

The Book of Revelation Course.

Session 04. The Father's Throne and Jesus Exaltation. (Rev. 4-5)

These notes of mine have time code references shown in brackets. They relate to Mike Bickle's MP3 audio files on his Book of Revelation study. You may also refer to his complete pdf session notes on the IHOP website. Mike has also produced an excellent A5 size study guide which can be purchased from IHOP.

The purpose of these notes, is to complement what Mike has already written. Many of the sentences written in my notes, are what Mike has actually said on the audio file.

Introduction

(00:20-01:30) Because this chapter gives the greatest revelation of God's beauty in scripture, it is used as a focal point for worship.

I. The Father's heavenly court: The Beauty of God (Rev. 4)

A. (01:31-02:28) John is lifted in the spirit into the throne room. Here he is given a vision of the Father's beauty, specifically the court scene which reveals his beauty to us in a way that we can understand.

B. (02:29:07:58) There are 4 categories of God's beauty each having 3 specific themes. Rev. 4 (2-7). See pdf notes showing 4 aspects of God's beauty 1. First we see his person. He was like jasper and a sardius stone in appearance and a rainbow of emerald green – a picture of how God acts. 2. Then we see God's partners, the 24 elders sitting on thrones in white robes with crowns of gold- God is sharing his leadership with the saints. 3. God's power is shown by manifestations of thunderings, lightning and voices around the throne. 4. Lastly, his presence is depicted by fire on the 7 lamps, living creatures and the sea of glass. These are the 12 subjects we can meditate on in our worship.

C. (07:59:11:28) Rev. 4 (8-11) The seraphim (meaning the burning ones) are the heavenly governmental leaders who glorify God day and night. They declare God's transcendent beauty. When they do this the elders are so overpowered they cast their crowns before the throne.

D. (11:29:13:18) Holy means he is pure, or other than anything else that exists, his transcendence and his beauty is inexhaustible for all time.

II. The grand drama: Jesus exalted as king over all nations. (Rev. 5)

(13:19-15:31) The Father wants John to understand how he feels about his son and has planned for Jesus, and how all the resources of heaven will be at Jesus disposal.

A. (15:32-18:48) The key is that God is exalting Jesus as a human as king over all nations even though he is the uncreated God before all time. The great tribulation is about removing the antichrist's empire so that Jesus can rule on the earth. This is done by the saints in cooperation through prayer with Jesus. Refer Ps.2:8

B. (18:49-22:37) The challenge of this chapter is to come to grips with Jesus being fully God but also fully man. When he did this it was on the basis that he would be human forever! This is staggering! It means in the millennial, while he can be with everyone in spirit at any time, he can only be in one place physically!

C-D. (22:38-27:26) The promise of the Father was to exalt Jesus 'as a resurrected man' over all on the earth. This is still a huge step down. (Phil.2:8-10). When God gave Adam authority of the earth, he could never reverse it. Hence Jesus, the new Adam, had to come as a man to redeem the earth, as a man, a human, not as God. (Gen.1:28) and (Ps.115:16)

E. (27:27-33:14) When Adam sinned it was not just his individual sin, but that he forfeited the stewardship of governing the earth to the devil. Satan knew that when he tricked Adam and Eve that God would not go back on his word in regard to the dominion of the earth. This is why in Lk. 4:5-6 the devil was able to offer it back to Jesus. The action plan of the book of Revelation is how God through Jesus with the saints will reverse this situation.

III. Jesus takes the scroll from the Father's hand. (Rev.5)

A. (33:15-40:13) Now John sees God commissioning Jesus as a man giving him the title deed and the action plan where the church becomes the mature bride partnering with Jesus for the end time harvest and bringing judgement on the antichrist. Can you begin to understand Jesus as a man in the age to come! Rev. 5:1-7 describes the drama. Note: he is able to loose the 7 seals! This passage describes Jesus characteristics. God gives the title deed and the action plan to the 'man' Christ Jesus. It is most important that we understand what is going on in this passage.

B-C-D-E. (40:14-43:51) Jesus is the only 'man' able to open the seals, which are the judgements spoken of in Rev. 6-19. This is the time where the church cooperates in bringing judgement on evil. It also gives Jesus authority for the reconstruction of the earth in real time and space and human history. Only Jesus could accomplish this through His love and righteousness.

IV. Jesus is worthy: We trust His leadership (Rev.5)

A. (43:52-48:55) When Jesus takes the scroll He is accepting responsibility of repealing Satan's leadership and authority over the earth back to himself. He will only carry out this action plan with the saints. We with our resurrected bodies and minds will physically work with Jesus under his leadership to complete the rebuilding of the earth to its former splendour. Rev.5:8-10

B. (48:56-52:27) Jesus is worthy has 3 applications. 1. It is worth us obeying him. Phil.3:8 2. He is capable in carrying out the plan. 3. Jesus deserves it because he is incorruptible. 2 Cor.8:9

C-D. (52:28-56:40) Jesus is slain has 3 applications. 1. Means he embraced humanity. 2. He lived a perfect life so as to be the perfect sacrifice. 3. Jesus as a man had to live dependent of the Holy Spirit in all he did on earth. He never drew upon his God power. He will do this forever. Isaiah 11:2-3. This is worth pondering upon.

E. (56:41-1:05:25) This passage has to do with Jesus destiny on the earth. As a man Jesus receives these 7 spheres of leadership. These are power (political) Riches (financial) Wisdom (intellectual) Strength (emotional) Glory (spiritual) Honour (relational) Blessing (social). These are given by the people voluntarily. This is truly amazing and ties in with the 7 mountains. See 7 mountain page this website.

V. All the nations will see Jesus' beauty in the Millennium

Isa.33:17 'Your eyes will see the king in his beauty.' Isa. 4:2 'In that day the branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious.'

VI. At the end of the Millennium, Jesus will give the nations to the Father.

Father's promise to Jesus: to make him preeminent in all things. Col. 1:18

Jesus earned the right to rule the earth yet gives it to the Father. Jesus delights in humility. 1 Cor. 15:24-28.

End of audio teaching