These notes are related to the ten-part KEYS TO REVELATION series of the SPIRIT FORMED® television broadcast (2010). Keeping a notebook or journal in which to respond to questions this study poses is recommended for maximum benefit. The series album is available on DVD (SC841DVD) and CD (SC841CD) from the Media Store at jackhayford.org, or by calling 800-776-8180. Outside the U.S., call 818-779-5593.

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Part 1 – The Practical Key

Text: Revelation 1

How godly leaders/teachers/scholars have approached Revelation.

Over the years, four different interpretations of the book of Revelation have become embraced by varied sincere students of God’s Word. So, to begin, let me affirm and encourage each of us to accept one another. However, as long as Christ is honored and the ultimate truths of the Bible be affirmed, it is inappropriate for believers holding a differing interpretive view of this book to question the sincerity of another.

How popularized “charted” systems of interpretation evolve presumption.

The most familiar approach today is by far the most recently developed, and must be honored primarily for stirring people to think about the coming of our Lord and our call to be “ready to meet Him.” Any study of the Scriptures should inspire our passion for evangelism, devotion to Christ, and personal holiness of life. But there is also a risk of framing an “escapist” mindset that would cultivate presumption in behavior or indifference toward the lost. There is also a risk of becoming prone to focus on social or moral decay as being “predestined” rather than stimulating earnest intercessory prayer; or of becoming preoccupied with speculating on current events as “yet another sign of the times.”

My approach to the book of Revelation is one I describe as “Pastoral.”

To my view, the Bible never intends to be mystical or speculative. Even its prophecies are not given to “guesswork,” but for godliness—which calls us to look for the practical—which has always been the purpose of the prophets in the Bible. Furthermore, years of studying this awe-inspiring “prophetic word” from Jesus Himself have deepened my convictions that (1) the Great Shepherd of the sheep opens this book with five chapters that reveal His care for His “under-shepherds” and their flocks; (2) the content strikes me as a clear call to worship, dynamic prayer, expectancy of ministry opportunity, vigilance against the spirit of deception, rejoicing in trial, faithfulness in the face of persecution, and a readiness to follow Jesus Christ through whatever the times bring.

As we begin...

I am mindful that “knowing what has been prophesied” has not necessarily been a preventative against blindly stumbling over what one has been warned about. “Walking in the Spirit” is a call to obedience, not to an expertise in interpreting one’s prophetic views. Further, I am impressed by Jesus’ words to those around Him during the final days of His life. Concerning events forthcoming and which He foretold, He clearly asserts that He has not spoken these things in advance so they can
be “figured out” or “charted”; but rather, saying in effect, that when they come about, “You will know that I am who I AM.” (Note on no less than three occasions He does this: John 13:19; 14:29; 16:4).

The goals of this series, KEYS TO REVELATION, are:

1. To attract each person—member, inquirer, viewer, listener—to open to the heart of Jesus’ speaking here.

2. To prioritize the practical truths, noting that “prophetic” is His style—to speak to us NOW!

3. To pursue the stated focus of the book: Jesus revealing HIMSELF to prepare us for tomorrow!

4. To prayerfully engage the call beyond comfort to the Comforter, unto discernment in evil times, and into worship and intercessory warfare as an instrument of God’s grace.

Now, as a reflection of the “Revelation” approach, look with me at Chapter 1.

If you ever feel you’re at “the end”…

I. The reason Jesus reveals Himself...

   A. To help us keep things in perspective (v. 1a).
   B. To say to us, “I’m here in your interest” (v. 1b).
   C. To confirm, “I’m committed to see you through it all” (v. 5-8).

II. The message He reveals is to say...

   A. “You can never be in so forsaken a place that My love won’t seek and find you” (v. 9).
   B. “You can never be in so bound a state that My Spirit can’t lift your soul with hope” (v. 10).
   C. “Your history can’t be written until I, Jesus, have the last word” (v. 11).
   D. “You may think you know Me well, but you haven’t seen anything yet!” (v. 12-16).
   E. “There is nothing you face that is unanticipated by My plan or unsurpassed by My power” (v. 15).
   F. Just when He seems to be out of reach, He says, “I have you and your circumstance firmly in hand” (v. 17, 20).
Part 2 – The Overcoming Key

Text: Revelation 2 and 3

Introduction: These two chapters reveal Jesus as the Confronter and Opponent of all that the Flesh or the Devil may bring that would resist His Church becoming a people who break through the darkness and shape the future. These seven letters form a conceptually complete review.

I. The Lord of The Church – A Visitation
   A. See Him “walking among the churches.”
   B. Remember “the churches” are His people—you and me.

