**A STUDY OF REVELATION**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF REVELATION**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2024**

Okay, so we're going to go into the study of Revelation very slowly. So slow that you might get a little bored for the first four or five sessions, but I want to tell you that what you've learned about Revelations is not true, okay? And you need, we need to understand that to, we need to comprehend that for our understanding of what Revelation is telling us, we have to know who Christ is. I mean, know who Christ is.

And I'm not sure that we have got to that point yet where we absolutely know who Christ is. So after we get through the first two, three or four weeks, we're going to step back and we're going to go into a study of scripture outside of Revelation that actually supports what Revelation is all about, as you're going to learn tonight. Revelation is to, in the first chapter is to disclose who Christ is and all of its grandeur.

So if you haven't come to that point of understanding who Christ is, we've got to go back and pick that up because you're not going to get the rest. Then we need to come to the point where we understand his relationship to the types of churches, which I'm not sure we all have a solid foundation of that either. That's in chapters two and three.

And then we're going to take a small look at chapter four, and we're going to go come out of that because we've got to build everything from chapter three to chapter four in prophecy because there's a whole lot that has to happen between chapters three and chapters four before to even start. Okay. So we're going to learn a lot of stuff that we've not been taught before in any setting, but it's all scriptural based, guys, as usual.

It's all scriptural based. Hey, Jim, can you mute everybody? Sure. We're getting a lot of feedback.

Okay. That means if you want to ask a question, you've got to unmute, guys. So what we're going to do is we're going to take this at a pace for you that I think is adequate.

I want you to ask your questions along the way, okay? Because when we get through a point, I'm going to assume that you've got the information in that session to move on. And if you don't, there's a possible chance you're going to either get frustrated or lost in this. So I want you to ask your questions.

That's the reason why I'm going to give you the PowerPoint up front. Some of these are not going to be PowerPoints, by the way, because I don't want to get a mundane education process. I'm going to do some PowerPoints.

I'm going to do some lectures without PowerPoints. I'm going to bring in videos of teachings that support this so that basically you get a variety of information coming to you that's all arrayed in the same format. So you're not just listening to me.

You're going to be listening to a lot of pastors in this too, into setting things up so that we can get into the detail. So I hope you enjoy this. I'm looking forward to it.

And so let's go. So we're going to pray first. So Father, thank you for this day and thank you for the opportunity to again, share your word.

May it be the revelation that you want us to absolutely understand the truth totally about you, because the whole book is about you. You're controlling everything. You control the good and the bad.

You control this whole setting. And it's not like, you know, we go from one part to another. And that's the reason why we need to understand who you are.

And that's what we're going to study, is that you are the controller of this whole universe in both good and bad, all for your glory. So Father, open our minds and our hearts so that basically we can understand your truth. Please compel upon individuals if you see that there's a particular topic that basically you feel like that they're not getting the grasp of.

You know, synthesize them to your speaking so that basically you can ask the questions through them so they may understand. Ask all these things in my name. Okay, let me share my screen, guys.

So first off, everybody see it? Yes? Nod your head, you can see it. Okay. All right.

Yes. So last week we did a quick tour. It was like going on a jet, okay, through the Book of Revelations.

We took a four-hour session and condensed it to an hour and about six of hour and 58 minutes, something like that. So it was a jet tour. And the translation is up.

The transcript is up. I've published it today. So you can go download the transcript and read it if you want, or put it in your files, whatever you want to do.

But that transcript is up. And as we migrate through this and the video is done, I'm going to put it through a transcriber and transcribe the conversation and put that up as well. So you should have all of the support documentation to self-study more intently in what we're going to go over.

So we're going to start on the introduction to the study of Revelations, okay? So this is going to be different from last week, but you're going to get some of the same information. Okay, Revelation is broken down, okay, in components, but it's important to know that Revelation is set up to reveal who Christ is. It doesn't give you that in Revelation.

It just tells you that basically we're going to be looking at the revelation of a person called Jesus Christ. Which means that if it's a revelation of Jesus Christ, when you get into the anti-Christ portions, who's controlling that thing? Everything in the book, good, bad, and indifferent, is controlled by one entity called God. Through Jesus Christ.

The whole book, so good, bad, wrath, judgments, all that stuff is controlled by Jesus Christ. So we get to this in its own title and we get this in chapter one, verse one. Now, Revelation in Greek is Apocalypse, meaning and uncovering and unveiling or the disclosure.

You're going to see that when we get into next week, because we're going to look at two words, the revelation next week. 20 something slides, guys, going to be packed filled with information from all places in the Bible. Now, the word describes the unveiling of the spiritual truth.

And you get this in your studies, Romans 16, 25, Galatians 1 and 12, Ephesians 1, 17, Ephesians 3 and 3. And it is the revealing of the sons of God. Okey dokey, sons. And this is in Romans 8, 19.

Sons of God means what? Plural, plural. Angels, magistrates, gods, right? Who's that? That's us. Right.

We got that. We're Elohim. So it is the revealing of the sons of God, not just it's not just the revealing of Jesus Christ, it's revealing of the sons of God, which is the church.

It's revealing the Antichrist, which is Satan, not Satan himself, but it's Satan incarnated in a body of a human being. So it's Christ incarnation as well. We get that in Luke 2, 32.

