

Revelation: The Time is Near

Things Which Must Take Place

(One sat on the throne)

Revelation 4

Previously:

- John on Patmos, revealed Jesus in glory
- 7 churches / lampstands / stars
- 7 Spirits of God
- 12 tribes of Israel
- Israel is God's people/nation - Jesus is their King
- the church is His Body - Jesus is our head
- But ideally grafted together

Messages to the churches:

- Loveless Church, Ephesus
- Persecuted Church, Smyrna
- Compromising Church, Pergamos
- Corrupt Church, Thyatira
- Dead Church, Sardis
- Faithful church, Philadelphia
- The Lukewarm church, Laodicea

Matthew 24, birth pangs, so many things happening right now aligning, getting more frequent and prevalent.

This is it, what could be the final crescendo of our time before the End.

Every great story has an end. An ending can make or break a story.

- *Just finished star wars 40+ years of movies...ending was rushed and forced with an agenda*
- *Other stories, cliffhangers, open for a sequel*
- *Lost season 6 story*

The judgments we're about to see are not THE end.

They're the end for this world, this age, this kingdom.

But there's more to come: Millennial Reign, Final Loosing & Judgment, New Heavens & New Earth.

When this is all over, it's just the beginning.

- For those in the Lamb's book of life...a new beginning of eternal life

- For those who wanted their names blotted out...an eternal ending of torment and experiential death

Where are you looking in life? Every day? What do all of these things happening make you think and feel?

Luk 21:28 NKJV - 28 "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

Today we're going to get a very deep look behind the veil, directly into the throne room of heaven!

For only \$19.95 I'll tell you about it. Don't buy those books or stories!

2Co 12:1-6 NKJV - 1 It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago--whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows--such a one was caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I know such a man--whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows-- 4 how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. 5 Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. 6 For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me [to be] or hears from me.

Paul saw amazing things in heaven, but it was obviously not allowable to talk about and even if he could describe it it would never due the reality justice.

But the Bible does give peeks into heaven, some clear pictures on the other side of the "glass darkly" - Ezekiel, Daniel, Isaiah, Revelation and others.

And it's all perfectly legal.

Everybody would probably want to know the future if they could.

Investors. Sports betters.

Gray's Sports Almanac, BTTF2

Governments

We can see the future. In fact, it's already written.

Not fate, you still have free will. You can choose.

But God knows exactly what's going to happen.

And that doesn't make your choice for you.

Isa 46:9-10 NKJV - 9 Remember the former things of old, For I [am] God, and [there is] no other; [I am] God, and [there is] none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times [things] that are not [yet] done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'

And he's given us the spiritual insight into exactly what's going to happen. We even know some of the physical outcomes.

Layers of reality: Spiritual and physical

Why do we shy away from it? Why do we not want to see it? Understand it?
Sin? Wanting to keep looking at this Earth? Distracted by the enemy?

**You can't look directly into the sun, but by the Spirit and through the Word today
We can look directly into heaven and into the future**

[pray]

Revelation 4:1-5

After these things, after this, meta tauta

This age

The things John saw while still on earth - Jesus walking, what he was told to write to the churches

After the church age - ages recap

He looked can you imagine, after seeing all of this, now what?!

Door open in heaven - a portal through spacetime

Reminds me of Stephen being martyred

Peter seeing a sheet come down while dozing before lunch

A voice like a trumpet - God showing him what was going to happen

Trumpet used to call to war, call to worship, warnings, celebrations, kingly procession

Come up here

The things which MUST take place after this

These things are not optional. They're not, in a sense, because God likes to judge people or enjoys it...but they must take place. They HAVE to be done for righteousness to continue.

Righteousness, God's holiness was able to put up with these things until a certain point in time...after which, it would no longer be holy to be gracious.

After this...repeated. It's clear that the first three chapters, their contents, their message, their vision has been fully expounded by Jesus.

It's time to get a different perspective.

- The perspective on heaven down to earth.
- The perspective of seeing the end from the beginning and beginning from the end.
- The perspective of seeing what our actions look like from heaven and seeing how they truly deserve what's coming.

Immediately in the spirit

Transported right to heaven. No need for a long walk. Interstellar travel. The spirit can transcend space and time.

Jesus appearing in the room with the disciples, eating and disappearing - the heavenly body able to eat physical food, interact with physical reality, but not bound by it.

10 dimensions, back to Genesis study, sin, fall, tearing of that reality

Weird things going on in our day and age, even making mainstream video, news clips, military action

A throne set in heaven with One on the throne

This is it...the **very** throne of heaven. Not taken past "Peter and any pearly gates"
Taken right to the the seat of heaven.

