

Lesson Notes:

## Summary of the Revelation

John wrote Revelations during his exile to the Island of Patmos. During a time of worship on the Island of Patmos John was in the Spirit and God told him (Revelation 1:19) to write about the things he has seen (past), the things that are (present) and the things that will be (future). We know from Isaiah 46:9-10 that God is all powerful and all knowing and that he is the only one that is Omniscient. Following is a highlight of the key future events described by John:

### Scriptural Principles

- 1. Rise of the Beast – In Revelation 13:1-3** we see a terrible beast rising out of the sea of humanity. He has 7 heads which signifies perfect knowledge and has 10 crowns which signifies complete authority. In **Revelation 13:5-8** we see he will have ultimate power and authority. Preterist believe that the beast refers to the Roman Empire of 167 BC – 474 AD. Dispensationalists believe this is yet to come.
- 2. Great Tribulation – In Revelation 6:12-17** we see a picture of the Great tribulation which will befall men. This will be a time like no other time on earth as men will actually seek death and attempt to hide from the wrath of the Lord. Preterist believe this is a reference to the tragedy that was inflicted on the children of Israel at the hands of the Roman Empire. Dispensationalists believe this is yet to come.
- 3. Satan and his Angels expelled to earth – In Revelation 12:1-6** we see that as a result of Satan's rebellion he and his angels were banished to earth.
- 4. God will deal with Babylon – In Revelation 17:7-18 and Revelation 18:1-8**  
We see the complete collapse of the world economic system and the judgment of God carried out on the world as a result of the rampant sin of human kind. Preterist believe this refers to the fall of Rome and Dispensationalist again believe this is yet to come.
- 5. Marriage Supper of the Lamb – In Revelation 19:7** we see the judgment of the wicked and the marriage of the lamb to his church. Preterist believe this refers to the union of those that were martyred for Christ and Christ himself. Dispensationalist believe this is yet to happen when Christ returns for his bride the church.
- 6. The Defeat of the Beast at Armageddon – In Revelation 16:13-16** we see the armies gathered in the plains of Megiddo and the defeat of Satan and his army at the Battle of Armageddon in **Revelation 19:11-20**. Preterist believe this is a

picture of the ultimate struggle in heaven when Satan and his angels rebelled against God. Dispensationalists believe this represents a final battle when the nations of the world surround Israel.

- 7. Satan Bound, 1st Resurrection** – In **Revelation 20:1-3** Satan is bound into the bottomless pit and in **Revelation 20:4-6** we see the resurrection of the saints. Preterist believe this occurred after the fall of Satan. Dispensationalists believe this will occur after the rapture of the church and with the completion of the campaign of Armageddon.
- 8. White Throne Judgment, 2nd Resurrection** – In **Revelation 20:11-15** we see the White Throne Judgment and the unrighteous cast into the lake of fire.
- 9. All things made new** – Finally in **Revelation 21:1-8** all things are made new and those made righteous through the blood of the lamb dwell with God eternally.