And it is in his glorious appearing at his second coming, which is the second coming is not identified in Revelation at all. It's just stated it's just there. And you have to understand where it is.

But we get it in 2 Thessalonians 1 and 7 and 1 Peter 1 and 7 as well. And the revelation refers to something or someone that was once hidden, which now becomes visible, which is Christ. He's been hidden since his ascension.

And now he's going to become visible. And this was given to him by God, the father communicated to the apostle John by an angel, angels, a magistrate, a messenger. So this whole book was given to John by an angel or magistrate or a messenger angel, not by Christ himself, but Christ through the communication through an angel or magistrate, a messenger.

Now, the book is set up that tells you that believers are the blessing of this whole revelation or promise to those who are diligent, who read it and study it. We get it at the first. We get it in Revelation one and three and we get it at the end of the chapter.

So there's no there's no myth. There can be no misinterpretation whether or not you get a blessing by starting it or ending it. You get a blessing by completing it from start to finish.

OK, and that's what it's cued up to be. So. Those who have ignored revelation.

Deprived himself of a rich treasure of divine truth, this is in Revelation, takes a high view of God's inspired word. Now, here's the word Christ. OK, so Christ is the word and the word was with God, then the word, the Bible is what they're talking about.

So what the revealing is of Jesus Christ is everything that's contained between the two covers of your Bible. OK. So.

It claims divine inspiration for itself in Revelations one and two, and it has been estimated that that 278 verses out of its 404 verses in the whole book allude to Old Testament prophecy. You're going to see that as we migrate through this. Now, Revelation reveals God, the father.

In all his glory and majesty, describing him as holy and in chapters for a true in chapter 610, omnipotent in chapters 411, wise in 712, sovereign in 411, eternal 410. So Revelation details the depths of man's depravity, despite experiencing the final outpouring of God's devastating wrath and judgment on sinful mankind, people will nevertheless pardon their hearts. This is no different than Exodus, guys.

If you were if you would take a just a point in time and review Exodus where God is is revealing himself through the plagues and then exiting his people out of Exodus, you're going to find that that is the same condition that exists in Revelation. He's trying to reveal himself to us through his word. He's trying to tell us what the church is and who's the church.

The church is us. So he's given us in chapters two and three that which we need to pay attention to of where we're at in in the condition of the description of the church. And then he's trying to say, guys, this is what's going to happen to you if you don't get.

You know, right with me. And that's how we need to look at this. So we get this.

And in the look in First Samuel as well, First Samuel six, six, and if we refuse to repent in like stated in First Samuel nine, twenty, twenty one, sixteen, nineteen and chapter eleven, then there's there's nothing that can be done for us if we don't understand that. So scripture contains no clear summation of the doctrine of redemption than that of Revelation one and five. Which declares.

That Jesus Christ loves us and released us from our sins by his blood. OK, now let's go back to just a moment in reference to what he told Peter, he told he asked Peter three questions. Who am I? And then he said, I'm going to I'm going to build my church and the word church wasn't in the original canon, the word body, I'm going to build my body on this rock.

OK, and as you're going to learn in the substack, that rock is a living stone which is made up of your DNA and all of your cells. So he says, I'm going to build my church on this upon this rock. What he's saying is, is I'm going to build my church by changing your DNA structure and converting you.

OK, in redemption to me through salvation. And the only way that can happen is through his blood, his sacrifice on the cross. So the ministry of the angels also figures prominently in Revelation, which contains one out of every four references to angels in the scripture.

It's important to realize that Revelation is written on the condition of workmanship by his angels, just like he used the angels and magistrates to build the earth in Genesis one. He's going to use angels to do his bidding in Revelation. So all of the conditions of blowing, of unsealing the seal, blowing the trumpets, doing the bowls, doing all of those judgments are just angels pouring out stuff.

It's through angels that that is being done. Revelation warms the church and teachers. And teachers, and it teaches how to properly worship God, and that's done in chapters four and five, if he's going to reveal himself to you in chapter one and he's going to tell you what condition you need to evaluate yourself in chapters two and three, then he's going to tell you what to deal with that in chapters four and five before we get into six, starting of the tribulation.

OK, some who study revelations do not. Seek evidence to support their own. Often bizarre or sensational eschatology views.

OK, we're going to learn a term. And that term is called eschatology, because that is what we're doing. We're studying the end times.

In fact, it contains more details about the end times than any other book of the Bible. Revelation portrays Christ's ultimate triumph over Satan, depicts the final political setup of the world system. OK, you're going to get not only the religious setup, you're going to get the political setup.

You're going to get the economic setup in all of this study that's in Revelation that has never been taught to you. But we're going to get there. And it describes the Christ.

It also mentions the rapture of the church in 310 and describes the great tribulation in 714, which comes from Matthew 24, 21, 24. We're going to have two sessions to study Matthew in this, because Christ tells his disciples exactly what's going to happen to get him to the point of coming back. And he does that in Matthew 24.

It is a teaching that he does sitting down on the mountainside with his disciples. We're going to go through that in great detail. The second coming of Christ, earthly kingdom of Jesus Christ, the final judgment of unrepentant sinners, the great white throne judgment and the final state of the wicked in hell, the lake of fire and the redeemed in the new heaven and new earth.

