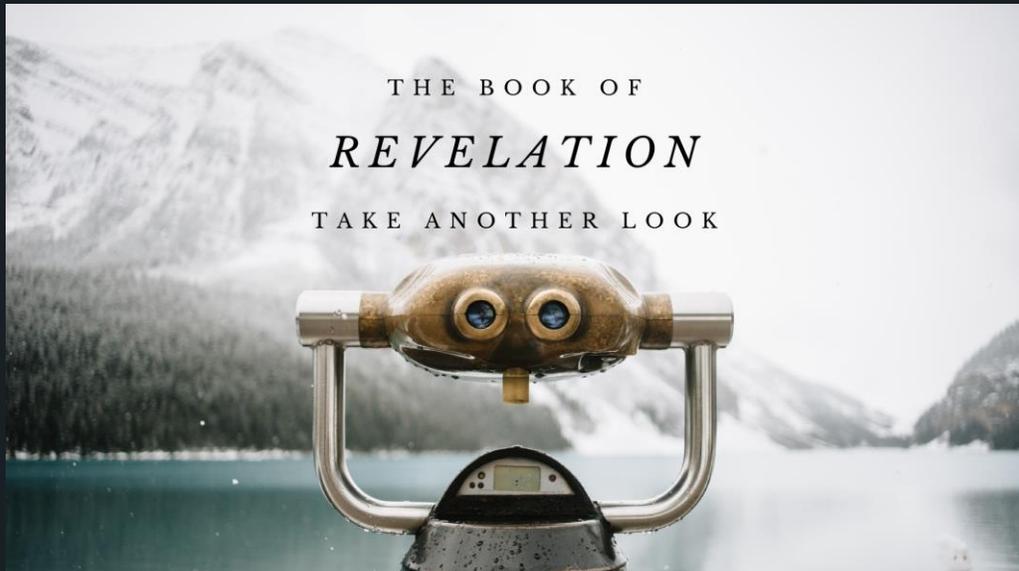


SUN CITY SERMON NOTES

27.10.19



Jesus had a high view of the Word of God; Scriptures through the Word mention that the Word is all-inspired (including the jots and titles Matt 5:18), all profitable, to be trusted. We live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it can't be broken; it can be trusted because Jesus Himself taught on things such as Creation, Noah, Jonah, etc. Jesus is the living Word and it must be fulfilled. If we believe in the resurrection then we can believe in every miracle; we can face tomorrow with faithfulness, joy and confidence also with the Word being our early warning system – saving lives, saving souls and giving us heads up for the future. Prophecy is a light that shines in dark places, 2 Peter 1:19; it is for the edification of the Church, 1 Thessalonians and both establishes and prospers, 2 Chronicles 20:20. Bible prophecy gives incentive for holy living and for evangelism.

Revelation 1:1-6 *'The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, 2 who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. 3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near. 4 John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.'*

Stimulating
Wholesome Thinking

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1. We live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God; it can't be broken; it can be trusted because Jesus Himself taught on things such as Creation, Noah, Jonah, etc.
2. If we believe in the resurrection then we can believe in every miracle; we can face tomorrow with faithfulness, joy and confidence.
3. The Book of Revelation is not only about the devil, the mark and the false prophet. It is about **Jesus**

This book is Jesus' revelation and we must take another look.

7 points from the Book:

1. The Book of Revelation is not only about the devil, the mark and the false prophet. It is about Jesus; the same Jesus who ministered in the flesh but also present and future tense, as the victorious risen Christ, and the soon coming King. Every book in the Bible portrays Jesus; 17 out of 22 chapters in Revelation portray Him in most descriptive ways. See Oral Robert's message: 'The Fourth Man.' From Daniel 3.

2. The Book of Revelation is about Almighty God – takes us to the epicentre, the throne of God. Revelation 4. God and good are mentioned more than 3:1 compared to reference made to the devil and evil. Heaven is all good, all glory and all God.

3. The Book of Revelation is about blessing (see v3). We are blessed if we read and heed this marvellous Book. We are told not to add to nor take anything away from the Book so as not to compromise the prophecy; God wants to bless.

4. The Book of Revelation is about justice (not particularly about social redistribution) but specific toward the King returning as Judge; He is just. The same Lamb who brought salvation will return in justice. Mercy and grace has already appeared for all mankind in the form of the gospel; the Just died for the unjust.

5. The Book of Revelation is about the Church. Many of the OT Books addressed Israel (mentioned 2568x in Scripture and Jerusalem 811x). The Book of Revelations writes to the Church – the redeemed Jews and Gentiles. Seven letters written to seven Churches then, and relevant today. Two examples:

a. Ephesus: a prominent city then. The Book of Ephesians a most inspiring Book: Eph 6:2; Chapter 1 dealing with our inheritance; Chapter 3 measures love; Chapter 4 – 5 fold ministry to equip the saints for the work of the ministry, to fulfil the great commission ; Chapter 5 – husbands love your wives as Christ loved the Church, and be filled with the Holy Spirit and Chapter 6 – in view of our heavenly position we are instructed also to put the armour on. This Church was madly in love with Jesus and doing all the stuff... Revelation 2:1-4 ... Jesus explains they left their first love; His instruction: consider the height you have fallen from (seated in heavenly places), repent and the first works in a spirit of first love. If not, the Church would be removed; it lasted some time but there is another majority on the ground now (Turkey). Repentance precedes salvation and revival, and revival is needed for every aspect of life.

b. Laodicea: There is no commendation for this Church; they were neither cold nor hot. It is a mark of divine ownership, that Christ, in His love for them corrected them; gave them what they needed to repent. 3:20 'Here I stand at the door (of the Church) and knock.' Jesus was near, but not 'here'. We must make sure. To this Church and no other did He give the promise that if they overcame, He would grant they would sit down with His Father on the throne. This truly is amazing grace.

6. The Book of Revelation is about the second coming. Chapter 19; the Rider on the white horse. Jesus' first mission: Saviour – His second, the King of Glory as in Ps 2.

7. The Book of Revelation is about Eternity; the forever and ever, Amen. If God wrote everything down concerning eternity, the planet would not be big enough to contain the books; He is keeping much of this for beautiful surprise. The New Jerusalem is coming down.

What won't be there?

Death, hell, sea, sorrow, crying, pain, cowardice, fear, unbelief, abomination, murder, sexually immoral, sorcery, idolatry, neither lying nor liar, any temple, night, curse or dogs. Revelation 21-22.

Revelation 3:20: 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.' Whoever says yes to this invitation, receives Christ receives salvation and their name is recorded in the Book of Life. Eternal things are spiritual things and can't be understood in the natural. In John 1:12 states 'To those who received Him (Christ), to those who believed on His Name, He gave the power to be children of God.' Whilst we breathe, the invitation is open.