished by the Risen Jesus! Who is at the very center of Redeemed Creation!

Set Up: in Chapter 21 John sees an Enormous and Glorious City – A New Jerusalem and it is Coming Down from Heaven to Earth. It is our New Dwelling Place.

Read – some of the final verses of the Bible - 3 words... 3 titles... they represent 3 of the Names given to Christ.

- Jesus is the **Lamb of God**
- Jesus is the **Living One**
- Jesus is the **Light of the World**

Lamb – Life- Light

Revelation 22:1-5 NIV Then the angel showed me the river of the water of Life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the **Lord God will give them light**. And they will reign for ever and ever.

The Lamb of God

- 1) This the title most given to Jesus in the book of Revelation (40 times Jesus is called the Lamb).
- 2) The revelation of the Lamb was unveiled by John the Baptist in John’s gospel (same writer).
 - a) John the Baptist was a voice of one who came preaching repentance to the Jews, saying get yourself ready because the Messiah is coming.
 - b) 1000’s were coming to be baptized by John in water (Baptism is a sign of repentance).
 - i) Religious leaders in Israel were angry and asked who do you think you are and what are you doing?

John 1:26-27 NIV “I baptize with water,” John replied, “but among you stands one you do not know. 27 He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.”

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “**Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**”

- ii) How did John know Jesus was the Lamb of God? By Revelation of the Spirit!
 - (a) The same way “you know”. In your knower! In your spirit! Contrast that with the Pharisees... Jesus stood among them and they did not know him.

c) John the Baptist says **The Lamb of God** takes away the sins of **repentant people**!

i) **Remember what was happening at the Last Supper**, they were **celebrating the Passover**.

(1) Moses; Pharaoh and the Plagues in Egypt. death angel would take the first born.

(2) The Promise of Protection was given in Egypt to those who would **kill a sacrificial lamb**.

(a) **Blood on the door post**, covered them.

(b) The families ate of the Lamb for a meal.

(c) **Loud cries filled all of Egypt that night as first born died**. but those under the blood were kept safe.

ii) **The Last Supper was a holiday (Passover Meal)**. (Thursday of Holy Week)

(1) **Jesus took some bread** broke it and said eat it... **this is my body**... **I am THE sacrificial lamb**.

(2) Then he took cup the night before he went to the cross and said, **this is my blood**... **drink it in remembrance of me**.

iii) **On Good Friday he was crucified, "led like a lamb to the slaughter, he did not open his mouth"**

(1) He was mercilessly beaten.

(2) Mocked with a crown of thorns.

(3) Whipped so badly his flesh was torn from his sinless body and his blood flowed down the cross.

(4) He hung there between heaven and earth taking the punishment of your sins and mine.

You might be new to the bible, if you are, please understand, that **God used the blood of millions of sacrificed lambs on millions altars to cover** for the sins of his people.

It all pointed to THE Lamb of God who would do **more than cover** our sins, **his blood removes our sins**.

d) **In Rev. 5 John is weeping in heaven because there is a very important sealed scroll that no one could open.**

5:5-6a Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals." **6 Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne..**

v.7-12 He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. **8** And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. **9** And they sang a new song, saying: "**You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God** persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. **10** You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." **11** Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. **12** In a **loud voice** they were saying: "**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain**, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

The Life-Giver

Rev. 1:17-18 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he (the risen Jesus) placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. **18** I am **the Living One**; I was dead, and **now look, I am alive** for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

NTS – A revelation of Jesus!

In the New Creation everything comes to Life.

1) The River of Life.

22:1 “the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.”

- a) The Victorious Lamb is the source of the river of Life (The Life-giving Lamb of God)
- b) Ezekiel saw this river too. Everywhere the river flowed things came to life.

2) The Tree of Life.

- a) v.2b“... On each side of the river stood the **tree of life**, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit **every month**. And the leaves of the tree are for the **healing of the nations**. **3** No longer will there be any curse...”

14 “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the **tree of life** and may go through the gates **into the city**.”

- b) Here we are being taken back to God’s original plan for creation in Genesis.
 - i) There were two trees: (1) The Tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (2) Tree of Life
 - ii) God told them NOT to eat of the **tree of the knowledge of good and evil** because the day they ate of it they would die.

When Adam and Eve ate its fruit, their eyes were open, instantly they **were separated from God** and **immediately felt the shame of their sin**.

- (1) What was the problem here? Did God not want them to have knowledge?
- (2) The knowledge God did not want them to have was a knowledge that made them independent of God.
- (3) The consequences of their sin of independence brought a curse on themselves and all of creation.
- iii) In mercy God **blocked their access** to the **tree of Life**!
 - (1) Why? Because God did not want them to live forever in their rebellious independence.
 - (2) **He had to first redeem them from the curse of their sin** by **sending them a sacrificial lamb** who would die on a cross for their sin.

If and when the decedents of Adam and Eve received by faith the atonement of the cross their robes would become washed by His blood and this gives them **the right to access the **Tree of Life**!**

In that new city no one will live independently of God, and we will all have ACCESS to the Life, God intended for us to have.

*“you might be saying, I don’t know if I believe all this. Fortunately for you, Jesus is not only the Life-giving Lamb of God, he is the Light of the World” **Light is for Seeing!***

The Light-Sharer

22:5 There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the **Lord God will give them light. Light is for Seeing!**

Rev. 21:23 NLT And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and **the Lamb is its light.**

- 1) **What does light do?**
 - a) It illuminates.
 - b) It cancels out darkness.
 - c) It unveils for us the hidden things.
- 2) **Light enables us to see things as they really are.**
- 3) **Just as natural light that makes life easy. There is spiritual light that gives us revelation!**

Conclusion:

- Its Easter Sunday and I want you to get a revelation of Jesus.
- John got a revelation of Jesus... He saw so much!
 - He saw features of Jesus that we Lionlike... He even heard him roar!
 - He saw his feet and His hands
 - He saw his robe stained with his blood
 - He saw crowns on his heads
 - He even saw him on a White Horse dressed for battle.

He saw all that and at times, he trembled and wept and kneeled down before him.

But John said of himself and of Us... there is coming a day when we will have a glimpse of a river and beautiful trees... We will see the nations and the angels and the new City.... But none of it will matter because on that day:

We will see His Face! **his servants will serve him. 4 They will see his face!**

- **I have been following Jesus for 46 years. I have rejoiced with him, I have wept before him**
- **I have loved him and I have wrestled with him... I have prayed to him and I have argued with him.**
- **I have been corrected by him... But I have never been forsaken by him.**
- **He has rescued me... He has redeemed my bloodline.**
- **In the darkest moments of my life, Jesus was right there.**
- **And I have fallen short of him... I am so slow to obey him... and yet one day...**

I am going to see Him face to face! His glorious face, His loving face.

Not his disapproving face, not his reluctant face, not his condemning face... His redeeming face! His accepting face.

Do you want to see the light of his face?

Rev. 21:27 NLT Nothing evil will be allowed to enter... but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Take Communion together