But the book of Revelation, while it discloses all of that to us, is prominently the revelation of Jesus Christ, beginning in chapter 1, verse 1. It describes him by many titles, including the faithful witness in 1.5, the firstborn of the dead, 1.5, the ruler of the kings of the earth, 1.5, the Alpha and the Omega, 1.8, 1.6, the first and the last, 1.17, the living one, 1.18, the one who holds seven stars in his right hand, the one who walks among the seven gold candlesticks in 2.1, the one who has a short two-edged sword in 2.12, the son of God, 2.18, the one who has eyes like a flame of fire and feet like burnished bronze, 2.18, the one who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars, 3.1, the one who is holy, who is true, 3.7, the holder of the key of David who opens and no one will shut and he shuts and no one opens in 3.7, the faithful and the true witness, 3.14, the beginning of the creation of God, 3.14. So you can see this whole book is about the disclosure of who Christ is. That's the reason why we're going to spend some time making sure that we get a clear view of that. Revelation also affirms his full deity is Jesus Christ, his possessive, possesses of the attributes and of God, including sovereignty in 5.1, 5, eternity in 1.17 and 18, the right to judge men in 1911, to decide who lives and who dies, 1.18 and 2.23. He also receives worship 5.13 and rules from God's throne 22, 1 and 3. And finally, Revelation affirms his equality of essence with God the Father by applying Old Testament passage that described God to Jesus Christ, Deuteronomy 10 and 17, 19 and 16, Proverbs 3 and 12, Proverbs 3.19, Daniel 7 and 9, along with Daniel 1 and 14, Isaiah 44.6 with 1.17. So we're going to study all of this in this look at Revelation.

So let's continue. So four times in Revelation does it state that the author is John. It's done in verse 1 and 1. It's done in verse 1 and 4, 1 and 9, and 22 and 8. So four times in Revelation is the author defined.

Now, to substantiate this, there's witnesses to the Apostle John's authorship of this book. Justin Martyr, which was alive when John wrote Revelation, Irenaeus, alive when John wrote Revelation, Plymouth of Alexandria, and Teutonium. Okay, only John's gospel in Revelation referred to Christ as the Word.

Think about that. All of the other three gospels do not refer to Christ as the Word. Only John does that.

He does it in John 1.1 and John 19.13. John's gospel, okay, 19.37, translates Zech 12.10 differently than the Septuagint, but in agreement. Okay. Now, only Revelation and the Gospel of John describe Christ, Jesus Christ, as the Lamb.

5.6, 5.8, John 1.29. Both describe Christ as a witness in Revelation 1.5, in John 5.31 and 5.32. Revelation was written in the last decade of the first century, about 90... So in the reference material I have, it was done during the reign of Demetian, and his reign was in 81 to 96 AD. When you look at the actual documents themselves and and look at the witnesses to that, it's more closely done in the year of 94 AD, and Uranius confirms that. Plymouth of Alexandria and all these others also affirm the Demetian date.

So that gives you a view about the author and the dates. Now, let's look at the background and the settings. Revelation begins with John.

Now, John is the last surviving apostle. He's an old man. He's in his 90s, and he's in exile on a small barren rock island called Patmos, which is located in the Agerian Sea, southwest of Ephesus, still there today.

Now, that's located closely to Asia Minor, close to Turkey. Okay, so Roman authorities had banished John there because of his faithful preaching of the gospel. We find that in Revelation 1 and 9. And John received a series of visions that laid out the future history of the world, and John was arrested in Ephesus while ministering to the church there.

We find that in Revelation 1 and 11, and John addressed the revelation there in 1 and 4, and the church pastor had already been martyred in 2 and 13. So what we find is the background setting for this is John was preaching in Ephesus the gospel of Christ. The church pastor had already been martyred, and John got arrested and was exiled to this barren island, a rock called Patmos.

And he was sitting in a session during Sabbath in his spirit, and a shout behind him was what told him to turn around and look. And he saw an angel, and the angel told him that he was going to give him a book to write. And he wrote the book seven times.

So the storm of persecution was about to break out on the seven churches in 2 10. That's the reason why the letters Christ had John write to the churches is because they were fixing to get a grandiose political governmental backed by the church for persecution. So John's teaching about the revelation provided hope to the churches because they were fixing to go through something they had never gone through before.

So God's in sovereign control over all of the events of human history, and through evil often seems pervasive, and wicked men all-powerful with their undoomed being certain. The good news is of Christ returning in all of his glory to judge and rule. Well, the other good news is the fact that for those of us that are reconciled back to Christ, we get to go to heaven and watch this play from heaven.

That's the good news. But we have to watch some bad news along the way, as you're going to see as we get through this. Okay, let's keep going.

What is the historical theme about this book? Revelation is primarily all prophetic. What did I say? It does nothing but tell you what is to come. And it doesn't give you all of it.

We got to go search out and find it in other scripture and fill the gaps in, which we're going to do. Revelation contains little historical material outside of chapters one and three, because it's giving you what is now. Okay, remember it's broken down what was, what is, and what's to come.

So what was is the revelation of Christ. We get that in verses, chapter one, verse one through six. And then we get into a description of the church and all this stuff in chapter one.

And we go through, we go through two and three to describing the condition of the church, which is, which is what? Describing the condition of us. We fit in one of those categories. Think about it.

