

life group study guide

January 10, 2016

Revelation: THE WALKING DEAD

As our study of Revelation continues, we come to realize that Revelation is a description of the climax of the conflict that has endured for the history of the world. Since Genesis 3 when Satan first began to deceive us, this conflict has been ongoing between the Holy Trinity and Satan. The Glory of God, the Ministry of Christ and the Blessed Ministry of the Holy Spirit are observed as our Holy Trinity construct the “City” of God, filled with Saints. Satan and his unholy trinity, the dragon, the beast and the false prophet, have been building a “city” of evil called Babylon, which is built upon darkness and deception of every conceivable variety.

Read Revelation 19:11-21

1. Do you think God needs an army to fight for Him?
2. I thought “the war” was already won at Calvary. Are those just words to a hymn, or can you remember scripture verses to comment with? Discuss.
3. When have you thought Christians have been and are still at war with evil?
4. Repaint in your own words how you see Jesus as described in this scene:
 - a. Eyes of fire
 - b. Sword from His mouth
 - c. White horse
 - d. Rules with a rod of iron
 - e. Wine press of the wrath of God
 - f. White robe with His name on it. . . His name on His thigh.
5. Why include this gory scene of the birds of mid-heaven being summoned to dine on the spoils of this battle? Discuss this juxtaposed with the wedding feast of heaven. . the communion feast.
6. One commentator (James Coffman) “ Inherent in this is the fact that if people choose to live like animals, denying any image of God in themselves, or even that God exists, the final result will bring them to exactly the same end as that of a dead horse. It is the injection of that phrase “and the flesh of horses” which strongly emphasizes this point here. If man was born of evolution, being only material, then he has no more cosmic value than a worm or a dog.”
7. The unholy trinity is thrown into the lake of fire. Two are mentioned in this chapter and the third is mentioned in the next chapter. This is the final triumph, the ultimate conclusion to the conflict that has been going on for all this time.
8. What picture comes to your mind as you consider the “Lake of fire, burning with brimstone?”
9. Read Isaiah 30:18-33

Read Revelation 20:1-10

1. Are you amazed that all it took to finally, irrevocably dispatch Satan was one nameless angel?
2. Compare the chain upon the angel’s hand in 20:1 and the Word of God on the angel’s hand in 10:2. Can you see how the Word of God can restrain and control the activity of Satan these many years? We might also identify this passage with 12:7-9, which

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addresses another restraint of Satan. Can we associate Matthew 12:29, where Jesus talks of entering the strong man's house (Satan), without first binding the strong man?

3. Recognize the four terms used to describe the evil leader: dragon, serpent, devil, Satan.
4. How is Satan bound? Not literally with a chain, but figuratively, what evidence is there in your life, the life of the church, the community, etc., of Satan's binding?
5. Can you understand the "first resurrection" as the spiritual resurrection, which occurs at baptism symbolically when we die to our sins and are risen with Christ to a new life?
6. Then the "rest of the dead" can be those dead to new life, still in their sins, unrepentant.

There is a war raging outside of us and inside of us (Romans 7:14-25; Rev. 19:19) to live for ourselves and stay enslaved to sin; walking around like mindless zombies. Christ gives us the victory in Him and leads us in triumphal procession (Romans 7:25). At the conclusion of Revelation, only the City of God remains standing; only the citizen Saints of that City will be victorious!

Once again, in our triumph, we have to realize that we must ensure that all have heard of this Savior, that all are extended the only way out of Babylon and eternal condemnation and the only way into eternal life with the Victorious Christ, our Lord of Lords and King of Kings!