

The Book of Revelation
Session 6: The Final Judgment and the New Creation

1. The harlot Babylon and the beast (Revelation 17)

a. The harlot Babylon, the great city (Revelation 17:1, 5, 18)

i. Compare with Isaiah 23:15-17 and Nahum 3:1-7.

ii. What warnings should we in the United States, the wealthiest, most influential country in the world, heed from the depiction of the harlot Babylon?

iii. How would you respond to some who say the depiction of femininity in Revelation as misogynistic?

b. Augmentation (Revelation 17:7-14): Literary technique of repeating and adding to previous descriptions (Compare with Revelation 13:1-10.)

i. Seven heads, seven hills, and seven kings (Revelation 17:9-11)

ii. Ten horns and ten kings (Revelation 17:12-13)

c. Who carries out God's judgment of the harlot Babylon in Revelation 17:15-18)? (Compare with Mark 3:24-26.)

2. Judgment of Babylon (Revelation 18)

- a. "Haunt of demons...cage for every unclean bird" (Revelation 18:2): Compare with Isaiah 13.
 - b. What does it mean today to depart from Babylon, as God commands in Revelation 18: 4-8? (Compare with Isaiah 52:11.)
 - c. Rejoice over the fall of Babylon (Revelation 18:20): Compare with Ezekiel 18:23 and 1 Timothy 2:3-4.
3. Celebration in heaven and judgment on earth (Revelation 19)
- a. The bride of the Lamb (Revelation 19:7-8): Compare with Isaiah 54:5-8, Hosea 2:16-25, Ezekiel 16:6-14, Matthew 9:15, John 3:29, 2 Corinthians 11:2, and Ephesians 5:25-27.
 - b. The king of kings (Revelation 19:11-21)
 - i. Compare with Revelation 6:2 and Isaiah 63.
 - ii. The sharp sword (Revelation 19:15, 21): Compare with Ephesians 6:17 and Hebrews 4:12.
 - iii. How do we reconcile the image of Christ in Revelation 19 with the image of Christ in the Gospels?
4. The millennium, the dragon's defeat, and the final judgment (Revelation 20)
- a. Chapter most likely depicts the entire ark of salvation history

- b. The millennium (Revelation 20:4-6)
 - c. The first resurrection and the second death (Revelation 20:5-6, 14)
 - d. The last battle (Revelation 20:8-9): Re-presents Revelation 16:13-16, Revelation 17:12-14, and Revelation 19:17-21.
 - e. **What is the second death mentioned in Revelation 20:14?**
(Compare with Revelation 14:14-20, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Isaiah 66:24, and Matthew 25:41.)
5. The new creation and the bride of the Lamb (Revelation 21)
- a. A new heavens and a new earth (Revelation 21:1): Compare with Isaiah 65:17-18, 2 Peter 3:13, and Romans 8:19-23.
 - b. The new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:2)
 - c. “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes” (Revelation 21:4): Compare with Isaiah 25:8.
 - d. **According to Revelation 21:1-4, what will the new creation be like? How does it differ from the popular notion of heaven?**
 - e. **Why are cowards the first to be named in Revelation 21:8 among those who will die the second death?**

- f. Why is a holy city an appropriate depiction of the Church triumphant in eternity?
 - g. Measuring the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:15-17): Compare with Revelation 11:1-2 and 1 Kings 6:19-20.
 - h. No need for a temple building, sun, or moon (Revelation 21:22, 23): Compare with Isaiah 60:19-20.
6. The river of life and epilogue (Revelation 22)
- a. The river of life (Revelation 22:1-2): Compare with Genesis 2:9-10, Ezekiel 47:1-12, and Zechariah 14:8.
 - b. What will God's people reign over (see Revelation 22:5)? Think of humanity in Genesis 1-2.
 - c. "Behold, I am coming soon." (Revelation 22:7, 12): Compare with Revelation 1:7-8. Central message of the book.
 - d. How can we begin to experience the joys of the new Jerusalem now?
7. Reading for Week 7: Review Revelation 20.