

“The Reality of Judgment” (Revelation 14:13, 20:11-15)

On www.biblegateway.com, there is a free *Asbury Bible Commentary* that would be a good companion to your Scripture Readings.

Keep reading the scriptures out loud as John intended for us (Rev. 1:3).

Monday - Revelation 15:1-8

In Revelation 5:8, we find that the golden bowls are the prayers of God’s people. Remember, John uses *images* and *symbols* to reveal the reality he sees in Heaven. The poured out bowls of wrath are dramatic visions of God’s ultimate response to the pained pleas of “How long?” (6:9-10).

Tuesday - Revelation 16:1-9

Reminiscent of Exodus, God begins the final rescue from evil with plagues. Because of His love, God hasn’t “called time” before this moment. If he did, too many who might repent and be rescued would be caught in the middle (2 Peter 3:9). But, now He brings necessary closure on the world’s wrongs.

Wednesday - Revelation 16:10-21

Don’t nod off, thinking “they’ve” got it coming, and get complacent. John’s saying, “I’m talking about the serious danger of deceitful spirits let loose in the world. Many of you have a poor track record at recognizing deceit when it stares you in the face... keep awake, otherwise Jesus might arrive” and find you sleepwalking along with the rest of the rebellious.

Thursday - Revelation 17:1-18

God desires a loving faithful relationship with people, like a husband and wife (the wedding of the Lamb, Rev. 19:6-9 & 21). Here, Babylon (the idols and systems and even empires of this world) is a “prostitute” who has seduced God’s people into “adultery”— being revealed for who & what she’s done. And, it is ugly!! (vs 4 should give serious pause when we’re tempted.)

Friday - Revelation 18:1-8

John “sees” what Paul explains in 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 (especially verse 17).

Saturday - Revelation 18:9-20

John envisions two all-too-familiar incarnations of Satan’s reign being overthrown: 1) kings (prideful, violent, and unjust politics) in 18:9-10; and 2) merchants and shipowners (greedy, self-indulgent economics) in 18:11-19.

Sunday - Revelation 18:21-24

In the end, Babylon itself (Satan’s entire reign of deception and destruction throughout the world) is “thrown down, never to be found again” (18:21).

* Reflections and quotes are drawn from Dr. Robert Mulholland, Jr.’s and NT Wright’s commentaries on Revelation.

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Sunday, November 1, 2020

Judgment = Evaluation and Consequences

- Blessed [Luke 2:29-30]
- Rest [Matthew 11:28]

Deeds

Books vs. The Book of Life

Follow

- 1) Echo [1 Corinthians 15:58]
- 2) Continue [John 3:19]

Action: Name Written in Lamb’s Book of Life