



Sermon Discussion Curriculum – Week 9 Tribulation/Antichrist – Feb. 28, 2021

Helpful Resources for Studying Revelation

Revelation for You by Tim Chester – <https://bit.ly/RevForYou>

The BibleProject Videos – Rev. 1-11: <https://bit.ly/Rev1-11> Rev. 12-22: <https://bit.ly/Rev12-22>

Revelation: The Triumph of God – <https://bit.ly/TriumphOfGod>

Revelation: by William Subash – *RightNow Media* – <https://bit.ly/williamsbush>

Revelation can be an intimidating book to study. As you continue this endeavor, allow God to speak to you through his written Word. The goal of this time is to have quality connection and time together. Choose questions from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. Don't feel like you have to use all of the questions. Feel free to add your own too! We are praying for you as you lead your D-Group this week!



KNOW:

- The unknown can be scary. It is often said, "People fear what they don't understand." Do you find yourself afraid of topics like beasts, tribulation, and "the end times"? Why or why not?
- What is the knowledge and understanding of those in your D-Group of the antichrist? What have you learned? Where have you learned it from?
- What is the best fictional story you've ever read, heard, or seen in a movie? What was the basic plot? What did you think the story was attempting to communicate, and why do you think it resonated so much with you?
- Who is the best leader you've ever observed? Why did you follow him or her? What characteristics made them so easy to follow for you and for others?



GROW:

- Read Revelation 13. It's okay to take it slow, there is a lot of imagery in this chapter. The beasts are an image of the Antichrist. He is pretending to be Jesus. Circle, underline, or highlight anything in the chapter where the beasts seem to be imitating Jesus.
- As observed in this chapter, what impact do "the end times" have on a Christian's personal relationship with Jesus? How is this impact different for a non-Christian?
- Compare the similarities between the beast in Revelation 13 and Paul's description of the "man of lawlessness" in 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12. What are common characteristics? What do you think this means for believers facing the end of human history? (Revelation: The Triumph of God by R. Paul Stevens, pg. 46).
- Watch the video linked above from the BibleProject (Rev. 12-22) giving particular attention to the description of chapters 12-13. The power of the first beast requires that we patiently endure his attacks (vs. 10), but the power of the second beast requires wisdom (vs. 18). What subtle lies, in our lives and in our culture, are we susceptible to that we need to actively push against? How can we exercise wisdom against the lies of Satan so that we are not deceived?
- 2 Corinthians 11:14 tells us that Satan "masquerades as an angel of light." In what ways do we see the beasts tempt and deceive those described in Revelation 13? Compare this with your own life. How have you felt Satan call the darkness, light?
- Compare the mark of the beast (Rev. 13:16-18) with the commands that God had for the Israelites (Deut. 6:1-9). What are the similarities and differences between these two kinds of marks?



SHOW:

- Remember that some of the letters to the churches (Rev. 2-3) describe those who endure with patience and who will not deny the Lord in spite of persecution. What does it look like for you to live with patience and endurance in your every-day life? How can you express faithfulness in the face of political, social, and future uncertainty?
- Though it's not pleasant imagery, we are shown that the Church is at war with Satan and his forces. Satan's desire is to destroy the Church (Eph. 6:12). What can you do each day to both recognize this war, and fight this battle in a loving and healthy way?
- In the story of Jehoshaphat in 2 Chronicles 20 (read it if you have a chance), worship is used as a weapon of warfare against God's enemies. That's given rise to the phrase, "worship as warfare." How can you worship God through both singing, and in the way you live your life to combat Satan and his forces who come against us as Christ's Church?
- In Revelation 13: 3-4, John writes that there will be wonder (v. 3 marveled) and worship of the beast. Why is it that people, and even Christians, can be so easily distracted from the authentic Christ, Jesus? In what ways should Christians live their lives to prevent being deceived by enemies of the gospel? How do you maintain your own worship of Jesus in the midst of these trials?