We, we, our temple fits into one of those seven categories. So the seven churches to whom the letters were written were existing churches then in Asia Minor, which today is modern Turkey. Now, as, as I think it was CJ pointed out on Tuesday night that there's, there's people out there that have been basically spiritual reporters, if you will, historical reporters that said those seven churches today are Islam.

They are Islam today. And there's a reason for that, but you got to understand the historical conditions that got them from where they were to Islamic today. Okay.

And we're going to study that, but all of the seven churches, physical churches today are Islam. Now these were singled out because John had ministered to them. He had knowledge of the conditions of those churches.

He had knowledge of the, where the churches were. He had knowledge of who the, what type of people were in the church. He had knowledge of their spiritual positioning in, in the, in the salvation stuff, in the teachings and the gospels and all that stuff.

He had, he had knowledge because he had administered to the churches. So it was easy for him to understand what the angel was telling him to write down because he had a relationship with the church. And I say all of that to say, God has a relationship with you, depending upon what that relationship in is, depends upon where you align yourself with the conditions of one of those churches.

Revelation visions and writings were all down after the death and resurrection of Christ. You could not have the prophecies with the conditions of, of understanding the revelation of Christ, had he not already been crucified, resurrected and ascended to heaven. You couldn't, you couldn't have it because he was not able to fulfill that.

He was not able to fulfill what he's telling him that is going to happen. He had to be ascended into heaven to fulfill exactly what he's telling John that was going to happen. Just like he had to ascend to heaven to give us the ability to receive the Holy Spirit as our Redeemer, the reconciler back to Christ.

If he didn't ascend, we wouldn't have gotten the Holy Spirit. Hope you guys understand that. Revelation is the first and foremost, a revelation about Christ.

Revelation 1.1, and you're going to get this over and over and over for a period of a couple more, in a couple of weeks. We're going to really focus on who is Christ. Because I want to make sure you walk into this study with a good understanding that Christ is not just this good guy.

Because he's fixing to burn wrath and kill people. He is fixing to produce judgment. And he gets to make the decision who lives and who dies in this.

So, while we think that in all, in a lot of our discussions, and I go back to this word love, when we think about this unconditional love, and I can do whatever I want to do, this is going to slap you right in the face. Because this is not talking about his love. This is talking about his wrath.

Now, understanding who Christ is, you're going to understand that he does love us. He unconditionally gave his son. God gave his son to die on the cross for our sins.

Unconditional. Everything else is conditional. You have to accept something to get redemption, right? You have to be wanting to do that.

It's just not on there. Well, wait till you see what's going to come your way, if that's not a condition of your life. It's not pretty, guys.

The study of this book is not done by pastors all over the world, because they do not want to create this fearful setting for the congregation. For what? Fear of losing their congregation. Fear of losing your money.

Fear of losing whatever the condition state is. But what I'm telling you is this. We're going to get the truth.

That's my role. We're going to get the truth. You might not want to accept the truth, but the truth is this.

If you don't have Christ, this picture that we're going to paint by Scripture is not a pretty one. Not a pretty one. Okay.

So the book depicts Christ as risen, glorified Son of God ministering among all the churches as the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of all kings of the earth. We get this in Revelation 1 and 5. Now, here's a list, a very small list, of what Christ is identified with in Revelation that ties back to Old and New Testament verses. The Alpha and the Omega is 1-8.

The One who is and who was and who was to come, the Almighty, in 1-8. Rose is alive and forever, 1-18, as the Son of God, 2-18, as the One who is holy and true, 3-7. The faithful to witness the beginning of the creation, 3-14.

The land of the tribe of Judah, 5-5. The land of heaven, 7-17. Messiah who will reign forever, 11-15.

The Word of God, 19-13. The majestic King of kings and Lord of lords returning in splendor to conquer his foes. Conquer his foes.

He's going to war. He's going to give the people he's going to war with, and he's going to win because all he's going to do is speak the Word of God. He's going to win.

That's all he has to do. He just speaks it, and it's over with. But the wrath that comes out of this is horrible, but it's for those who don't accept it.

As the root and the descendant of David, the bride and morning star, 22-16. Okay, so that gives the historical thing. Now let's look at the theological thing, and this gets into the understanding of Christ, because when we get into starting next week and look at the two words, the revelation, all of this stuff begins to come out.

So the church is warned about sin and exhorted to holiness. John's picture of the worship in heaven both exhort and instruct believers. In a very few other books in the Bible, the ministry of the angels is so prominent.

What am I saying here? You're going to see the angels at work in Revelation. This is God's judgment, but it's angels fulfilled. There's going to be some things that I think are going to open your eyes when we get into that area, because you have to understand the true holiness of God, and this world is evil.

You're going to learn this new term called eschatology, which is the doctrine of the last things. Now we're going to learn about the final political setup of the world, the last battle of human history, the career and ultimate defense of the Antichrist, the thousand-year earthly reign of Christ's kingdom, the glories of heaven and the eternal state, the final state of the wicked and the righteous. Now Daniel reveals this book in declaring that God providentially rules over the kingdoms of men and will accomplish his sovereign purposes regardless of human or demonic opposition.

In other words, what did I just say? Daniel in his prophecy says God is not only providential, but he's also sovereign, and he controls both sides of this. So when you think about Revelation as being a horrible situation, you need to remember that the horrible situation is God's judgment on mankind. All right, let's continue.

