

REVELATION

Set 1. Studies 1-10.

Ten studies introducing Revelation chapters 1-5.

Here you will find commentary on your Church, written almost 2,000 years ago!

By John Nixon.

*If you wish to compare your answers with mine, go to
www.godswordsays.com/RevelationSET1Answers.pdf
To browse other Bible Studies, and other Bible related articles go to
www.godswordsays.com*

*The REVELATION of the imminent complete fulfilment
of God's plan from eternity past, for His glorious Church.*

A few suggestions for using this course:

- The answers for most of the questions are to be found within the Bible passage being considered. If you find some question(s) difficult to answer move on to following questions until you have opportunity to consult with others or find "my answers" to relate to.
- For group study provide each member of the class with a copy of the lesson the week before the study is due. This will allow them time to study the passage and prepare their answers to the questions in order to be ready to participate in the Bible Study Class.
- If the class participates freely in prolonged discussion and conversation about the questions it may be better to divide each lesson into two and only do five questions at each study. That way your course will last twice as long!

Study 1/25 of REVELATION. God's concern for His Church!

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 1:1-20. God's supernatural love and care!

MEMORY VERSE JEREMIAH 29 : 11.

1. **What profit could ever come from reading and seeking to understand this mysterious and difficult book?**
2. **How did this book come to be written and what authority does it claim?**
3. **Can you name any religions that claim to be based upon angelic revelations received by their leaders?**
4. **Do you think the angelic revelation to John is any more believable than those in Q3? (Give reasons for your answer.)**
5. **What title does this Person who has the message for the Churches use to describe Himself? And why?**
6. **What is the first prophetic message concerning the Christ that is given in this chapter?**
7. **Where was John when he received this revelation? Why was he there? Why would it be so very encouraging to receive this revelation at that time?**
8. **This revelation was not just for John's benefit. Who was this revelation addressed to? And why do you think it should have any significance to us today?**
9. **What did the 7 stars and 7 lampstands represent? And note where they were in relation to the glorious Christ.**
10. **What does the awesome description of the features of Christ reveal about Him?**

Study 2^{/25} of REVELATION.

The Church in Ephesus.

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Reading: Revelation 2:1-7.

Lacking in love!

MEMORY VERSE JOHN 13 : 34. (AGAPE LOVE)

1. Why should it be surprising that the Jews would want to preserve the Old Testament books of the Bible?

Why should it be surprising that the Christian Church should want to preserve the book of Revelation?

2. In Ephesians 6:24 what kind of love had Paul commended in the Ephesian Church?

By the time the Revelation passed on by John came to them what serious fault had arisen in the Church in Ephesus?

3. What was known to Christ about the life and witness of the Church in Ephesus that seemed very commendable?

4. How could the Lord say that they had forsaken their first love when they were so diligent in all of these areas of service?

5. How could anyone be so involved in working for the Lord and yet be lacking in having genuine love as his/her motive?

6. Can you find any parallel to loveless service and its consequences in Luke 15:25-31? Explain your answer.

7. How does the Lord, who is exposing the weakness of this Church, describe Himself to them?

8. What three steps did the Lord exhort them to take in order to recover their initial status?

9. Suppose they are content to just go on as they are diligently serving God with wrong motives what would be the outcome?

10. What was said to the Church in Ephesus that shows us that the message is relevant to each of us today?

Study 3^{/25} of REVELATION.

The Church in Smyrna.

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 2: 8-11

Languishing in persecution!

MEMORY VERSE 1 PETER 4:13.

1. How does the Lord introduce Himself to the Church in Smyrna? How does this compare with what John had heard from Him earlier?
2. What concept of the Lord who is addressing them would this introduction give to them?
3. How could these words of introduction be of any comfort to a Church that seems to be being persecuted out of existence?
4. When the Lord said, "I know...." (meaning "know perfectly") I suggest He was not just expressing sympathy for them but He was declaring EMPATHY with them. What does empathy mean?
5. Tell some of the ways in which Christ Jesus stooped down to empathise with them and with us?
6. What words of encouragement did the Lord have for this Church suffering affliction and poverty? Explain.
7. What did the OMNISCIENT (all knowing) Lord foresee for the Church in Smyrna?
8. There are 3 things that many find difficult to reconcile - God is all-powerful / God is all good. / Terrible things happen! What advice was given to the Church in Smyrna as they had to grapple with such a dilemma?
9. Why did the OMNIPOTENT and GOOD God not prevent and forbid the terrible sufferings endured by His Son here on earth? Does the answer to this have any bearing on why God permits His Church to still endure suffering?
10. What comfort is there in the final exhortation to Smyrna that still applies to suffering Believers everywhere today who may even be facing death for Christ's sake?

