



# REVELATION unWRAPPED

Mark Meynell

## SESSION 1 - THURSDAY 1st MAY

### INTRODUCING REVELATION

#### Common Errors:

- Terror! SO Never read it! BUT it's designed to remove terror  
Obsession! SO Never read anything else! BUT we're to be patient not psychic  
Confusion! SO Start but never finish BUT it was written to be understood

#### What it is:

- Apocalypse (1:1)
- Prophecy (1:3)
- Epistle (1:4)

#### What to do:

- Crack the Code
- Learn the Plan
- See the Centre
- Keep the Faith

# MEETING THE HEAVENLY JESUS

Revelation 1:9-20

## 1. JOHN: OUR COMPANION IN SUFFERING (vv9-11)

3 surprising things in common:

■

■

■



## 2. JESUS: OUR KING TO FEAR (vv11-17)

Interpretative Key 1: Revelation 1:19-20

Interpretative Key 2: Daniel 7:14

(i) The Light

(ii) The Noise

Interpretative Reaction: Revelation 1:17

### 3. JESUS: OUR KING TO TRUST (vv17-18)

70 times:

Jesus' Promises:

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.  
John 16:33

# LIVING WITH THE WORLDLY CHURCH

## Revelation 2-3

	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamum	Thyatira	Sardis	Philadelphia	Laodicea
Jesus							
I know your deeds							
I have this against you							
Repent ... let him hear...							
The rewards							

## 1. The ASSESSOR

## 2. The APPRAISALS

📖 Approval

📖 Rebuke

## 3. The FUTURE

📖 The Challenges

📖 The Threats/Hopes

## 4. The REWARDS

## 5. The PERFECT CHURCH?!

## SESSION 2 - THURSDAY 8th MAY

### REJOICING WITH THE HEAVENLY CHURCH

#### Revelation 5

Overcoming Bigotry

### 1. SOMETHING TO CRY ABOUT (vv1-4)

- (i) The Sealed Scroll – Tearful Frustration
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (ii) The Out of Date Vision – Travelling in Time

### 2. SOMEONE TO SHOUT ABOUT (vv5-13)

- (i) The lion of Judah, the root of David

Genesis 49

Isaiah 11

(ii) The Lamb that had been slain

(iii) The ONLY REALLY New Song

- 4 living creatures and 24 elders (vv8-10)
- the billions of angels (vv11-12)
- Every living creature (vv13-14)

CF Rev 4:11

London Missionary Society (1794)  
David Bogue

CF Rev 7:9



# ENDURING THE COSMIC CYCLES

## Revelation 6 – 19 (part 1)

### Introduction:

- (i) Various Attempts to Interpret!
  
- (ii) Various Angles on the Cycles
  - 6 Seals ... 7<sup>th</sup> Seal (8:1)
  - 6 Trumpets ... 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet (11:15-18)
  - 6 Bowls ... 7<sup>th</sup> Bowl (16:17-21)
  
  - Final Judgment ... 14:14-20 AND 19:11-20:15
  
- (iii) Getting a grip
  - Rev 15:3-4 – The Song of Moses And The Lamb

## 1. GREAT AND MARVELLOUS ARE YOUR DEEDS, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY... (15:3)

- (i) The Causes of the Judgments
  - 12:8, 13:13
  - 16:2
  - 6:9-11; 16:4
  
  - 6:12-17

- (ii) The Means of the Judgments
  - The Horsemen of the Seals (6:1-16 - cf Romans 1:19ff)
  - The Environmental Catastrophe
  - The Human Catastrophe

Sound familiar?