All right, so theologians have interpreted Revelation in four approaches. There's no other book in the New Testament, nor even in the Old Testament, that poses more serious and difficult interpreted challenges than Revelation. And what I want to do is I want to go through these four theological interpretive approaches so that we can get to what the Bible tells us that we need to use.

So the first one is called Preterist approach. Now this approach is a description of the first century events in Roman Empire. Remember, everything that happened in the New Testament is Roman Empire based.

All of the visions that John had is interpreted based upon his knowledge of what he experienced. So he is using Roman events to interpret what the angel visions are. So he can apply it to a baseline in his head to be able to write it.

Okay, so this approach uses the first century events in Roman Empire. Now that's okay because we're still living in Roman Empire. Okay, even in Revelation we're going to learn that the Antichrist comes out of Roman Empire and his subordinate helper being the religious leader, which is going to come out of the Roman Catholic Church.

Okay, so while John uses that, he's using it with all good intentions. The question that we have to ask, does this view conflict with other books that claim to be prophecy? And number one, it is impossible for John to see all of the events in the book as having been fulfilled, the second coming of Christ, which is actually his 33rd. Okay, so this approach is not good because of the issues that it's focused only on first century events and does not provide us the ability to use prophecy.

Now let's take a historical approach. Now this approach uses a panoramic view of the church history from apostolicity to present. We use this approach in seeing through symbolism such events as the barbarian invasions of Rome, the rise of the Roman Catholic Church, the structure of the individual popes, the emergence of Islam, the French Revolution, and we can go on and on and on and on.

This is exactly what I'm writing about in the truth about religion in the Roman Catholic Church because what I'm disposing of is a vantage or disposing of somebody viewing the Roman Catholic Church with current events and not through history. Okay, so this interpretation, this method of interpretation robs revelation of any meaning for those to whom it is written. In other words, it assumes that you're writing in a historical view for a historical purpose.

It doesn't give us the view of prophecy, which is what this book is all about, is prophecy. It ignores the time limitations of the book on an unfolding of events. In other words, it constrains you to the events of that day and not the events of future activities.

So here's the other two. The idolist approach, a timeless depiction of the cosmic, not with a K because that would have been the creation, struggle between forces of good and evil, so it would only view the conditions that existed in Genesis 1. This view restricts the book to historical illusions and predictive prophecies and it ignores the revelation's prophetic character. So using this approach, revelation becomes merely a collection of stories designed to teach spiritual truth.

It doesn't give you the prophetic things that are going to happen. So the fourth one and the one that we're going to use, as well as all scholars use, is the futurist approach. Okay, because it insists that the events in chapters 6 through 22 are yet future.

They have not happened. They're all future events. They're prophetical.

These chapters literally and symbolically depict actual people and events yet to appear. And it describes events surrounding the second coming of Christ in Revelation 619. And it describes the millennium and the final judgment in chapter 20, the eternal state in chapter 21 and chapter 22.

And this view does justice to revelation's claim to be prophecy and interprets the book by the same grammatical historical methods as chapter 1 and 3 and the rest of the scriptures. Okay, yes, Sam? Well, this is like a continuation of a butterfly effect through the puppet masters on us. Yes, yes.

Okay, thank you. Okay, so let's go back. So the book is outlined this way.

There's three sections. The things which you have seen, which were in the past, which get you from chapter, it's all chapter 1, verses 1 through 20. It starts in chapter 2, verse 1 through 322, the things that which are, which is the conditions of the church at that time, which is the conditions of you today, whichever category you fit into.

And then it's the third section of the things which will take place after these things, which is from 4.1 to 22.21. Now the question is, is what are these things? Because these things are not in Revelation. All right, that's what we've got to go back and pick up throughout scripture to give us the point in time when these things have taken place to allow the tribulation to start. Okay, all right.

So as I said, we're going to take this easy. So I'm going to stop sharing my screen and we're going to talk. Well, real quick, Jim.

No matter what, no matter how we've thought over time, we still fit into one of the churches. We still fit into one of the descriptions of those churches. Either you're going to be redeemed and have full relationship with Christ, which is the Philadelphia church, or you're going to find that you are falling in the criteria of Ephesus or falling in the criteria of Samaria.

Every one of those churches describes the exact condition of churches today. All right, thank you. And as you read it, you're going to self-identify where you're at.

Okay, you're going to self-identify with that. Okay, guys, talk to me. Well, yes, Jim.

So do you align to the future study of the Apocalypse, the revelation, right? Yes. Okay, we're going to get there. Okay.

Okay, Jennifer. So when you said these things, so that have to take place to start the tribulation. So we'll go back into scripture.

Oh, yeah, we're going to go back to Genesis. You guys are going to go back to Genesis, and we're going to run through, and you're going to see how all of this stuff is told throughout the Bible. Because I would almost guarantee you, okay, this is not a bet, but I'm going to bet.

I bet you that you've not studied Zechariah. I bet you you've not studied Ezekiel in its fullest. Because if you studied Ezekiel in its fullest, chapter 38 and 39 describe a war that's going to go on between Russia and other countries in Israel, and that war hasn't taken place yet.

Oh, wow. Okay, before you get to this, okay, and that's a seven-year war. Oh, my gosh.

