



The Revelation of Jesus in Heaven

Introduction: The book of Revelation was written to believers who were suffering persecution from the Roman empire. John, the author of the book, was himself banished to an island while he received the visions and words to write. The book is an encouraging book that our Lord revealed to John so that he might comfort the church with the reality of God's sovereign rule. The book begins with John getting a vision of the exalted Christ.

Text: Revelation 1

Discussion:

1. People often root for the winning team. Someone might be a fan for one team, but in their time of struggle, ditch that team to root for the winning team. It's called, "Jumping on the bandwagon" Discuss how you see that happen and when you have done that. What bandwagon are you on right now and why?
2. Why were the early Christians in the first century called atheist by the Romans?
3. The Roman emperor, Domitian, demanded that he be called Lord and God. The Christians could not declare this because of their faith in Jesus being Lord. Discuss/Write the pressure that the church had in making this stance. What were the possible consequences of refusing to bow down to the emperor? What ways are there pressure today to bow to the gods of this world?
4. Revelation means a revealing. What is this book revealing?
5. According to Rev. 1:1 Who was this book addressed to?
6. What is a bondservant and who are the bondservants?
7. Why is the Christian greeting grace and peace and just not "peace?"
8. Read Rev. 1:3. What are the blessings promised for this book?
9. Read Rev. 1:5 List the work that Christ has accomplished.
10. What does it mean that we are a kingdom, priests unto God?
11. Read Rev. 1:9. What is the condition of John in during the writing of this book? Now read Rev. 1:5 and note where it says that Jesus "loves us." What is the importance of knowing that Jesus loves us even in the midst of great tribulation?
12. If someone were to ask you to describe what Jesus looks like, how would you describe him? Discuss/Write. Read Revelation 1:12-18 and compare.
13. Compare the sounding the trumpet to John with Exodus 19:16.
14. Read Daniel 7:13-14. John sees one like the "son of man." Who is this that Daniel and John sees?
15. The robe of the son of man walking among the candlesticks is priestly garments. Read Ex. 28 and compare. Hebrews says that Jesus is our great High Priest. What is the significance of this imagery?
16. Hair white like white wool, like snow. Read. Daniel 7:9—This pictures Jesus having the same qualities as God the Father. Why does that matter?
17. Eyes a flame of fire. He sees through us and into the deepest thoughts and desires. We can not hide from God. What are ways that people try to hide their secrets from God and others?

Think About it:

How big is your God? Your view of Jesus will impact your commitment to Him. Mighty God; worthy of devotion. Weak God; half hearted devotion. Mighty God; strong prayer life. Weak God; little praying. The Lord God is worthy to be praised and there is no other!

Moving Forward:

Acknowledge the sovereignty of God every morning and commit each day to Him. Do not compromise in your faith. Live a holy and pleasing life. Understand that God loves you and is with you even in troubled times. He rules over all!