See Chart 4

- Exodus 7:8-13:16
- Psalm 78:43-52; Psalm 105:27-36
- Amos 4:6-13
  
- Mark 13

## 2. WHO WILL NOT FEAR YOU, O LORD, OR BRING GLORY TO YOUR NAME...? (15:4)

- (i) Repent!
  - 9:20-21
  
- (ii) Discern!
  - 13:18
  
- (iii) Endure!
  - 13:10, 14:12
  
- (iv) Praise!
  - 15:3-4, 16:4-7

# SESSION 3 - THURSDAY 15th MAY

## CONQUERING THE COSMIC FRAUDSTER

Revelation 6 – 19 (part 2)

### 1. EXPOSING THE FRAUD

cf John 8:44

REAL	ANYTHING IN COMMON?	COUNTERFEIT
<b>God the Trinity</b>		<b>Satanic Trinity</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The Father - (Gen 1:27)</li> <li>❖ Christ the Son - (Col 1:15-16)</li> <li>❖ Spirit as Witness - Acts - John 15:26 - John 14:16-18 - John 16:13</li> </ul>	<p>Originating plan</p> <p>Executing plan</p> <p>Witness &amp; propaganda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The Dragon (12:3, 9) - (13:1)</li> <li>❖ The Beast (13:1-10)</li> <li>❖ Beast II /False Prophet (13:11-18, 16:13) - 13:13 - 13:12 - 13:12 - 13:14</li> </ul>
<b>CHRIST</b>		<b>THE BEAST</b>
19:12		13:1
19:11-13, 16		13:1
12:5, 10		13:2
		13:3, 12
1:6		13:4
Ex 15:3, 11f		13:4
7:3, 14:1		13:16
5:9		13:7f
<b>GOD'S PEOPLE</b>		<b>SATAN'S PEOPLE</b>
Followers 14:1		Followers 13:16
Lover - 19:7-8		Lover? - Rev 17-18

## 2. THE DRAGON'S AGENTS (Rev 13)

### (i) The Beast From The Sea: Political Persecution (13:1-10)

cf Ps 35:10 & Rom 8:31

### (ii) The Beast From The Earth: Controlling Ideology (13:11-18)

☞ Standard Operating Procedure: FRAUD

## 3. THE LORD'S ALTERNATIVE (Rev 14)

### (i) The Lamb on the Mount (14:1-6)

### (ii) The People Who Worship Rightly (14:6-7)

☞ Standard Operating Procedure: REALITY

#### THE SPANISH TRAIN Chris de Burgh (1975)

There's a Spanish train that runs between  
Quadalquivir and old Seville, And at dead of  
night the whistle blows, and people hear  
she's running still...

And then they hush their children back to  
sleep, Lock the doors, upstairs they creep,  
For it is said that the souls of the dead Fill  
that train ten thousand deep!!

Well a railwayman lay dying with his people  
by his side, His family were crying, knelt in  
prayer before he died, But above his bed just  
a-waiting for the dead, Was the Devil with a  
twinkle in his eye, Well God's not around and  
look what I've found, this one's mine!!

Just then the Lord himself appeared in a  
blinding flash of light, And shouted at the  
devil, Get thee hence to endless night!! But  
the Devil just grinned and said I may have  
sinned, But there's no need to push me  
around, I got him first so you can do your  
worst, He's going underground!!

But I think I'll give you one more chance  
said the Devil with a smile, So throw away  
that stupid lance, It's really not your style,  
Joker is the name, Poker is the game, we'll  
play right here on this bed, And then we'll bet  
for the biggest stakes yet, the souls of the  
dead!!

*And I said Look out, Lord, he's going to win,  
The sun is down and the night is riding in,  
That train is dead on time, many souls are on  
the line,*

Well the railwayman he cut the cards and he  
dealt them each a hand of five And for the  
Lord he was praying hard or that train he'd  
have to drive...Well the Devil he had three  
aces and a king, and the Lord, he was  
running for a straight, he had the queen and  
the knave and the nine and ten of spades, All  
he needed was the eight...

And then the Lord he called for one more  
card, but he drew the diamond eight, And the  
Devil said to the son of God, I believe you've  
got it straight, So deal me one for the time  
has come to see who'll be the king of this  
place, But as he spoke, from beneath his  
cloak, he slipped another ace...

Ten thousand souls was the opening bid, and  
it soon went up to fifty-nine, but the Lord  
didn't see what the Devil did, and he said  
that suits me fine, I'll raise you high to  
hundred and five, and forever put an end to  
your sins, But the Devil let out a mighty  
shout, My hand wins!!