So there are things that we have not been taught through scripture that get us to the point to even understand what is going to go on in Revelation. Okay, and you're going to see, you're going to be able to visualize the weaponry that's going to be used when we go through this. So, yeah, we're going to, when we get through the chapter three.

Okay, so we're going to get, we're not even getting out of chapter one for four weeks. Okay, and then we're going to take each church one week. So we got 11 weeks, let's just say, or 12 weeks before we're going to get into these things.

Okay, and then we're going to go back and we're going to start in Genesis and we're going to roll through. So you see how the scriptures are put together. This would not make a good study if you don't see that the Bible is a code.

It's a code book. Yeah. All right.

So what we're going to see is starting with this, getting through to the point of getting you positioned to understand where you fit in one of these seven descriptive churches. Then we're going to go back and we're going to say, let's look at Christ. Let's look at his ministry.

Let's look at his second. We're just going to go back and just go walk through it so that you now can begin to apply all of this to what the scriptures have been telling us, but nobody's been teaching us. So when we go back into Genesis, it'll be like, we're sort of like the people walking through that time.

Yeah, you have to look at scripture. And that's the reason I said, if you study Ezekiel, I'm going to tell you what, guys, that guy must have had a view to future because how he described the things that were happening, there was none of that technology available 2,600 years ago. That's amazing.

But he described exactly technology of today. So was he a messenger then? No, he's a prophet. He's a prophet.

Okay, the prophet. Okay. He was.

Okay. Okay. And then when you understand Zechariah and Jeremiah and Joel and Joe, all of them have a piece of this.

Wow. Okay. And when you get all of that, when you get all of that, all right, then let's walk into Isaiah and let's just blow this thing completely up.

Oh, my gosh. Because Isaiah prophetically lays this whole thing out from beginning to end. And then we come right into the gospels and see everything start taking place.

Boom, boom, boom, all the way through. You can see it. So when we walk out at the end of this study, you're going to have a pretty good foundation of not only understanding scripture, but understanding history.

You're going to learn a lot about history and you're going to understand the prophetics of what is still yet to come to even get us to this place of revelation. Wow. And when you understand that, then you can start putting timelines together.

And it's not going to be perfect. It's not going to be perfect. But I can tell you that we're years away from the second coming of Christ based upon scripture.

Second coming. Remember, the end. He can come grab his church any day of the week he wants.

But the second coming has a timeline on it. And that's what we need to break out so that we get a good understanding of that. Papa Roy, what you got? If we find ourselves aligned with one of these seven churches, and we go through all of this, what we're going through there, and we find out that that's not the right church we're supposed to be aligned with, is this going to teach us to get aligned with the right one? And which one is the right one? Oh, Papa Roy, it's not about aligning yourself with the church.

It's about aligning yourself, redeeming yourself to God. It's going to tell you what your spiritual condition is based upon the condition of one of these churches. And your change needs to be with God, not to align yourself with a church.

You are the church. So if you find yourself in your self-assessment, as we go through this, identifying yourself with a type of church, and you look at what is being said about that type of church, then you need to take the measures that you need to do to facilitate your reconciliation back to Christ. So when we do that, will we align with another church? The discipline, it's not aligning with the church.

It's the discipline of that church. It's the spiritual discipline identified with that church. Remember, we're not talking about a building.

You're not talking about a physical building. You're talking about a person. You're talking about your own mind.

You're talking about your own heart and the condition between you and God. That's what is being depicted in those seven churches. So when we walk through this, and again, I've always said, guys, we started off small.

We're growing. We're growing this thing bigger and bigger in a mindset. But you're now coming to the point of understanding why you should be reconciled to God, because if you don't, if you die before that, you're in the pit of hell anyway.

You're going to come out, and you're going to get smashed at Armageddon. And if you're still alive when this happens, you're going through hell, to be just brutally true. But the choice, Papa Roy, the choice is to look at yourself as a condition of a descriptor of one of these churches.

And then move beyond that to Jesus Christ. The full, full, full redemptive, full reconciliation, okay? Full redemptive of Christ, yeah. You always want to do that, okay? That's what we need to do daily.

That's dying daily. That's doing those things, okay? We can get out of a line. Every one of these churches at one time, except Laodicea, every one of these churches were preaching the Gospels.

Every one of them. Look at them now. So even though you were spiritually aligned with Christ, doesn't mean you're spiritually aligned with him all the time.

That's why the description of these churches, and what Christ told John to say to the churches, is important if you identify with one of these churches outside of Philadelphia, okay? Hillary, got to go to you. Okay, I look at this, this may be the wrong way to look at it, but they were real churches. But I look at each of the churches as metaphor, like which one do I align with? Have I lost my first love? Am I not in love with Christ anymore? Or do I have a compromising heart? Anyway, that's kind of the way.

That's the way you should, because it's. I've looked at it. Yeah, that's the way you should look at it.

Okay. Yeah, that's the way you should. Okay, so let me add to that.

Metaphorically, could produce a mindset where you just don't identify with anything, okay? A description of your relationship with Christ makes it more of a focused mental conditioning of understanding what is being described as these churches' attitude. You got to make it more personal. And I like the word metaphor, but it takes it out of the realm of reality, almost.

