



RETURN OF THE KING

Studies in Revelation

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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Taking a Deep Breath

Introduction to Revelation 6-8:5

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Whether we are about to go under water or deal with an enormous challenge taking a deep breath will help us as we go through the ordeal. This is essentially what happens in Revelation 6-8:5 as the seven seals are broken, leading up to the final wrath of God. They are the opening volleys of God’s judgment on unredeemed man and his world. Man has a chance to take a deep breath as the first judgments seem relatively easy, but as each unfolds the difficulty intensifies. The Lamb of our redemption is now the Judge, as He opens each seal. The first seal reveals a conqueror on a white horse, picturing the world leader (Antichrist) at the end who will take over the world by peaceful means. Next, a red horse appears, symbolizing the war and bloodshed that would

follow the time of peace. A third seal reveals the black horse of famine, and these seals naturally lead to the fourth seal of death on an ashen horse—followed by Hades; the two of them were given authority to kill a fourth of the earth with war, famine, disease and wild animals. Under the fifth seal were the martyrs killed for remaining faithful to God’s Word and their Christian testimony; they asked how long it would be until justice was served on their perpetrators. They were told it would be a while longer as they were clothed in white. The sixth seal invoked terror as the earth and universe convulsed, raining rocks down on everyone. Instead of repentance the response of all the unsaved was to hide from the wrath of the Lamb and



When King Jesus returns evil will be defeated and every-

beg that the rocks fall on them. Finally, just before the seventh seal 144,000 Jews were to be sealed by God’s seal and reserved for Him. He already had an innumerable multitude from every Gentile tribe who would stand before His throne praising Him. John was told that these were the ones who had made their robes white in the blood of the Lamb; they were never again hunger, thirst, or cry and they would never leave God’s presence. Before the seventh seal there was silence and prayer, like taking a deep breath before God’s wrath was finished.

Daily Study Questions for Revelation 6-8:5

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.celebrationnet.com, small groups, abf)

<p>1. Read Rev 6:1-4. What happened “after these things” (4:1) when the first (v2) and second (v4) seals were broken? What do each of these suggest will happen at the beginning of the Tribulation? How was John involved (v1, 3)?</p>	
<p>2. Looking at 6:5-8 what was the meaning of what John saw (v5) and heard (v6) when the 3rd seal was broken? What did the 4th seal signify (v7-8)?</p>	
<p>3. From 6:9-11 what was under the 5th seal (v9)? Why (v9) and what did they want to know (v10)? What were they given and told (v11)? Why (v11)?</p>	

(Continued on Next Page)

Revelation 6-8:5 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Using Rev 6:12-14 what events occurred when the 6th seal was broken (v12-14)? What do you think these refer to? Trace the progression of the 1st six seals (6:1-14).

5. In 6:15-17 who did the sixth seal affect (v15)? What did they realize (v17) and how did they react (v15, 16)? What should they have done? Apply.

6. Looking at 7:1-3 what was God's next step (v3) and how did He insure this (v1, 2)? What does this tell us about God's care for us?

7. According to 7:4-8 who was sealed with God's seal (v4, 5-8)? What is significant about this—why do you think He only sealed Jews?

8. From 7:9-12 who did John see next (v9) and where were they (v9)? What were they saying (v10)? Who else was there (v11) and what did they say (v12)?

9. Using 7:13-14 what did one elder say to John (v13) and what was his reaction (v14)? Who did the elder say these people were (v14)?

10. Looking at 7:15-17 what privilege did the martyrs receive (v15) and what were their blessings (v16, 17)? How can we apply this?

11. In 8:1-5 what 4 things occurred when the 7th seal was broken (v1, 2, 3-4, 5)? What is the significance of each event?

Scripture to Remember

“The Lamb in the center of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them to springs of the water of life; and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes”

Revelation 7:17 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Connect Up—Mark 12:28-30

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Brainstorm together some of the different expressions of love. Are all of these real love? What do expressions of real love have in common?
2. Read Mark 12:28-30. What are the four ways we are to love God? Since loving God in these four ways is a command, what does this imply about love? Apply this.
3. How would you compare loving with “all your heart” to just simply loving someone? What are some of the ways we can move towards loving God completely?
4. Discuss what loving God “with all your soul” means. Since this involves both the emotions and the will what is the connection between these two?
5. Why does “how we think” impact our ability to love? What are some ways we can engage our mind to be able to love God more genuinely?
6. Discuss practical ways to love God with all our strength—be specific. Why is it necessary to love God in all four ways to be able to honestly say we love Him?
7. If there is time bring up anything else from today's message that was meaningful to you and discuss how to apply it to your life.