

# sermon study summary

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## Revelation Part 10 – The Big Picture

Speaker: Dr. Henry Schorr

In Revelation 6 – 22 Jesus is essentially saying: When times of trouble, hardship and uncertainty come and the world has lost its moral bearings, DO NOT be overcome by fear or worry. STAY focused on ME, your Lord, God and King!

Most Christians interpret the events leading up to the second coming of Christ (chapters 6-22) in one of two ways: the FUTURIST VIEW and the IDEALIST VIEW.

**A. FUTURISTS** see Revelation 4 to 22 as a prophetic account of actual future events that take place ONE after the other.

- 1. Daniel's 70 weeks and the Jewish Age.** God gave Daniel several visions revealing what was going to happen to the Jewish nation in the future. God decreed 70 'sevens', or 490 years, which were subdivided into 7 sevens, 62 sevens and 1 final seven. When Jesus was crucified, 69 'sevens' or 483 years had taken place and only one 'seven' or 7 years remained before the end of the Jewish age. But the Jewish people rejected Jesus as their Messiah and in doing so they interrupted the 490-year timetable.
- 2. The Church Age,** in which we are presently living, is that gap of time between Christ's crucifixion and the tribulation period, the time between Daniel's 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> week. The church was born on the day of Pentecost and it consists of those who place their trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- 3. The Rapture** will 'catch away' to heaven the true church and bring the church age to an end. It will provide all believers living and departed with their eternal resurrection bodies, and will save them from the Tribulation. (Some believe that Christians will have to go through some or all of the tribulation.)
- 4. The Tribulation** is Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week, during which God resumes His plan for the Jewish nation. The key purpose of the Tribulation period is to reconcile the nation of Israel to the Messiah. During this period, life will be terrible for those still on earth.
- 5. The Second Coming** of Jesus Christ. IN HEAVEN the Bride of Christ, the church, will receive their rewards at the judgment seat of Christ and then celebrate the marriage supper of the Lamb. After that, the Lord will return to earth WITH HIS BRIDE in what we call His second coming. Christ will destroy those who are in rebellion against Him, overthrow the Antichrist, bind Satan for 1000 years and take control of the earth once again as King and Lord.
- 6. The Millennium** is 1000 years during which believers will reign with Christ, and Satan will be bound. Universal peace and justice will prevail.
- 7. The final uprising and Judgment.** At the end of Christ's 1000-year reign, Satan will gather a multitude of unregenerate people to rebel against Christ. They will be defeated and the devil will join the beast and the false prophet in the lake of burning sulphur. Then all those who have rejected Christ will be judged at the great white throne judgment.
- 8. A new Heaven and a new Earth.** No more pain, no death, no curse, no adversary; and we will be with the Lord forever.

**B. IDEALISTS** interpret Revelation 6 to 22 symbolically and spiritually. They view Revelation as the ongoing conflict between good and evil, the battle down through history between God's Kingdom and Satan's kingdom. They focus on understanding the spiritual and symbolic significance of the visions rather than attempting to correlate them with particular historical events.

**When** Christ will return is unclear, but all Bible-believing Christians agree—Jesus IS COMING AGAIN!! So how should we live until He comes?

- 1) If you haven't already, invite Jesus into your life right now.
- 2) Pursue knowing God and living for Him.
- 3) Live each day as if it were your last.

# sermon study guide

## IN – PURSUE RELATIONSHIP

Be gracious with those who have different views from you.

1. When you were in your teens, what was your first impression of the book of Revelation?
2. How do Old Testament prophecies coming true contribute to what you believe about God?

## UP – PURSUE GOD

3. What is the difference between the futurist and idealist view of the book of Revelation? Regardless of your view, what is the main message in Revelation 6-22?
4. Bryan Clark says “...when something in the Bible is unclear, it’s unclear for a reason.” Why might God have made chapters 6-22 unclear?

## OUT – PURSUE MISSION

5. With God being sovereign and Jesus having already won the ultimate victory, what should we be doing at the present?
6. In what ways can we, as a group, create opportunities to reach out to people whom God has laid on your heart?

### *For Personal Reflection / Prayer:*

In Revelation 22:12 Jesus said, “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.”

What is your reaction to Jesus coming soon? Panic due to unfinished business? Indifference? Or joy to see and worship Jesus for eternity?

Reflect on your reaction and ask God for next steps He wants you to take.

## THE WORD (NIV)

### Revelation 22:12

“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.

This week’s writers: Elsa Henderson, Mark Eckstein and Jorel Quemuel