

# Hope for the FUTURE

## 7 Key Future Events of Revelation



- Do you worry about your future?

The book of Revelation shows us that God is in control of the future and the best is yet to come. He is at work through human history to provide redemption - the remedy to sin, evil, and the brokenness of the world.

**Central Lesson: Christ is our hope for fixing the world's brokenness.**

### 7 Key Future Events

#### 1. The **THRONE** in Heaven (chapters 4-5).

*"Then I saw a scroll in the right hand of the one who was sitting on the throne. There was writing on the inside and the outside of the scroll, and it was sealed with seven seals."* (5:1).

Chapters 4-5 give us the most detailed picture of heaven in the Bible. God gave this glimpse of heaven to **encourage His suffering people** from the evil of this world and the persecution from the Roman emperor Titus Flavius Domitian.

The scroll represents Christ's title deed to creation. In Roman culture, legal contracts, such as deeds, marriage contracts, business agreements, and wills, recorded the details on the inside and a summary on the outside. It was sealed with a seal to prevent unauthorized entry. Satan has had his grip on the title deed of the world. Christ is prying Satan's fingers loose with each seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments. Christ will reclaim the world from sin and Satan.

#### 2. The **TRIBULATION** Period (chapters 6-19).

- The Judgments** - There are three primary sets of judgments—the 7 seal judgments (6), the 7 trumpet judgments (8-9), and the 7 bowl judgments (16).
- The Antichrist** - A world dictator whose main mission will be to deceive and distract people from God (See Rev. 13:8). Christ will defeat the Antichrist and send him, the False Prophet, and all who received the mark of the Beast to the Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:19-21; Daniel 7:11).
- The Two Witnesses (11:1-12)** - God will send two witnesses to proclaim the Gospel and call the world to repentance. God will empower them to *"strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want"* (11:6). The two witnesses will be killed (11:7) and God will resurrect them (11:11), and call them up to heaven (11:12).

#### 3. The Marriage **SUPPER** of the Lamb (19:1-10).

*"7...For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself. 8 She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear. For the fine linen represents the good deeds of God's holy people."*

Just before Christ returns to the earth, a special celebration will take place in heaven called "The marriage supper of the Lamb." The imagery of Christ's marriage to the Church as His bride is God's way of conveying how special the Lord's relationship is with every Christ-follower. *Do you see your relationship to*

*Christ as important as a marriage? Do you live for Christ as if He is the most important person in your life?*

#### 4. The Second **COMING** of Christ to Earth (19:11-21).

*"11 Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war.... 14 The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. 15 From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod..."*

The world is filled with conflict, injustice, and evil. The world is broken. No government has an answer. The only solution will be **the reign of Jesus Christ. He will come again to fix this broken world.** *In what way is life broken for you? Are you willing to surrender your life to Christ and allow Him to fix it?*

#### 5. The Millennium - Christ's **1,000** Year Rule Over the Earth (20:1-10).

*"His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!"* Isaiah 9:7 NLT

The Prophets of the Old Testament promised a time when the Messiah would reign over the earth and establish worldwide peace and prosperity. Six times in the book of Revelation this period is said to last for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:2-7). This period is called the **Millennium**. There is peace when Christ is in control. *Is Christ the center of your marriage, family life, business, and life?*

#### 6. The Great White Throne **JUDGMENT** (chapter 20:11-15).

*"12 I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books...15 And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire."*

Revelation 20:11-15 gives the clearest description of the day when humanity will give an account of their lives to God. The Great White Throne is the **place of judgment** for every person who has not received and trusted in Christ. **Christians will not be judged at this judgment.** Christians will be present as members of the jury (see 1 Cor. 6:2-3).

#### 7. The **NEW** Heaven & Earth (chapter 21-22).

*"2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, 'Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.'" Rev. 21:2-4 NLT*

In the future, God will do an extreme home makeover. Revelation 21-22 describes the creation of *"...a new heaven and a new earth..."* (21:1). The old heaven and earth will be destroyed by fire and God will create a new heaven and earth (2 Peter 3:10-13). The new heaven and new earth will restore the original perfect paradise of the Garden of Eden. **Heaven is the eternal home of every Christ-follower.** *Have you made your reservations and citizenship in heaven?*

**Central Lesson: Christ is our hope for fixing the world's brokenness.**

- Accept Christ as your Savior. ► As a Christian, dedicate your life to Christ.
- Invite someone to next Sunday's study. ► Attend a small group. ► Read the Bible this week & journal meaningful verses. ► Pray for friends that need Jesus.