

Revelation

Opening the Seven Seals

OPENER

How do you feel about Jesus second coming?

SUNDAY MESSAGE NOTES

If Jesus is on the throne, why does evil proliferate? From our text we see three mysteries unveiled that help us to trust God as evil escalates.

1. Prayer _____ evil. (As we pray Kingdom Come prayers, evil is more agitated.)
2. There is a _____ to suffering. (Though evil is real, it is limited by God.)
3. Judgment comes when God, after exceedingly great patience, gives us over to our choice to _____ God. (God's justice is absolutely just.)

*What helped you? What was your "Aha!"? What questions do you have?

PRAYER

"Come Lord Jesus and grow Your kingdom in and through me. Help us to reach the lost with the good news of salvation! Amen."

Discussion Questions

1. In the 1st Century, document ownership was signified by a seal. Because Jesus owns the scroll of history, He opens up the seals one at a time and initiates the secret of history. Read Revelation 6:1-8. What do the symbols of the four horsemen represent?

What questions do you have about them?

What clues do you find that point to Jesus being in control even as the evil agents bring destruction and death?

2. Read Revelation 6:9-11. What principles do we find about martyrdom, prayer, justice, and God's sovereignty? When is it right to pray for vengeance? (See Luke 23:34; Matthew 26:24-25; John 17:11-12; Romans 12:17-19.)

3. Read Revelation 6:12-17. Look at the first four seals (vv 1-8). Do they focus on heaven or earth and why? Look at the fifth and sixth seals. Do they focus on heaven or earth and why? Why does the sixth seal come after the first five seals? Write down three lessons about the judgment that Jesus brings.

4. On the Rapture. Some believe that the rapture of the church happens as Revelation 4 begins (this is called Dispensational Premillennialism -- they say there is no mention of the church until chapter 20). Others believe the rapture occurs after the tribulation at the beginning of the millennium (Historical Premillennialism). Still others tie the idea of the rapture to the second coming of Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). What do you believe?

Putting it into Action

Compared to our normal concerns in life, how critical is it to be prepared for Judgment Day?
Who is the Holy Spirit leading you to reach out to?

Meditate

They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?" Revelation 6:16-17

Time Alone With God Reading Guide

Day 1: Revelation 15	Day 5: Revelation 19
Day 2: Revelation 16	Day 6: Revelation 20
Day 3: Revelation 17	Day 7: Revelation 21-22
Day 4: Revelation 18	