Study 4/25 of REVELATION.

The Church in Pergamum.

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 2:12-17.

Lax in doctrine!

MEMORY VERSE JAMES 1:12.

1. From the message to this Church what do we find to be very significant about the situation of Pergamum? And what does that suggest we can expect to encounter here?
2. What commendations had the Church in Pergamum earned from the Lord?
3. Only one of those who belonged to the Church in Pergamum is identified by name. Who was he and what is revealed about him?
4. Satan's throne and Jesus' Church opposing each other! Which would appear the stronger? And which will prevail?
5. How is the Lord equipped as He addresses the Church in Pergamum? What assurance could this give the Church?
6. All was not well in the Church in Pergamum! What "few things" did the Lord have against them?
7. Although not much is known today about the Nicolaitans what principle can we learn from Revelation 2:6 that the Church here in Pergamum had ignored?
8. Why do I think that their problem might be similar to Israel's as described in the words of Judges 21:25?
9. What was the command and what was the threat that the Lord gave to the Church in Pergamum?
10. What exhortation and promise was offered not only to the Church in Pergamum but to us today as well?

Study 5^{/25} of REVELATION.

The Church in Thyatira.

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 2:18-29.

Lamentable in discipline!

MEMORY VERSE 1 THESSALONIANS 4:7. (SEE VS 3-8.)

1. How does the Lord introduce Himself to the Church in Thyatira? What impressions would this give to them?
2. Thyatira had several impressive qualities as a Church - what things did the Lord commend?
3. This Church obviously had a core group of members who were very commendable, so what could the Lord have against them?
4. The Lord had also had issues against the previous Church (Pergamum) but do you see the different basis He has for accusing the two different Churches?
5. What obvious lesson can any Church learn from these two Churches that would have prevented and avoided God's condemnation?
6. The Lord compared some individual in the Church in Thyatira to Jezebel. What can you find out about Jezebel to justify such a comparison? See 1 Kings 16:31. 18:4, 13. 21:7-15. 2 Kings 9:30, 36.
7. What were the areas of rebellion and disobedience the "Jezebel" in Thyatira was guilty of?
8. What influence was this unrestrained "Jezebel" going to have upon the Church in Thyatira?
9. What good could ever come out of God allowing that "sickness" to continue until the time of punishment came?
10. What advice and encouragement was given to those who did not hold to "Jezebel's" teaching and practices?

Study 6^{1/25} of REVELATION.

The Church in Sardis.

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 3:1-6.

Lifeless in character!

MEMORY VERSE 2 CORINTHIANS 13 : 5.

1. What is the Lord said to be holding? And what significance do you think that has for this Church?

2. Can you identify a sevenfold description of the Spirit of the Lord in Isaiah 11:2 ?

3. The Lord was not as quick to commend this Church as He was with the previous ones. Did He find anything to commend them for?

4. What were the things the Lord had to reprimand in this Church? What does this tell us about their condition?

5. What was the remedy given for their pathetic condition?

6. What description and comment can you find concerning those in Sardis who were pleasing to the Lord?

7. According to 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 should the faithful "few" not just have been told to leave that Church?

8. What was to become of the offenders in the Church in Sardis?

9. Can you find other references in the Bible to clothing being used to describe a person's spiritual state?

10. Is there a difference between the "Book of Life" in 3:5 and the "..Book of Life" in Revelation 13:8. & 21:27?

Study 7^{1/25} of REVELATION.

The Church in Philadelphia.

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 3:7-13.

Living in hope!

MEMORY VERSE 1 PETER 5 : 4.

1. How does the Lord introduce Himself to the Church in Philadelphia? And how is He unique?
2. What is the Lord's evaluation of the members of the Church in Philadelphia?
3. How many times does the Lord express His personal concern or commitment to those in the Church in Philadelphia?
4. In verse 8 what positive and what negative statements are expressed by the Lord? Can these encourage us?
5. How can we determine the true from the false in religions today?
Can you name some religions that would claim to be true to the God of Heaven but are "liars"?
6. What future event seems to be the turning point that will bring about the reversal of the difficulties faced by this Church?
7. How will the Lord discriminate between the true and the false professors of faith?
8. What "crown" ("stephanos" - prize, reward.) do you think the Lord is referring to in verse 11?
9. Can you recall any of the promises made to David that the Lord, who holds the key of David, has opened up and fulfilled? (No one had succeeded in closing or barring the fulfilment of these promises.)
10. A victorious king might erect a pillar or commission a seal in commemoration of his conquests. What does the Lord look forward to doing to eternally commemorate some from the Church in Philadelphia?