I don't identify with any one of these, because metaphorically, I can't see myself doing it. What I'm saying is, is that you will identify yourself with one of these seven churches. There's no condition that that's not going to happen.

Okay, I get that. That's more clear. Okay.

Yes. Because I want you to go into this knowing that you're going to fit in one side of these churches. Doesn't matter.

You're going to fit. Your spiritual life is going to fit in one of these seven churches. And it does describe a condition of the heart.

Yes. Right. Okay.

And we've all... And as you said, in the way I see it, we could be in any one of these heart conditions at any time. We could slide back, right? Yeah, because basically all of them were preachers of the gospel. Remember, John went over... John set... John and Paul administered these churches, remember? Yes.

They were in good standing at one point. And when they left, think about this. When they left, the world pressured them in changing, which is the same thing that we talked about.

Do not love this world. Do not conform to this world. Do not love the things of this world.

Because if you do, even though you've you're inspired by the gospel and been reconciled to God, you can go right back to backsliding quickly if you don't continue to focus on the conditions of your heart, which is, Bill, I think what you were trying to get to. Yes. Yeah.

Because the world is constantly pulling pulling at us. Yeah. Yeah.

Thank you, Jim. I understand that. I understand what you say when the metaphor takes that out of reality.

Yeah. Thank you. You're quite welcome.

Nora Jean. I think what helped me as I read through, because I think you had mentioned the seven churches way back several months ago, and I started researching them then, I can identify with bits and pieces from all of them. And I think that that word that I said last time, and you had also repeated to the word striving, is looking at the characteristics and the qualities makes me want to strive to be in the Philadelphia church.

So I think for me, it was a learning process to look at those characteristics and identify them and see that I've been there, or I've been to churches that people were like that in those churches. But now I want to strive to be have a better relationship. Yeah.

So let me add on both of what you and Billy said in a different way. Okay. More than likely, more than likely, you're going to identify with all of the churches.

You're not going to fit into just one. And the reason for that, because the churches have been separated for a particular process associated with this world's sinful nature. And we have them all.

We have all of the sinful natures inside of us. Okay. So I think you're going to just like what normally, I think you're going to identify with all of them, some in your past, some in your present.

Okay. But while you identify that, you want to strive to be the description, the character, the makeup of the Philadelphia church. Now, let me go beyond this.

This is the only place in the Bible that gives you a description of the world around you. I want you to think about that. As you begin to meet people and associate with people like we talked about, you ought to be able to see not only through their soul, but you want to see the actions that they're doing and fit them in one of these seven categories of the churches.

That is going to be your baseline of identifying those people that you can associate with and those that you can't. This is the only place in the Bible that that exists. Okay.

So I saw some questions going, yes, you can be in all the categories. Okay. And you got a lot of work to do, if that's the case.

You're more than likely going to identify with at least three, maybe five. I don't think you'll be in Lodacia because Lodacia is just a freaking Satan church. I don't think you'd be there.

You might find yourself, but you're going to find whatever you associate with in Lodacia in the other six and the other five outside of Philadelphia. Okay. So I think you're going to get three to five and you're going to say, okay, I now know what I got to go do.

I now see where I got to go work. Okay. But also take this and learn it, because this will give you the characteristics of the people you come in contact with as to association.

Only time in the Bible that exists. C.D. I finished Revelation last night and I just want to tell you how much I appreciate everything that you've taught me so far, because I saw in the churches a lot of my past and from our teachings, I'm really glad that that got turned around before we got to this, because otherwise I probably would have freaked. And I'm looking at Revelations 2, 8 through about 12.

And Smyrna, I thought you keep saying outside of Philadelphia. I thought Smyrna was in pretty good shape. Oh, but yeah, they were, but they weren't as good as Philadelphia.

Okay. That's okay. When we get there, we'll get there.

Yeah. All right. Thank you.

You're going to need to look at Smyrna. Since you're studying, C.D., look at this as going towards Synagogue of Satan. And the reason why is because of the wealth of the church not conforming to the Gospels associated with providing assistance to those of the poor.

Those in poverty. Okay. Okay.

Thank you. Victoria, don't worry about it. You'll get there.

We're going to get there. Just hang with us. So wouldn't it be good to go back in to your book, The Apostolic Government with the Laws? In some regards, yes.

In some regards, yes. Okay. The reason why I said I'm going to write The Truth About Revelations as we go is because I didn't put all of that in that book because I would have lost a lot of people in the reading of that book had I done that.

That was a conscious decision between me and God as to what the content of that book is because we knew what this was going to do, what we were needed to do. So I'm going to write The Revelation Book, Truth About Revelation as we go. Okay.

And it will add to it. It will sit right on top of that book. So what you're going to find is that book is a precursor and then it's going to go right to the revelations.

The whole moment will make sense. Okay. All right.

Thank you. I noticed that Sam had put a link with Trey Smith. I had done, because I really enjoy his teachings.

I get excited, in fact, when he presents. And so I had started digging into his website and found that you can get the Book of Enoch Interactive, which is pretty cool. I downloaded that and then found the link for the Seven Churches, which again, I know just putting it out there because I don't know if you're going to be putting that into Substack, but it's great material.

Well, no, it's not going to go to Substack because it's not the subject matter of Substack. It's a subject matter of this. And yeah, I was going to play that as an entrance into the Seven Churches.