*And I said Lord, oh Lord, you let him win,  
The sun is down and the night is riding in,  
That train is dead on time, many souls are on  
the line,*

Well that Spanish train still runs between,  
Quadalquivir and old Saville, And at dead of  
night the whistle blows, And people fear  
she's running still... And far away in some  
recess The Lord and the Devil are now  
playing chess, The Devil still cheats and  
wins more souls, And as for the Lord, well,  
he's just doing his best...

*And I said Lord, oh Lord, you've got to win,  
The Sun is down and the night is riding in,  
That train is still on time, Oh my soul is on  
the line, .*

#### 4. STILL IN DOUBT ABOUT THE FUTURE?

- (i) **The Bride or the Prostitute, Church or Anti-Church?**  
(12:1-6, 17:1-2)

cf 12:10-12

- (ii) **Fallen is Babylon! (17-18)**

- (iii) **Hallelujah (19)**

# Revelation 20: MILLENNIUM MADNESS

## 1. What's All The Fuss About?

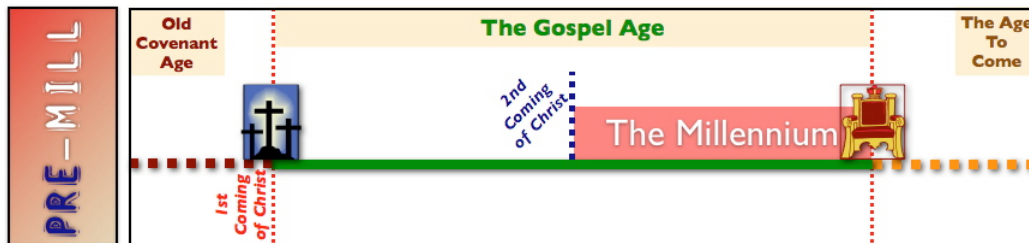
After all, it's just a few verses in Rev 20!

2 He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. 3 He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations any more until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. 4. I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshipped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5 (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection...

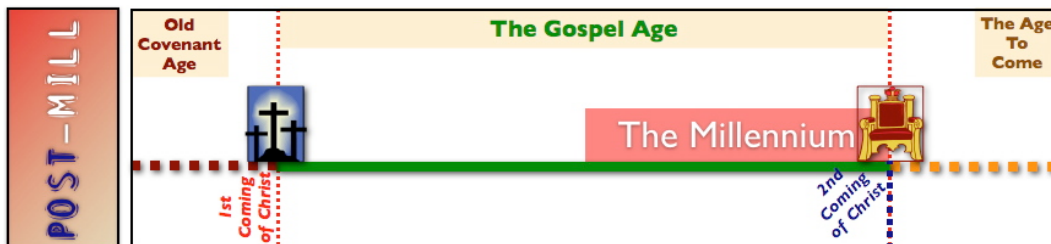
20:7: When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison (8a) and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog...

