

The Book of Revelation – is it really that scary?

Fear and **anxiety** seem to be gripping our culture, our county, our world. We long for the **hope** of good triumphing over evil, the promise of a new heaven and a new earth. We want to trust that God will go with us into an uncertain future.

Thinking about the bizarre, bewildering, and sometimes frightening passages in the **Book of Revelation** tends to heighten our anxiety. But Revelation also contains passages of great beauty and comfort:

“See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” ~ Revelation 21:3-4

When we begin to understand the rich symbolism of the book, we build our faith that God’s Kingdom will triumph in the end. **This hope allows us to begin to let go of our anxieties and trust the future to God.**

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| January 13, 2019 | John’s Vision | Revelation 1:9-20 |
| <i>As we introduce the Book of Revelation, we get a glimpse into Heaven and what John saw in his vision.</i> | | |
| January 20, 2019 | Letters to Churches | Revelation 3:1-6 |
| <i>John, the writer of Revelation, was instructed to send letters to several churches. These are letters of encouragement in persecution, but also letters of accountability to our faith. They are meant to be shared with all churches, including ours.</i> | | |
| January 27, 2019 | Awestruck Wonder of Heavenly Worship | Revelation 4:1-8 & 5:11-14 |
| <i>We can only imagine what Heaven is like. Words cannot convey its wonders, but we are invited to use our imagination to get a taste of God’s Heavenly Kingdom.</i> | | |
| February 3, 2019 | What’s So Special About “Seven” 7? | Revelation 7:9-17 |
| <i>Encouragement for all peoples in all nations that God’s promises are for real, and that in the end good will triumph over evil. Most importantly, God knows each one of us and will wipe away all our tears and pain.</i> | | |
| February 10, 2019 | Lions and Leopards and Dragons, Oh My! | Revelation 12:1-6 |
| <i>As Christians, we worship the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In Chapters 12-14, we hear of an “unholy trinity” that tries (and fails) to destroy God, starting with trying to kill the Christ Child at birth.</i> | | |
| February 17, 2019 | Armageddon: Judgment and Destruction | Revelation 15:3-4 & 18:11-17 |
| <i>Once again, a promise that God will deliver, that the mighty will fall by God’s hand. However, this is not a false hope; for we will not escape suffering, but suffering and even death do not have the final say!</i> | | |
| February 24, 2019 | The Final Victory | Revelation 19:5-9 |
| <i>Christ himself leads the final spiritual battle where good triumphs over evil.</i> | | |
| March 3, 2019 | A New Heaven and A New Earth | Revelation 21:1-6 & 22:1-5 |
| <i>The closing of John’s Revelation paints the image of a sure and certain hope for the future; a hope, which allows us to begin to let go of our anxieties and trust our future to God.</i> | | |