



# “Grasping the Book of Revelation”

## Recapitulation (from the previous teachings)

### 1. “The things you have seen” - Revelation 1

**Key message:** *Breaking the spirit of familiarity - (better formality)*

### 2. “The things which are” - Revelation 2-3

**Key message:** *God’s expectation for His Church*

Each church with its own distinctive character. **Recommendation:** “**To him who overcomes**”:

### 3. “The things which shall be” - Revelation 4:1-22:21

**Key message:** *Living in obedience to Jesus Christ, the coming Conqueror and Judge.*

#### **The Lamb Himself prevailed to open the sealed book (5:1).**

1. Christ prevailed in the Wilderness after forty days (Matthew 4)
2. Christ prevailed in Gethsemane (Matthew 26: 36-56)
3. Christ prevailed on Calvary (John 19: 28-30)— He prevailed when He dropped His divine head on His pulse less breast and said, "It is finished.
4. Christ prevailed on the third day: (1 Corinthians 15:4 ) - He arose from the dead and conquered **death, sin, hell, and Satan.**

#### **The struggles of humankind can be simplified in 4 things:**

1. The power of death: Christ conquered it and you can to
2. The power of Sin: Be overcomer through Christ - powerless in temptation
3. The power of Hell: Being not ignorant about hell
4. The powerless power of Satan: understanding of Satan’s move in people’s life

### 4. The Final Stage - “All Things Made New” - The Book of Restoration

John names seven new things:

1. A new heaven and earth-21:1
2. A new people-21:2-8
3. A new bride-21:9

4. A new home-21-10-21
5. A new temple-21:22
6. A new light-21:23-27
7. A new Paradise-22:1-5

## Similarities between Genesis and the Book of Revelation

### THE BEGINNING AND THE END

*Revelation 21:1-27*

#### *Genesis*

The sun is created.

Satan is victorious.

Sin enters the human race.

People run and hide from God.

People are cursed.

Tears are shed, with sorrow for sin.

The garden and earth are cursed.

Paradise is lost.

People are doomed to death.

#### *Revelation*

The sun is not needed.

Satan is defeated.

Sin is banished.

People are invited to live with God forever.

The curse is removed.

No more sin, no more tears or sorrow.

God's city is glorified; the earth is made new.

Paradise is regained.

Death is defeated; believers live forever with God.

The events in the prophecy lead to the overthrow of all these systems by Christ at his "revelation" (i.e. his coming) and the setting up of God's Kingdom on earth.

### ***Revelation 20 11-15 - The Final Judgment***

***And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide. I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as***

*recorded in the books. The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.*

### **Salvation is secured for all who are written in the book of life.**

- When it comes to the subject of “salvation and good works,” there are two serious errors that plague the church. They are those who think that in order to gain enough merit for salvation, we must add our good works to what Christ did on the cross. Under this view, you can never know for sure whether or not you are saved, because there is no way to check your “merit balance” to see if you’ve stored up enough. So you have to keep adding good works in the hope of gaining eternal life. Under this teaching, a person could never say what Paul says in *Ephesians 2:8*, “*you have been saved.*”
- The reason that being written in the book of life secures our salvation is that the book is called “**the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.**” The names in this book are not saved on the basis of their deeds. They are saved on the basis of Christ’s being slain.
- The other error, which is more pervasive in evangelical circles, is that good works have no connection whatsoever with salvation. This view teaches that since we are saved by grace through faith alone, a person may believe in Christ as Savior, but there may not be a life of good works to follow. A person may pray the sinner’s prayer and profess to believe in Jesus as his Savior. Later he may profess to be an atheist and live in gross sin, but he will be in heaven because he made a decision to receive Christ. This view fails to realize that salvation requires God’s raising a sinner from death to life, which inevitably results in a changed life. It divorces repentance from saving faith and teaches that saving faith is simply believing the facts of the gospel. Submitting to Christ as Lord of your life

may follow salvation, but it is not a necessary aspect of saving faith, according to this error.

***And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books.***

- God will open the books. First, He will use **the lifelong record of sin to glorify his Son's supreme sacrifice**. And, second, God will read that last page, where the thief's dramatic transformation on the cross is recorded. This work of God in his life, recorded in the books, about that last day will be the public confirmation of the thief's faith and union with Christ. And Christ will be the basis of his salvation, not his works.
- The books, which record our deeds, contain enough evidence of our belonging to Christ that they function as a public confirmation of our faith and our union with Christ. For example, consider the thief on the cross. Jesus said that he would enter paradise (Luke 23:43). But what will judgment be like for him when the books are opened? More than 99.9% of his life will be sin. His salvation will be secured by the blood of Christ. His name will be in the book of life of the Lamb that was slain.

**(1) Genuine salvation involves a new creation that is entirely God's doing.**

**(2) Genuine salvation inevitably results in a life of good works.**

**(3) Although God sovereignly ordained these good works before time began, we are responsible to walk in them.**

***Matthew 7:19*** - *So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire.*

***John 15:2*** - *He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.*

***Matthew 7:21*** - *True Disciples - Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter.*

## 1. Revelation about Satan's Doom

*Revelation 20:10 - And the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*

John reveals that Satan will be bound for a thousand years followed by a **resurrection of the dead**. When Jesus Christ comes back again, He will resurrect those who have been born again. They will then be joined with the spiritual bodies that have been prepared for their spirits. Paul says it in **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17** *“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died\* will rise from their graves.”*

- John then prophesies that satan will be released and a last battle will occur. In the end, God will cast judgement on the dead.
- John then describes a new heaven and earth and God drying all tears