

The Book of Revelation Course.

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, for each session, 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.

Session 08. Second coming and Rapture: War in the spirit. (Rev. 11-14)

Introduction This is an eschatological (end times) shift in world and human history to the next age. It only happens once and the church is being raised up under Jesus leadership to bring about this transition to the age to come. At the end of Ch.10 John has just eaten the book which tastes sweetness in his mouth (representing the sweet message of the saints coming victory and judgement over the anti-Christ) and the bitterness in the stomach (representing the message of worldwide judgement on the wicked, and for the persecution of the saints).

I. The Rapture and replacement of all world governments. (Rev.11:15-19)

A. (02:30-04:08) There are five chronological events in Jesus' battle plan and we are now looking at the third. It describes the rapture of the church and the replacement of world governments. It will be a hostile takeover of nations and a very bloody time in human history where the church through prayer and fasting (intimacy) call down destruction of the evil world systems. It is similar to Mt. Carmel and Elijah calling down fire from heaven on the prophets of Baal. 1 Kings 18. At the beginning of Ch. 11 we see the appearance of the 2 witnesses from heaven, likely Moses and Elijah who have supernatural power to cause drought, plagues and turning water into blood. They are killed after their time of prophecy against the anti-Christ, but raised again to life after the 1260 days.

B-C-D-E-F These are not covered in commentary. However, the notes describe the saints being given governmental leadership, that the rapture takes place at the sounding of the seventh trumpet, at the end of the first 3 and a half year period of the tribulation, and initiates Jesus' second coming which takes place in 3 stages: a) procession across the sky b) procession on the land c) procession into Jerusalem. This is takes place in the extra 30 days after the 1260 days of the abomination of desolation.

II. Third angelic explanation (parenthesis): War in the Spirit (Rev. 12-14)

A-B-C. (04:09-10:13) These are times where the angels give explanations as to what is happening. In this one the angel explains why Jesus' wrath is so severe and why it is necessary to replace the governments of the earth at one time. The angel also explains how bad it gets for the saints but how God leads them to victory. The nations rise up in anger against Jesus but he destroys all who oppose him. John only tells us what happens on earth as a result of what is happening in the heavens. He does not go into detail of us getting our new resurrected bodies.

D-E-F-G-H-I-J. (10:14-25:33) Jesus raptures the church, we are transformed and mobilised to govern the earth. There is a 30 day period during the 3 stages of His coming.

The commentary seems to skip a lot of the notes. MB says nothing about the 7 symbols until a bit later (the dragon-Satan, the first beast-anti-christ, another beast-False prophet, the 7 heads-the 7 historical empires.(these will re-emerge again under the power of the anti-Christ) The 10 horns being the future confederation of powers who bring all their armies and power under the anti-Christ, the harlot Babylon, being the rebuilt city functioning as the headquarters for the anti-Christ regime, the woman and the child-the remnant of Israel and her child-the church.

III. War breaks out in heaven. (Rev.12)

A-B-C-D-E-F. (25:31-33:46) In Rev.12:7-17 Read before proceeding. It describes the war in heaven where Satan and his demonic host are cast out of the second heaven to the earth by Michael the archangel which then limits Satan's power. This happens at the beginning of the great tribulation period. This is unique to the earth. Satan gives his throne to the anti-Christ (Rev.13:2) This war in the heavens will be like the war in Daniel 10 where prayer makes the difference to the outcome. The demons after 3 and half years are confined to the pit. Satan is so enraged by being cast down that he turns on the remnant of Israel (the woman) and the church (her child). There will be death but it will

be a time of great revival. Jesus will provide supernatural protection and provision at this time for his people. This is the time for which the church needs to be prepared. Many hearts will fail in this time. Lk. 21:26

IV. Satan wars through the anti-Christ and false prophet. (Rev. Rev.13)

A-O. MB does not cover this section, he goes straight to V.

Chapter 13 is viewed as the most difficult time for the church as there will be persecution in the midst of great revival. It is likely to be during the 7 year period of the tribulation. This is the time of anti-Christ and the false prophet. Rev. 13:3-7. The anti-Christ will claim to be God and demand to be worshipped by the nations. His seemingly miraculous resurrection from a mortal head wound will launch him into world prominence. Saints in many geographic areas will resist him. He will counterfeit the trinity. The false prophet is the leader of the future worldwide religious network that causes millions to worship the beast. He will be 'like a lamb' but act as 'a dragon' being totally ruthless. This is why Jesus has to destroy and replace all world governments because they are contaminated with his followers. John reveals that the false prophet has 3 effective strategies. Firstly, he is a prophet who is empowered for public speaking where he deceives billions by his clever rhetoric. Secondly, he establishes a worldwide worship system which is based on the image of the beast. He actually causes this image to breathe or appear to breath. Thirdly, he will establish a worldwide economic system that will only permit economic trade both nationally and individually if they pay homage to the anti-Christ and have his symbol that allows trading and buying of goods and food.

V. Jesus will supernaturally help the church come to victory. (Rev.14)

A-B-C-. (33:46-50:05) This is now about the war on the earth. A distasteful subject in our current time of relative peace, but it will be totally different when a man 10 times more evil than Hitler comes on the scene, who kills at will. Jesus will not just click his fingers and they will all disappear. He gives them free will to love Him or hate him, and that is why they have to be killed and driven off the face of the earth. We are about to enter this period of history, MB suggests it may be a few decades or so out, but God is now raising up forerunners to warn and prepare the church for this coming time.

The masses will say 'who is like him', meaning the anti-Christ, and who can stand (make war) against him. It will be the praying church who does this. The anti-Christ is the military leader while the false prophet is his religious leader. There is only one generation where the battle becomes physical and out in the open to see. In this hour everyone will know the war is on!

D-L (50:06-1:02:00) 1) The timing is somewhat unknown. Jesus stands on Mt. Zion with 144,000 prophetic singers. This is the largest worship movement in world history. They sing new songs which they receive in the spirit. There is here a connection to Isaiah 42. There will be a call to celibacy and they will follow the Lamb without question. They will be an inspiration to the world by their abandonment in their devotion to Jesus. Rev. 14:1-5 At this time another flying angel comes with the everlasting gospel and crying out 'Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of judgement has come.' Rev. 14:7. This may be the last chance for salvation. A fascinating passage of scripture.

- 2) They will sing and declare the false anti-Christ system of Babylon has fallen.
- 3) The eternal judgement of those who have worshipped the beast is about to happen. This will release terror on those who have followed the beast.
- 4) God will reward the faithful backed by signs and wonders.
- 5) The harvest of souls is reaped and the harvest of sin is now seen in graphic terms. The winepress that Jesus treads causes the great slaughter of the anti-christ's armies causing their blood to be up to the horses bridles and stretch out 1600 furlongs (about 200 miles).

End of teaching.