

The Book of Revelation

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Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God’s Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

Today we begin reading the last book of the Bible and the final book of our morning studies – the book of **Revelation**. According to early church tradition, the apostle John was the author of **Revelation**.

The book of **Revelation** has probably been one of the most misunderstood and abused books in the Bible. In fact, it almost didn’t make it into the Bible at all. This was because the bishops on the council that was deciding which books to include within the New Testament Canon were concerned that this book would be too dangerous – that unschooled and foolish Christians would use the book to support outlandish claims about the timing and manner of Christ’s return.

But the book of **Revelation** did make it into the New Testament, and for a good reason. It is an important book, for it seals the rest of New Testament revelation and helps us to understand not only what was taking place near the end of the first century, but also what will take place at the time of the Lord’s return.

The first thing to understanding about the book of **Revelation** is that it is written in a special style called apocalyptic. Apocalyptic literature is unlike any other kind of literature. It uses visionary images – often of animals and mythical creatures – to represent underlying spiritual truths and to foretell future events. The book of **Daniel** is another example of apocalyptic material in the Bible.

The first three chapters of **Revelation** are important, for they lay the foundation for all that will later take place in the book. In the first chapter, Jesus is revealed (and essentially the entire book is a gradual revealing of Jesus in the context of future events). Then in the second and third chapters, Jesus brings encouragement, correction and sometimes rebuke to the seven churches of Asia Minor, who were representative of the first century Church as a whole. Then in the next chapters, John begins to describe “what must take place after this” (**4:1**).

Let’s begin our study of Revelation by reading **chapters 1-7**.

Memory Verse

Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God; trust also in me.
In my Father's house are many rooms;
if it were not so, I would have told you.
I am going there to prepare a place for you.
And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come back and take you to be with me
that you also may be where I am.

1 John 14:1-3

Your Fishing Kit

This is the thirty-eighth verse in your fishing kit. This verse gives the believer one of the most precious promises in the Gospel. For this is what eternal life really means. It is not some ethereal concept, or hazy notion. It is all about being where Jesus is – for all eternity!

Here are the other verses in your “fishing kit”:

John 3:16	Isaiah 55:6-7	John 1:12	2 Corinthians 5:17
John 3:18	Romans 5:8	John 3:3	2 Corinthians 5:21
John 3:36	1 John 4:10	John 5:24	Matthew 10:32-33
Ephesians 1:7-8	Acts 2:38	John 6:37	Romans 2:4
Romans 3:23	Acts 3:19	John 8:32	Acts 17:30
Romans 6:23	Acts 4:12	John 8:36	1 John 5:10
Isaiah 53:5	John 14:6	John 10:10	1 John 5:11-12
Isaiah 53:6	1 John 1:8	John 10:28	John 14:1-3
Isaiah 59:1-2	1 John 1:9	Romans 10:9	John 16:33
Isaiah 64:6	1 John 1:10	Romans 10:13	Revelation 3:20

Store these verses in your heart. Memorize them until they have an “on the tip of your tongue” familiarity. You will find them of immeasurable value as you cooperate with the Lord in his mission of bringing the Gospel to this lost world.