Study 8^{/25} of REVELATION.

The Church in Laodicea.

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 3:14-22.

Lethargic in spirit!

MEMORY VERSE REVELATION 3 : 20.

1. Link each of these verses with one of the words in Rev. 3:14 used to introduce the Lord to the Church in Laodicea.

1 Timothy 6:15. / 1 Corinthians 10:13. /
2 Corinthians 1:20. / Deuteronomy 32:6. /
1 John 5:20. / Job 16:19. /

2. What do you think is meant by saying this Church was “lukewarm”?

3. Their spiritual symptoms can be paralleled with the eating disorder Anorexia Nervosa. Which verses suggest:

- Unable to recognise their need (for nourishment)? -
- Unwilling to realise their serious condition? -
- Unresponsive to helpful advice and solution? -
- Uninterested in responding to loving relationship? -

4. What response was their attitude provoking from the Lord? Would you expect that from the Lord?

5. Why did the Lord wish it was either COLD or hot? Why wish it was cold?

6. Why did the Lord not find some way to commend and encourage the Christians in the Church of Laodicea?

7. Consider why the Lord used the particular adjectives in 17b to describe this Church of His.

8. God is not known as a dealer in “gold” and “clothing” and “eye salve”! What could verse 18 mean?

9. Why was the Lord *outside* this Church of His?

10. Why should anyone want to be different to the majority in the Laodicean Church? Should that person not just leave?

Study 9^{/25} of REVELATION. The Throne Room of Heaven!

Ask God to enlighten you by His Spirit giving you understanding and wisdom through His revelations.

Reading: Revelation 4:1-11: Worshipping the Eternal Creator!

MEMORY VERSE REVELATION 4 : 11.

1. The direct ministry to the individual Churches was now completed and we are drawn to a very different location and subject. How does the change come about?
2. On entering the open door in Heaven "in the Spirit" John will enable the Churches to get a heavenly perspective on further events. What was the first impression the Churches were given of Heaven through John's eyes?
3. Can you think of anything that might be implied by the description given to indicate the Presence of the invisible God - the central Person in the heavenly scene? Does Revelation 21:11 or Genesis 9:13 offer any help?
4. What facts can you observe concerning the 24 elders that were seen in the courts of heaven?
5. Who might these 24 elders represent? Give reasons for your answer. (Does Matthew 19:28 give us a clue?)
6. Compare John's encounter with God to that of Moses in Exodus 19:16. What does this tell us about God?
7. Before the throne seven lamps were blazing.... and also what appeared like a sea of glass, like crystal. What could these represent? They seem reminiscent of the moat and fortifications protecting a king's castle!
8. What do we find in John's revelation that is similar to Isaiah's vision in Isaiah 6:1-5?
9. What do we learn about the One on the throne from the words the living creatures said in verse 8?
10. What do we learn from the chorus of the 24 elders as they joined in the act of worship?

MEMORY VERSE REVELATION 5 : 9.

1. What did John see that a mighty angel also draws our attention to there in heaven?
2. What was John's response to this heavenly dilemma? Why should he be so affected by this problem?
3. One of the elders had wonderful news about Someone who could resolve the problem. Who could it be?
4. What description did John give us of the Lamb, and what does that tell us about the Lamb?
5. What qualified this Lion of the tribe of Judah to be able to open the seven seals of this momentous scroll?
6. What contribution had the angelic hosts of Heaven to add to the worship and praise of the One who qualified to break open the seals of this scroll?
7. All glory and praise is to the LAMB because of what He accomplished by His death and resurrection. The One who was slain was now alive on the throne. In the light of this what title might you give to this scroll or book?
8. What is the great significance of the Lamb's Book of Life that we read about in Revelation 21:27?
9. If this scroll with the seven seals is indeed the Lamb's Book of Life - the roll book of Heaven - would the reactions and responses we find in chapter 5 support that? Explain your answer.
10. Would the responses spoken of in Revelation 5:13-14 and 7:9-12 and the awesome silence of 8:1 give weight to the possibility of this scroll being the Lamb's Book of Life? Explain your answer.

CONGRATULATIONS

You have completed the first set of three
in the studies of Revelation.

My answers are freely available at

www.godswordsays.com/RevelationSET1Answers.pdf

Make sure you get SET 2 to continue your study of Revelation.

You will find SETS 2 and 3,
and the many other Bible Studies I have prepared
and made freely available on the Internet at -

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to be helpful and encouraging please suggest that others avail of it.

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