

Name: _____

FUNDOCY Homework: The Revelation to John

Lesson Taught on December 19, 2021

Homework Due: January 2, 2022

The vision of St. John is more than a vision. It is a powerful statement of hope to every generation. But what does it say to those around us who have it easy? Jesus is calling from the other side. Will you turn down the iPod and silence the distractions long enough to hear him? Remember: Jesus is knocking on the door of your life.

Part I: The Lesson

1. The Revelation to John records the vision given to John while he was exiled on the island of Patmos. It was written to seven churches in Asia to encourage them to stay true to Christ, even during the harsh persecutions ahead. The author is thought to be the disciple John, pastor of the church in Ephesus. Note: It is not “Revelations!”
2. Throughout history many have predicted the end of the world. Some were well meaning and sincere. Others convinced followers to see their possessions and sit out on hillsides waiting. The dramatic images from chapters 6-20 have been quoted and misinterpreted for two thousand years to prove how the end will come. All of this makes for interesting speculation, but what’s the real point? Again, we must get back to Jesus. What is the book telling us about him? What’s the point for Christians today? Whether the end of the world happens in ten thousand years or you get hit by a bread truck tomorrow, there is still one clear and powerful message for people to hear in troubled times: Jesus is victorious. Christ is battling the powers of evil and will ultimately prevail. Our worst enemy, Satan, is doomed. All who believe in Jesus are washed in his blood and already judged, saved and safe. That was the power of Revelation then. That’s the point today. The rest is detail.
3. The Revelation to John was probably written by:
 - a) John, the disciple of Jesus and pastor of Ephesus, while living under house arrest in Jerusalem
 - b) John, the disciple of Jesus and the pastor of Ephesus, while on a boat to Rome with Paul
 - c) John, while exiled on the island of Patmos
 - d) Patmos, while exiled on the island of John

4. Look up and define the following words...(hint: some definitions may be found in your Bible)

a) Alpha and Omega: _____

b) Apocalyptic: _____

c) John of Patmos: _____

d) The Revelation to John: _____

e) Revelations: _____

5. Read and highlight Revelation 1:4-8, fill in the following blanks:

Look! He is coming with the _____; every _____ will see him, even those who _____ him; and on his account all the _____ of the _____ will wail. So it is to be. _____.

"I am the _____ and the _____," says the Lord God, who _____ and who _____ and who _____, the _____.

A = Alpha, the first letter in the Greek alphabet

Ω = Omega, the last letter in the Greek alphabet

What does it mean that Jesus is the alpha and omega? _____

6. In his revelation, the risen Jesus tells a frightened John to:

a) Write what he thinks will happen at the end of the world

b) Write about the rapture

c) Write exactly what Jesus shows him in the vision to the churches in Asia Minor so they will have hope

d) Write a sensational, gripping end for the Bible

7. Chapters 2 and 3 are addressed to those about to face persecution. Each holds both an encouraging challenge and a fierce warning.

Read and Highlight 2:10b. and write "hold on!" in the margin.

Read and highlight 3:15-16 and write "Warning!" in the margin.

Why do we need both warning and encouragement when facing tough times?

8. Why is the imagery in the Revelation of John so strange?
- a) The author was a former hippie
 - b) The author was a former hippie who became a pastor
 - c) It was written in a secret code to confuse enemies of the church
 - d) The mushrooms on Patmos had a certain "zing" to them.
9. John's "revelation" is sometimes labeled as "apocalyptic" (hidden) writing and is closest in style to this Old Testament book:
- a) Genesis
 - b) Daniel
 - c) Psalms
 - d) Proverbs
10. What is the most important and timeless message of "The Revelation to John" for us today?
- a) Jesus will ultimately be victorious, so hold on
 - b) We can know precisely when, where, and how the world will end if we are spiritual enough
 - c) The Bible is confusing
 - d) John needed therapy

Part II: Reflection Questions (there are no wrong answers here!)

1. A friend is going through cancer treatments. "Why is God doing this to me?" she asks. How do you answer her?

2. A friend tells you secretly that he is thinking a lot about suicide. "Ever since my mom died, I don't want to live, I want to be with her." What would you tell him?

3. If you could have any dream for yourself, what would it be? Why?

4. What door is Jesus talking about in revelation 3:20, and how do we open it?

Now stop...fill in the blanks to this prayer....and then pray.

Dear God,

Hold on to me when I can't hold on, I may need some help.

Today I am thankful for _____, _____, and _____.
Please help me with _____.

May the Spirit wipe away every tear and may the power of Christ make all things new. Keep my ears open to hear the knock. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.