There's two videos that I'm going to play, that being one and an overview done by John MacArthur that is absolutely right on spot, that gives a great overview of the Seven Churches. I want to do both of those and then we're going to get into the details of the churches. Great.

Right. But Trey Smith is, you guys, as I said when I put him out there to you guys in the Substack, he takes things from a different perspective and it's all historical base, anthropology, archaeology, all that stuff. He's great at doing that and giving you exactly in the scriptures.

And he'll tell you when it's his opinion. I mean, he'll say this is what I believe, okay, or this is what I think, or this is how I interpret this, where it is not clear. And there's going to be some things that are not clear.

When we get into Ezekiel 28, or 38 and 39, there's some things I'm going to tell you that's my opinion because you can't find the historical reference on how Ezekiel put it together. But if you collectively look at it, you can come out with a hypothesis that is pretty close to accurate and that's how I'm going to approach it when we get there. All right, guys, anything else? Are we comfortable? I mean, I have to go back and read everything again.

We're just going to go slow. Take your time. Make sure you write down the questions as you study because I want to make sure that we cover those.

Okay, anything else, guys? I made this night light on purpose because I wanted to give us time to discuss whatever you might have because I knew some of you were studying and some of you're not. But I wanted to give you time to actually grasp of an overview, actually, a true introduction to the study. It's now all broken down.

You now have the historical perspective. You have the theological perspective. You have the interpretation perspective.

You know the dates. You got all of this now set up so that we can get into the book and study it at that time and bring it forward to today. That's how we got to study Revelation is because it's all visions in that time.

Pop Roy. These angels that are talked about in the last chapters of Revelation, do they bypass? Do they just automatically go to heaven? Angels. Okay, let's look at this.

What are you talking about? The angels in chapter 22, we're into Christ setting up his kingdom on earth and us reigning with him for a thousand years. So, I'm not sure what angels you are talking about, about automatically going to heaven. Well, those angels right there, did they have to come down here and go through what we went through or did they automatically bypass something like this? The angels that God is using, let me know.

I didn't write it down. I'm reading it fairly quickly. Okay, Pop Roy, I don't see any references to angels in chapter 22 because Christ is just showing John the makeup of the new kingdom and the fact that we're reigning with him.

So, I don't see any reference to angels in that chapter. I should have picked up on that when you said that. I'm smarter than that.

Okay, so let's look at 21. I know there's angels here, so let me see if I can figure out what you're saying. All of the angels that Christ, that God uses to take out his judgment are not angels that have come to this earth and gone back to heaven to be home because we have to get judged first.

Okay, I'm giving you part of revelations. When we die, we're automatically immediately with the Lord, but we have not gone through the judgment yet. So, we're just sitting there.

I don't want to say this, fat, dumb, and happy with a robe and a crown and with some instructions. Okay, the angels that God uses in administering his wrath and judgment are angels that never came to this earth, that didn't come through the host body system. Does that answer your question? Yes.

Okay. They weren't lured. They weren't lured.

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

Darn. They were smarter than we were. Yeah, I think so, Papa Ray.

Well, we're going to talk about that too because everything is about predestination, guys. Okay, so let me say this. The PowerPoint is, if you go into the revelations study, you're going to get the rumble video.

You're going to get a transcript of that video, and you're going to get the PowerPoint that applies to that video. That's all going to be there. The PowerPoint is already in the library.

When this is converted and I get it posted, the link to rumble will be there, and I'll put that video into my transcription software, and out will pop the transcription that I'll post to the site. So, you'll have all of that available to you. So, yes, you have access to my notes, PowerPoints, and all that stuff.

Okay, can we print that out, Jim? It's yours. It's yours. Okay.

All right. Thank you. Whatever you want.

Create a book, whatever you want. Okay. I want you to study that.

Yeah. Okay. All right, guys.

Anything else? Papa Ray, you got something else? Nope. Okay. Oh, Jim, I just have one comment.

On your PowerPoint, because of the black background to print that out, you're going to use, whoever wants to print it out, it's going to use a lot of black ink. Yep. Yep.

I'll see if I can change that. I don't have a lot of time this weekend to do anything, so I will see if I can change that before next week, and then come back to this one and do this one. I'll work on that.

Okay. Just wanted to give people a heads up. If I start printing, it's going to take a lot of black ink.

Yeah. No, I'll work with that. If I remember right, it's been a long time since I've done PowerPoint, but in the printing screen, there's a way to flip it.

Yeah. I just got to go do it. So, it's been a long time that I haven't done it yet, but I'll get that worked out.

Well, actually, if you could do it both ways, because it's so much easier to read with the black. Yeah, I know. That's the reason I'm sad.

That's the reason why I did it. So, let me see if I can put a print version in the PDF out there. I don't know.

I'll work on it, guys. No promises. I'll work on it and see what I can do.

It's easier for me, because it's easier for you to see on the screen black and white, white letters and black background. Yeah, it is. Than it is for a white, black, brown, different colors to represent whatever.

So, all right. All right, guys. Anything else? All right.

Well, we're going to cut it a little short. Next week is not going to be short. We're probably going to go over in that session.

I can tell you, I got 29 slides. So, I can tell you it's probably going to go over. So, okay.

So, I hope you guys have a great week. Watch things happening. And let me do this.

I'm going to stop recording now.