

GROWING IN GRACE LETTERS! – Calling saints in Christ, (in our homes and with one another in Church), to walk in the Steps of Jesus! (1 Peter 2:15-25) Edited by James Bell, a servant of Jesus Christ!

1 13 26 V1n36 — Revelation 1-22! — SEEING, Savoring, Serving, and RESTING in JESUS CHRIST— While the whole world CRUMBLES! [SAVOR: Definition: delight in, enjoy]

Hebrews 12:27-29 INFORMS US that we are in a world that is on course for, “... the removal of those things that [CAN BE] and are being shaken!” [WITH THE ULTIMATE REVELATION OF], “the things which cannot be shaken!” [CHRISTIAN, YOU HAVE RECEIVED AND] “... are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken...!” ‘**THEREFORE, REGARDLESS OF EARTH’S headlines, as to WARS— LET US, “... serve God acceptably with godly fear. **For our God *is* a consuming fire!**”**

BEHIND THE SCENES, all over the world people in high places are uniting their voices, believing that the world’s problems are so big that the only solution is for there to be worldwide political, economic, and religious unity. **DO NOT BE SURPRISED:** THE GLOBALIST MAY WELL SEEK TO BRING ABOUT THEIR VERSION UTOPIA WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT FROM A ‘NORMAL’ WEAPONS OF WAR! **BE ASSURED, PEOPLE in high places fully intend to control the world! KNOW THIS: THE MOST DANGEROUS times are not times of increasing WAR; but when the world cries ‘PEACE! PEACE!’ ... before the Prince of Peace, JESUS, returns! WISDOM IS NEEDED!** *Growing trust in Jesus will be required! THANKFULLY, one of God’s great provisions for His redeemed is **The Revelation** which **UNVEILS Jesus!***

SADLY, HOWEVER, for many the REVELATION is a basically, a CLOSED BOOK! Over the last 60 years, I have often heard:

1) *"I don't understand the Revelation." "I find it confusing." "The Revelation is scary." IN GREAT PART, HERE IS WHY:*

2) Many preachers, Bible Schools, Bible Study Bible notes, and prophecy books approach the Revelation from a particular 'position'... and often find themselves seeking to 'fit' the Revelation to their position. **For example**, you pick up books or listen to sermons on the Revelation ... **and one** is from a Pre-tribulational - Premillennial position, (PreTribPremil); **another** is MidTribPremil; **another** is PostTribPremil; **another** is PreWrathPremil; **another** is called HistoricPremil; **another** is A-millennial; **another** is Post Millennial, etc. AND EACH OF THESE will have a significant focus on proving their position; and of dis-proving other positions! And then, folks fuss and fight and separate about these positions. **THUS, IT IS NO WONDER** that MULTITUDES are confused.

3) They may even have a 'favorite' prophecy view of end time events; and they may have favorite teachers and Study Bibles with notes which support their positions — **but The Revelation of JESUS CHRIST, remains basically closed.**

HERE IS GOOD NEWS:

1) The first recipients read, (or had read to them), The REVELATION without any of the baggage of the above 'Prophecy' positions! They had no prophecy 'charts!' and no interpretive notes! — (For those prophecy views and positions had not yet been invented!)

2) The first recipients were simply Christians, saints, followers of the Lamb... (They were, at times, given different names/titles); but they were all simply and profoundly those who were redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. The entire book is written to and specifically for those belonging to JESUS — those who were then, have been since, continue now, and will face, (WHILE HERE ON EARTH), from time to time, all manner of persecution and tribulation in this life.

3) MOREOVER, the first recipients were told that the PURPOSE of the entire book was THE UNVEILING OF JESUS! They and anyone who will simply accept the book, as it is written, will clearly see that the MASTER REVELATION of the entire book IS JESUS! YES, THERE are events and situations revealed; and there are certainly clear calls to OBEY JESUS; but above all, IT UNVEILS JESUS! [IN DAYS AHEAD, SEEING and RESTING in and SERVING JESUS who is Sovereign, Supreme, and Sufficient will be supremely important to all FOLLOWERS OF THE LAMB!]

HERE is an imperfect OUTLINE OF THE REVELATION to aid in grasping the historical and prophetic flow of the book.

PLEASE aside time to READ *the Revelation* straight through—Just the Revelation!

Look for the UNVEILING of JESUS; and let us be ready to hear, to heed, to obey, to serve and to WORSHIP! (Rev. 1:3; 22:7, 14).

