



Part 10: Revelation (Part 1)

Route 66

INTRODUCTION / REVIEW

- ▶ God's goal for human history & this planet – Habakkuk 2:14 (cf. Matthew 6:10)

*For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord,
as the waters cover the sea.*

- ▶ Divine Drama of Salvation – Bible Panorama
 - Prologue (Genesis 1-11)
 - Act 1: Salvation Provided (Genesis 12 – John 21)
 - Act 2: Salvation Proclaimed (Acts – Jude)
 - Act 3: Salvation Realized (Revelation)

GROUND RULES

- 1 Humility is required beyond this point
- 2 The Book of Revelation = future history
- 3 Keep the historical context always before you
- 4 Revelation is saturated with OT prophecy
- 5 Start with a literal interpretation unless the facts clearly lead elsewhere
- 6 This book is written to change your life

BACKGROUND OF REVELATION

- ▶ AUTHOR: The Apostle John
- ▶ DATE: c. AD 95 (Reign of Emperor Domitian)
- ▶ PLACE OF WRITING: Island of Patmos
- ▶ AUDIENCE: Persecuted Christian of Asia Minor
- ▶ LITERARY STYLE: Apocalyptic Prophecy

- ▶ KEYS TO UNLOCKING MEANING: Previous Prophetic Revelation

- Daniel
- Ezekiel, Zechariah, Jeremiah
- Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21)
- 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 John

REVELATION 1-7

- ▶ REVELATION 1: Vision of the Glorified Christ
- ▶ REVELATION 2-3: Letters to the Seven Churches
- ▶ REVELATION 4-5: The Throne in Heaven
 - The Tribulation / The Great Tribulation (3 ½ Years + 3 ½ Years = 7 Years)
 - The Rapture of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17)
 - 7 Seals / 7 Trumpets / 7 Bowls of Wrath
- ▶ REVELATION 6:1-8:5: The Seven Seals
 - 1 White Horse – Peaceful conquest
 - 2 Red Horse – Warfare & bloodshed
 - 3 Black Horse – Widespread famine
 - 4 Pale Horse – Death to ¼ of mankind
 - Parenthesis (Revelation 7:1-3)
 - 5 On Earth – 144,000 Jews sealed
 - 6 In Heaven – Countless multitude
 - 7 Seven Trumpets
 - 30 Minutes of Silence in Heaven (Revelation 8:1)
 - Golden censer of altar incense & fire hurled on the earth
 - Peals of thunder, rumbling, flashes of lightning & an earthquake

LifeGroup Questions - Doing Life Together

Week of March 19-25, 2017

Revelation (Part 1)

Route 66

Sermons can be viewed online at creeksideeg.com/sermon

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

PRAYER

Begin your time together by thanking God for all 66 books in the Bible and for revealing His wonderful plan of salvation through them. Ask Him to guide your discussion.

MY STORY

Besides the Bible, what kind of book do you enjoy most: mystery, adventure, biography, autobiography, history, romance, fiction, or other? Besides the Bible what is your favorite book?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What from Sunday's message helped the Book of Revelation come alive for you in a new way?
2. **Read Revelation 1:3.** What promise does God make in this verse? What does a person need to do to receive it?
3. **Read Revelation 1:10-18.** Briefly describe the vision John first saw when he was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day. How did John respond to the vision? How do you think you would have responded if you were in John's place?
4. Essentially every cult attacks the divine nature of Christ by denying, or attempting to "water down", His divinity. Christianity, on the other hand, says that God is a Trinity made up of three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who all share the same essence. How do Revelation 1:4-8, 17-19 and Revelation 22:13 show the deity (divine nature) of Christ?

DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

5. **Read Revelation 2:31-3:22** and fill in the following chart. Use bullet statements. Lastly, rate your own life as you think God would rate it.

Church Name	What they were doing right	What they were doing wrong	What they need to do, and what God will do
Ephesus			
Smyrna			
Pergamon			
Thyatira			
Sardis			
Philadephia			
Laodicea			
Your own life			

6. **Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.** In your own words briefly define the "rapture of the church". How does this affect your sense of urgency to live for Christ and share the good news?
7. **Read Revelation 5:2-4.** How did John respond to the fact that no one was initially found who was able to open the book that God held in His hand? Why do you think John responded this way?
8. **Read Revelation 5:5-14.** How did the other creatures in heaven respond when it was announced that the Lamb was worthy to open the book? Does this surprise you knowing that opening the book meant that God's wrath would be poured out on the earth?

TAKING IT HOME

After studying the first third of the book of Revelation, what do you sense that God is saying to you about your walk with Him?

PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group and ask God to give you a fresh desire to live for Him and be His witness in light of His imminent return.