

LEAD SHEET

REVELATION - WK 9 THE SEVEN FINAL VISIONS NOVEMBER 27, 2016

THIS MONTH'S FAITH SKILL: NAVIGATE THE BIBLE

If you want to know God better, read His Word!

GETTING STARTED

Before we dig in, let's review a few things:

General Discussion:

- To whom is John writing? (*Seven churches in Asia Minor –bonus points if you can name all seven!*)
- In what situation do these folks live? (*A heavily persecuted culture.*)
- What is the point of this letter? (*To give hope to the persecuted until the end.*)

As we draw close to the end of our study, we are getting close to a description of the end. The final seven visions reveal much about what is yet to come.

DIGGING IN

Before we get to the seven visions, we need to look at two chapters that precede their description as quickly as possible.

Read Revelation 17:1-18

Discussion Questions:

1. Where is the woman and what are some of her characteristics? (*The wilderness. She is riding a scarlet beast, dressed exotically, holding a cup.*)

2. When was the last time we saw a woman in the wilderness? (*Revelation 12, giving birth to a baby, at the apex of the book of Revelation.*)

3. John says, “it once was, now is not, and yet will come” on two occasions? What do you think it means? (*This is a mirror of the one who was, is, and is to come language used elsewhere in Revelation to describe God. John is making it clear that the beast will lose.*)

4. The numbers 7 and 10 are used repeatedly in this passage. What do they represent? (*Completion. In this passage, the ruse of the evil agent is not yet complete.*)

5. What’s the big picture here? (*Kings of the earth will oppose the cause of Christ but they will not overcome the Lamb because the Lamb has already overcome. God is eternal and sovereign. Those who oppose God are not.*)

6. Who is the woman? (*“The great city that rules over the kings of the earth.” This is probably Rome.*)

7. What do you think the beast eating and burning the woman means? (*While the oppressive governments —in John’s day, Rome—do evil, they are really an instrument of Satanic forces and will at some point fail and fall because of that evil force.*)

Read Revelation 18:1-24

Discussion Questions:

1. This passage talks about the destruction of evil. Who is judged? (*Babylon, merchants, those who participated in injustice, etc.*)

2. According to verse 19, how long did it take the city to be destroyed? (*One hour.*)

3. What does this say about God’s strength versus worldly strength? (*There is no comparison. God is more powerful.*)

Read Revelation 19:1-10

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see and hear? (*Great multitudes praising God for His justice over those who have been condemned.*)
2. What does John do? (*He bows down to worship the angel.*)
3. How is he corrected? (*Emphatically, worship God only.*)

MAKING IT REAL

With Babylon (or worldly forces) destroyed, God is about to exercise judgment on the supernatural forces who influence those worldly authorities.

Read Revelation 19:11-16, Vision #1

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see? (A white horse, ridden by Faithful and True, Jesus.)
2. What does this vision mean to us today? (*Jesus is returning as a victorious King who has already won the war. We worship the God of the winning side, and all our troubles before His return are worth it.*)

Read Revelation 19:17-18, Vision #2

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see? (*An angel standing in the sun who invites the listener to the great supper of God.*)
2. What does this vision mean to us today? (*We are invited to a victory over the enemies of God.*)

Read Revelation 19:19-21, Vision #3

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see? (*The beast, etc. gathered to wage war against the rider on the horse but being defeated by the Rider via His sword.*)

2. What does this vision mean to us today? *(You cannot fight against God. There is not even a war. Jesus has already won because of the resurrection. There is no need for us to fear!)*

Read Revelation 20:1-3, Vision #4

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see? *(An angel coming down from Heaven with keys, seizing and binding Satan and throwing them into the Abyss.)*

2. What does this vision mean to us today? *(The authority of God is greater than that of His enemies; therefore, we have nothing to fear, and Satan has no authority over us because of the Gospel.)*

Read Revelation 20:4-10, Vision #5

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see? *(Those who stood for Christ ruling with Christ for 1,000 years.)*

2. What does this vision mean to us today? *(Not even physical death is victorious over God. If we are faithful, we will live forever and ever and Satan will suffer forever and ever.)*

Read Revelation 20:11-15, Vision #6

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see? *(A great white throne, people fleeing it.)*

2. What does this vision mean to us today? *(There will come a day when we all stand before God and are judged. We need to be prepared for that. God's enemies will be discarded. We do not want to be with them.)*

Read Revelation 21:1-27, Vision #7

We're not going to go too deeply into this last vision because we're going to devote a whole lesson to it next week. However, let's get an overview of the seventh and final vision.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does John see? (*"A new Heaven and a new earth."*)
2. What does this vision mean to us today? (*The best is yet to come!*)

CLOSING PRAYER

Pray for your students to live in the glorious hope of the coming Christ who has authority over all and who frees us from Satan, sin, and death.