I. THE PRESENT SOVEREIGNTY OF THE LAMB IN and FROM HEAVEN, (Revelation 1-5), **JESUS, from Heaven,**

has been and is working through His blood-bought, redeemed on earth:

[A] (Revelation, Chapter 1) JESUS → Risen, glorified, and in the midst of His churches; JESUS is giving revelation to HIS SERVANTS of the exalted nature of the RISEN, REIGNING CHRIST. Saints are/will be made Kings and Priests unto God; and they are all COMPANIONS IN TRIBULATION

[B] (Revelation, chapters 2-3) JESUS → Commending, Commanding, Correcting, and Instructing His church.

[C] (Revelation, chapter 4) JESUS → The Throne of Deity and the Occupation of Heaven – **WORSHIP! ** Saints can be at rest on earth; for there is no CRISIS or anxiety in heaven!"**

[D] (Revelation, chapter 5) JESUS → In the Midst of the Throne is WORSHIPED and IS reigning. **Three ways to view the worthiness of the JESUS CHRIST, THE LAMB OF GOD:**

(1) The Conqueror of Satan! (2) The Redeemer of Men! (3) The Incarnation of God!

**II. FROM HEAVEN and ULTIMATELY, FROM EARTH—
THE PRESENT and COMING SOVEREIGNTY OF THE
LAMB ON EARTH,**

REVELATION (Chapters 6-19) JESUS → In this section, all things are moving toward Christ's SECOND COMING and His enthronement on earth: (11:15; 19:6) **NOW and in the future—
JESUS reigns (10:6); rules (19:15); restrains (20:1-3);**

rewards; and those of the first resurrection reign with Him (20:4-6).

A. Revelation 6 – JESUS: Seals 1-6 (Unveiling present and future actions of ALMIGHTY GOD and the SOVEREIGN LAMB)

1. Great Tribulation – The restraints of God will one day be released and God’s wrath will increasingly come forth! **AND** the wrath of Satan against God’s elect, whom he can’t deceive, will unfold! **(Seals 1-5) [Note: Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21 follow the same basic revelation of the unfolding of the WRATH of the LAMB; and the works of men and satan! (Rev. 6:16-17)]**

Seal 1 – White Horse – Imitator (Rev 6:2; Matt 24:5)

Seal 2 – Red Horse – War (Rev 6:3-4; Matt 24:6-7)

Seal 3 – Black Horse – Famine (Rev 6:5-6; Matt 24:7)

Seal 4 – Pale Horse – Pestilence (Rev 6:7-8; Matt 24:7)

Seal 5 – Great Tribulation (Rev 6:9-11; Matt 24:9-28)

THE CRITICAL POINT: In coming days ... IMITATORS (False Prophets), War, Famine, Pestilence, and persecution/ tribulation, (which have been common reality for the last 2,000 years of the ‘last days’) – WILL BE ‘waxing’ worse and worse, 2 Timothy 3:13!

MAIN REALITY: The Sovereign LORD JESUS CHRIST rules! Every day He orchestrates events, moving events to when HIS WILL, **‘WILL be done on earth in the same manner as it is already done in heaven!’** (Matthew 6:10)

Seal 6 – Heavenly signs – (Revelation 6:12-17; Matthew 24:29)
Heavenly signs and wonders – God’s first phase of direct intervention.

B. Revelation 7 – JESUS: Preservation and Deliverance of the 144,000 of the twelve tribes of Israel; and of the numberless Multitude from all nations: REMEMBER: God protected Israel from His wrath when He poured out the plagues of wrath on ancient Egypt. HE PROTECTED NOAH ... EVEN SO, He shall protect all His redeemed from HIS HOLY and JUST wrath which will come on this present evil world.

HOWEVER, throughout history, today and during the day ahead, spoken of here— GOD does not necessarily protect His redeemed from satan’s / Babylon wrath. MANY ARE CALLED TO BE MARTYRS FOR CHRIST! Regardless of whatever else might be said of these two groups this much is sure— they are all saved, servants, and saints of God! (Rev 7:3; 9-17)

C. Revelation 8-19 –JESUS: The Seventh Seal consists of Seven Trumpets and Seven Last Plagues. The Great Day of the Lord includes all 7 trumpets. Six are prior to Christ’s return.

Revelation 8→ Trumpets 1-4

Revelation 9→ a. 5th trumpet, or first woe (9:1-11) b. 6th trumpet, or second woe (**9:12 - 11:13**) c. Before third woe: Two Witnesses, last 3 ½ years, God’s final warning before the last trumpet.

Revelation 11: 15-18→ Seventh and last trumpet— the time of Christ’s literal, bodily return to earth has come! (Also see— I Corinthians 15:52, I Thessalonians 4:16, Matthew 24:31)

NOTE: The seventh trumpet also consummates the wrath of God against evil. *The seventh trumpet also includes the seven last plagues completing the wrath of God, described in Revelation 15-16.*

Revelation 12→ An inset chapter— that is, the story thread is stopped and we go back prior to Christ's birth (12:4); through His resurrection and ascension (12:5); and on through the activity of Satan against God's redeemed people to the present and future days (12:12, 17).