## 2. The Main Options

### (i) Premillennialism

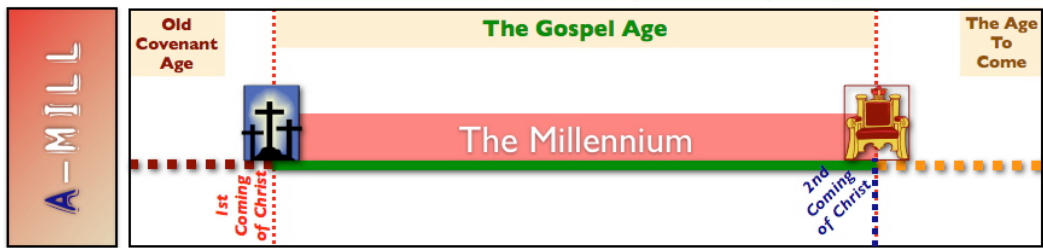


### (ii) Postmillennialism



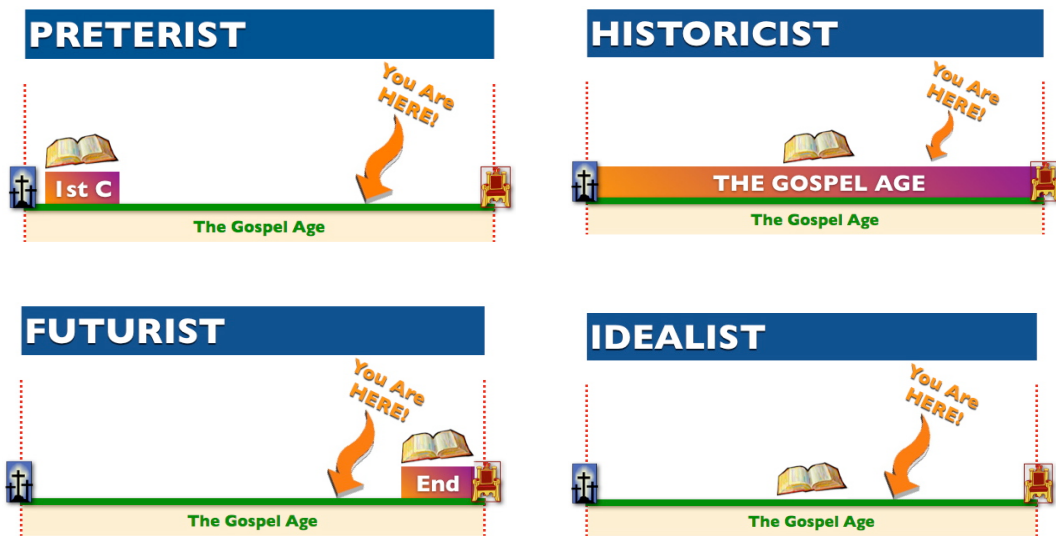
### (iii) Amillennialism

## REVELATION unWRAPPED (Mark Meynell)



### 3. Reading Revelation

#### (i) Approaching the Chronology – 4 options



#### (ii) Handling Apocalyptic

- Apocalypse (1:1)
- Prophecy (1:3)
- Epistle (1:4)
  
- Crack the Code
- Learn the Plan
- See the Centre
- Keep the Faith

#### 4. Some Big Questions:

i) Premillennialism  
1947?

BUT

ii) Postmillennialism

BUT

iii) Amillennialism

BUT

#### 5. Does It Matter? What Matters?

- A litmus test?
  
- Implications
  
- Trust the Basics:
  - King
  - Victory
  - Return
  - Security



# SESSION 4 - THURSDAY 22nd MAY

## AWAITING THE DESCENDING CITY

Revelation 20-22

### 1. THE FINAL COUNTDOWN (Rev 20)

(i) The Dragon's Doom (20:1-10)

(ii) The Decisive Division (20:11-14)

### 2. THE PERFECT BRIDE (Rev 21:1-8)

cf Isaiah 65:17-25

- From Heaven
- Beautifully Dressed
- Where she belongs
- No Sea, No Sorrow, No Sickness, No Suffering, No Sinners
  
- The Source of Life: 21:6

### 3. THE PERFECT CITY (21:9-22:6)

12s

- The Temple

- The Light

- The Life

## QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

### Meeting the Heavenly Jesus (Rev 1)

- How does this passage challenge the common assumptions and impressions that people make/have of Jesus?
- What needs to change in the ways you think about him?

### Living with the Worldly Church (Rev 2-3)

- WORK through the TABLE

### Rejoicing with the Heavenly Church (Rev 5)

- In what ways should the songs of heaven affect the way we live in the present? Are there attitudes and lifestyles that need to change.

### Enduring the Cosmic Cycles (Rev 6-19)

- Is it possible to praise God for judgment?
- How is it possible to see it as genuinely good news?

### Conquering the Cosmic Fraudster (Rev 6-19)

- WORK through the TABLE
- IF TIME: what are the most pervasive demonic lies around today?

### Awaiting the Heavenly City (Rev 20-22)

- "Christians are so heavenly minded that they are no earthly good." DISCUSS!

# COURSE OUTLINE

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	Questions, Questions!	

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