Isa 6:1-5 NKJV - 1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His [robe] filled the temple. 2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy [is] the LORD of hosts; The whole earth [is] full of His glory!" 4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. 5 So I said: "Woe [is] me, for I am undone! Because I [am] a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

This stuff excites me! We're seeing heaven! THIS IS HEAVEN. God's very abode!
WE HAVE AN ALL ACCESS PASS!

People struggle with the "virgin birth" or "the parting of the Red Sea"

But seriously, that's nothing with what we're about to read.

Those things are child's play in the spiritual realm. We're going right for the top.

For the rest of Revelation, especially toward the end, when you see what reality really looks like. What the Bible actually teaches is going to happen (happened already in a sense in eternity), you'll never doubt those "little," "simple" miracles again. It's beautiful.

His Appearance:

- Jasper - burnt red, dark lines through it - sometimes blue



- Sardius - burnt red, dark lines through it



- Emerald green glowing rainbow about the throne



Brilliant, no idol could even duplicate the appearance. No drawing. No imagination. I'm sure even this description is still a struggle.

Interesting we see a rainbow again, this time before judgment

Last time after judgment, promising peace and to never flood the earth

This one showing who is in charge, where real power and glory comes from

I still think somehow this is the Father's glory shining through Jesus on the throne. I feel like even if God full on showed his glory here that John's very atomic makeup would be obliterated

as the scriptures say no man can see the Father and live...but Jesus says if you've seen me, you've seen the Father.

The trumpet voice came from the throne. Everyone else John sees is preoccupied with worshipping the One on the throne.

24 elders on 24 thrones

White robes, gold crowns

12 tribes

12 apostles

= 24 elders. One group. Not separated when unified before Jesus.

From the throne, lightnings, thunderings, voices

Throne itself is a living spiritual creature, a group of them

Ezekiel 1

Seven lamps of fire, this time the seven spirits of God.

The Holy Spirit is the one burning in the churches.

The churches on earth are the physical manifestation of the lampstands in spacetime.

With the holy spirit burning

When all the lampstands are removed, either by their own burning out, or by the rapture...

:6a

Before the throne was a sea of glass...

Reality. All of spacetime. The Universe.

Scientists believe the universe to really be a big, relatively flat, disc

Living in a hologram

String theory, the voice of God spoke reality into being

Microsoft lasers storing memory in glass

Holographic memory

Holograms

Even flat screen TVs

Nothing new under the sun, we're made in God's image

We love driving our thrones around on the highway, blasting our music (worshipping our desires), looking at our flat screen tvs and phones always before us

I don't think we're far off here...the enemy always creates inferior replacements for reality

Angels going up and down on a ladder

Enemy was covered in stones in heaven

Occultic occupation with crystals and stones

Umim and Thumim

Breastplate with 12 jewels on it

Revelation 2:17, stone with new name written

God always can see everything

Pinch to zoom

I'm simplifying here, grossly, and making a poor picture of it, but I think if we begin to realize that this picture of heaven IS real. And all of this combined IS reality. It'll give us a much higher level of comfort that God is in control, this life isn't all we're to live for, and the end really is closer than the world would want you to believe and for reasons totally different than the world says.

The world is looking down on earth from earth...we get to see heaven from heaven and earth from heaven. OUR WORLDVIEW SHOULD BE DIFFERENT THAN EVERYONE ELSE'S!

If it's not...who's crystal sea are you looking into?

Because when you look into the Word of God, the connections become obvious, the brokenness off the world through sin becomes easily visible and glaring.

And the judgment coming due to the vast difference between real holiness, God's holiness, and man's idea of what's right, is clearer than a storm on the horizon.

:6b-11

Four living creatures again, like Ezekiel's vision

Cherubim - angels right before God. In the Temple, on the Ark.

Eyes - these were not just dumb vehicles, spiritual machines, but insightful beings

The enemy was probably a cherubim, thinking he could ascend. Able to disguise himself as a minister of light. Very knowledgeable hence he has no excuse! It's obvious God is God and there is none like him!

They do not rest day or night...for all eternity.

The singing doesn't wear them out. They do not grow bored. They do not sound like a broken record.

Favorite song on repeat at times

“Holy, holy, holy,[fn]
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!”

PICTURE THIS! SERIOUSLY!

Throne, won who sat on it, thunders, lightnings, elders casting crowns, these creatures, the song!

If that doesn't get you pumped!?!?

Elders repeatedly bow and worship

It'll never get old!

“I could sing of your love forever!”

“You are worthy, O Lord,[fn]
To receive glory and honor and power;
For You created all things,
And by Your will they exist[fn] and were created.”

Let's read that again

You created all things. By your will they exist and were created.

Col 1:13-17 NKJV - 13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed [us] into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

This is heaven.

We're taken right to THE authority of all reality.

All dimensions, all beings, all time, all eternity bows to the One Upon the Throne.