Plus, there is wonderful ENCOURAGEMENT of the OVERCOMING POWER of the blood of the Lamb! (12:10-17... — **the first century church and many saints in persecution and tribulation since then** ... would have ... and still do FIND GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT from these verses!

Revelation 13→ An inset chapter about the activity of Satan and the anti-Christ in the last days and during the 5th and 6th trumpets. ***Those who SIDE WITH the world often look so smart; and the saints of God look so foolish!*** ...(The first Christians would have KEENLY felt the impact of this chapter!

Revelation 14→ An inset chapter where three angel messengers speak of the fall of Babylon through the time of the seven last plagues, plus a warning against taking the mark of the beast, (14:9-10); **BUT ALSO, WE SEE the BLESSEDNESS** of those who DIE IN THE LORD, 14:12-13! // O WHAT ENCOURAGEMENT this was to the first readers; and to multitudes of Christians ever since!

Revelation 15-16→ Description of the seven last plagues (vials or bowls) which are part of the seventh trumpet, the third woe. These

are God's judgments against God-hating men of the world's Babylon!

Revelation 17-18→ Inset chapters about the great governmental and economic and religious system of Babylon and God's judgments against them, including the last seven plagues.

Note: Again, in all of these chapters, THE KEY REALITY and REVELATION is NOT the various events; but RATHER, the fact that the LORD JESUS CHRIST from heaven is ruling and overruling in the affairs of men on earth. *As He has always done, He puts up and takes down kings and kingdoms in accordance with His good and sovereign purposes; and at the same time, in the midst of it all, He continues to work with His redeemed saints.* **AND ONCE AGAIN... if we would but sit where those first Christians were sitting... I SUSPECT THAT THEY would have been WONDERING, 'WHERE IS GOD? How is it that the wicked seem to go unpunished?' (Revelation 6:9-11) *IN THE REVELATION, God opens the curtains for HIS blood-bought REDEEMED, HIS SAINTS to see— GOD WILL BE TRUE TO HIS WORD IN ROMANS 12:19-21!! (Rev. 6:10-17)***

Revelation 19→ **The second coming of Jesus Christ to earth described further:** **a.** This happens at the seventh and last trumpet. (Revelation 11:15-18; 19:1-4) **b. On that day** all of God's redeemed people – the saved of all ages – meet Christ in the air and *come on with Him to Jerusalem. God's children, now in immortal spirit bodies are also now rewarded. (See 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Revelation 11:18, 22:12)* **c. On that day**, also, God's wrath, (as pictured with the seven last plagues), begins to take place and is possibly administered in a 24-hour period. (Rev. 18:8; Zechariah

14:7; 14:1-9) **d. On that day** (Revelation 11:15-18, 19:15-21, Zechariah 14:1-9), the evil nations (having probably spent months in previous preparation) will, under the anti-Christ's leadership (Revelation 16:13-15) gather at Armageddon to fight against Christ! The results – Re 19:14-21.

III. THE ETERNAL ENTHRONEMENT OF THE LAMB ON THE “NEW EARTH”, Chapters 20-22 → Jesus is LORD! Yet He remains the Lamb! **SPECIAL NOTE: EVEN IN ETERNITY, His Calvary love will never, never be forgotten!**

Revelation 20 → Satan bound, JESUS REIGNS; and judgment!

Revelation 21-22 → New heaven and New Earth! The redeemed saints of all time— **SERVE HIM, SEE HIM FACE TO FACE; and REIGN WITH HIM FOR ETERNITY!**

Grace to all in Christ!

James Bell / www.southsidegallatin.org

SUNDAY SERVICES: JANUARY, 2026– 18, 25

[1] **Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes. [2] **WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

January 18, LORD'S SUPPER / HOME GROUPS

January 25, Church-wide EVENING WORSHIP, 5pm

EVERY SATURDAY* 8:00 AM,** — Men's Bible Study! (Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits are available!) **January 17 / Romans 5:12-21**

**NEXT Ladies Bible Study, 1/20/26 @ 11:00 AM –
Read Acts 2**

*****TUESDAYS: LADIES PRAYER MEETING @ 10:00am**

***Young Adults ... Tuesdays at 7:15pm at Jaden
and Rhi's home!***

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 6:30pm,

MEN'S Prayer Service // YOUNG FAMILIES SERVICE

LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD by MAIL or by ONLINE:

BY MAIL (checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO:
Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066 /

TO GIVE via **ONLINE GIVING:**

<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>