

## "Revelation #25"

### Revelation - (Conclusion)

- Revelation is not a book of apocalyptic puzzles or codes to be figured out.
- It is a source of divine blessing for God's suffering people.
- Instruction on how we as believers should live, in light of what the world offers.
- And the results and effects of sin and rebellion of unrepentant man!

### Chapter 14: 12-13

*"Here is a call for endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus... I heard a voice from heaven saying, write this: blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Blessed indeed, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"*

Chapter 1:3 *"Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near."*

Chapter 22:7 *"Behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of this prophecy of this book."*

➤ *Revelation is meant to bring hope and blessing... not fear and confusion...*

Hear are some quotes from several commentators and theologians. (Including J.I. PACKER, DANE ORTLAND AND STEVEN WITMER)

*"Revelation paints a sober, realistic picture of what life will be like for Christ's church in this world... there will be enticing temptations and violent persecutions, and the church will often look insignificant and weak... it is possible for Christians to live victoriously. It's just that victory will not always look like victory. Like Christ's triumph at the cross, it will often be an ironic victory; a victory that looks like defeat... Just as the expected conquering lion of Judah appeared as a slain Lamb, so God's army will win by losing and dying... God's people are called to endure in obedience to God and faith in Christ, to be faithful unto death, and then to enjoy eternal life... The churches can be assured that in all the trials and suffering, Christ will be walking among the lampstands."*

- So, what is the main theme of the book of Revelation...

In my estimation... chapters 4 and 5 sum it all up: Read.

**4:1** *"After this I looked, and behold a door standing open in heaven..."* (Glimpse into Heaven)

- After what... (7 churches, Jesus' accommodations, praise along with rebukes and a call to repent, to listen to the Spirit as He leads us. Have ears to hear)
- Or have our lampstand removed... *(If we fail to repent, because of pride)*

**Chapter 1:20** (NKJV) *"The mystery (Hidden Truth) of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands; The seven stars are the angles (Messengers) of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches."*

- Only two churches did not receive any rebuke... what is interesting is they are the churches that suffered the most!

**4:1-11 and 5:1-14** Read! (ESV)

**Chapter 22: V7, V12, V17...** *"BEHOLD I AM COMING SOON."*

**1 John 3:2-3** (ESV) *"Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we shall be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure."*