

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, November 23, 2014

Passage: Revelation 22:1-22:5

Memory Passage: Revelation 21:1-4

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rom. 8:19-22, 2 Pet. 3:7, 10-11, & Rev. 21:1-4, 9.** Note: There are dozens of OT passages we would need to look at in order to fully understand these verses, something we do not have the room to do in this short format of Bible study. If you are interested in further study, you may read passages such as Lev. 25:11-12, 25:1-12, 52:1-10, 55:1-3, 62:1-12, 65:17-25, 66:18-24, Ez. 37:27-28, 40-48, et al.

(b) What does the phrase, “the first heaven and the first earth had passed away” mean (i.e. burned up or destroyed or renewed?) and how do Paul and Peter help you understand John?

(c) How do the descriptions of the New Jerusalem being “prepared as a bride for her husband” (v. 2) and “the Bride, the wife of the Lamb” (v. 9) inform you concerning what is “new” about this New Jerusalem?

(d) Explain how v. 3 relates to the Covenant God has made with His people, and how it overcomes the disobedience we have seen beginning in the garden and continuing through the OT.

(e) How does v. 4 help you, a New Covenant believer, to persevere in your faith in this life?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 2-3, 21:5-8.** Who is speaking in 21:5-8 and why are His words to be considered “trustworthy and true?”

(b) What “heritage” will the “one who conquers” receive, and how does this heritage relate to the messages written to the 7 churches in Revelation 2-3 (note the repeated “to the one who conquers” promise to every church)?

(c) Write down (or underline) all of the OT language you have seen so far in Rev. 21. What does this tell you about the way we should interpret OT prophecies & promises?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 21:9-14.** Who is “the Bride, the wife of the Lamb,” and why does the angel then show John a vision of a city rather than a person/people?

(b) Write down everything you learn about God’s glory in this passage (including vs. 23-25) and explain the significance.

(c) What do we learn about God’s people from the fact that the names of both the 12 tribes and the 12 apostles are inscribed?

(d) Of what does the angel on each gate remind you, and what is their function?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 21:15-27.** Why did the angel measure the city, its gates, and its walls?

(b) What significance do you see in the specific descriptions of the jewels (see Ex. 28:17-20 & Is. 54:11-12).

(c) Why is there no need for a temple in which God should reside?

(d) Explain vs. 24-27 and why these truths should bring you comfort in your daily life.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Gen. 2:8-10, Ez. 47:1-9, Zech. 14:8, & Rev. 22:1-5.** What similarities do you see between the Garden of Eden and the New Jerusalem?

(b) According to Rev. 22:3-5, what will the inhabitants of the New Jerusalem be doing for eternity?

(c) In what ways does what you learned this week encourage you to obey Matt. 6:19-21?

(d) In what ways does what you learned this week encourage you to care for and appreciate God's creation now?

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The New Heavens & New Earth