II. The Master of The Church – A Confrontation
    …with things proven to corrupt or disintegrate the Church’s effectiveness.

   A. The substitution of activities for priorities. We lose sight of Jesus as the Church’s—Fountain of Power and our Foundation for Building.
   B. The toleration of impurity as immaterial.
   C. The fallacy that material success is synonymous with blessing.
   D. The placement of religious systems which remove glory and grace.

III. The Redeemer of The Church – His Call to Solutions

   A. Look at the Savior and listen to the Spirit.
   B. Remember and repent by receiving and responding.
   C. Realize persecution, struggles, and trials are certain, but God’s grace and Spirit-given patience will bring ultimate victory.

IV. The Leader of The Church – Pointing to Hope: You can overcome!!

   A. Set yourself toward the Overcomer’s path: The Word/The Blood (12:11).
   B. Review the reward for Overcomers: (1.) Intimacy—2:4, 7; (2.) Identity—2:17, 3:5, 12; (3.) Dominion—2:26-28: (4.) Eternal fellowship and partnership—3:21.
Part 3 – The Worship and Intercession Key

Text: Revelation 4 and 5

A. The Throne (4:1-11)

1. What is John’s likely mindset and heart concern at this point?

2. Who are we told is the one calling John?

3. Where does this vision take us, as John is transported into God’s presence?

4. What primary things do we learn from this setting? Re: (a) The nature of God’s Person; (b) The quality of living worship; (c) The promise in His presence. (d) The potential in His very Being.

B. The Lamb (5:1-14)

1. See how John’s weeping indicates his awareness of the “book’s” meaning.

2. Consider the sudden appearance of The Lamb…and His “slaughtered” appearance. (Various translations read: “looking as though it had been butchered…slaughtered…killed…sacrificed…bearing the fresh marks of slaughter…”)

3. See the bold, direct—passionate, if you will—approach to “take the scroll.”

4. Capture a full sense of the praise and worship response of the various throngs.

C. The Apparent Procession of Intercessory Worship

1. A strong indicator that “Worship makes waves of breakthrough!”
   List texts:

2. A call to humility (with an understanding of authority), and

3. An awakening to clarity and purity in the Church’s worship and praise.
Part 4 – The Scrolls Key

Correlating The Scrolls’ “Sevens”

Text: Revelation 6:1-16:21

The Three Sevens: Revelation’s Unfolding Judgments

Introduction: As the only One worthy to be the Executor of God’s Will for Earth’s deliverance, Jesus comes to actuate God’s Kingdom come on Earth as it is in Heaven. This requires judgment as was exemplified in the OT “judges” – “deliverers” who, while doing battle and breaking the power of evil, were recovering loss and restoring God’s justice, order, and peace for the oppressed or bound. This OT example of “deliverance via a confrontation with and struggle against evil until victory is realized” is an illustration of what is being seen in the Revelation “judgments.” The outcome is a removed Adversary and the creating of an arena of God’s peace and benevolent order to be known on Earth in the future—which is what the millennium will be.

Further, understand how the Savior’s action of breaking open the seals depicts how His “loosing” of the unleashed power will (1) visit just retribution of willful evil, and (2) evict sin and evil—the Thief and the Liar—according to Zechariah’s prophecy of the “flying scroll” (5:1-4). There, the prophet relates his vision forecasting God’s bringing a “curse” upon the “whole Earth.” John describes his vision similarly—the scroll being written on both the inside and outside. See Rev. 5:1/Zech. 5:3—a reference which strongly suggests his inspired recognition of the OT prophet’s vision as being related to what he senses will be the outcome of what he is seeing.

The concept of “curse” as contained in this text is both an invocation, that there will be delay no more (“time shall be no more” KJV, Rev. 10:6), and a revocation, that the Thief and the Liar (see John 10:10) will be expelled (Zech. 5:3). This clearly marks the sealed scroll as the announcement of the launch of Christ’s moving through the Earth through His Church as a body of redeemed humanity—Spirit-empowered believers qualified to extend His Kingdom of life, love, and grace, which is intended to “destroy the works of the devil” (1 John 3:8) So here, as Jesus breaks the seals on The Scroll, He is releasing the execution of God’s will to recover Earth from evil, and to reinstate His original intent and benevolent purpose for humankind. The breaking of the seals reveals an unfolding of three series of “sevens.”

Briefly:

Seals 1-6: Sum of history’s agony/action from Jesus’ Ascension to His second coming.
Compare: Matthew 24 (Comprehensive/Continuing)
Trumpets 1-6: Reflects Earth’s ecological deterioration and humanity’s demonization. Compare: II Timothy 3:1-3 (Cumulative/Corrupting)

Trumpet 7/Bowls 1-7: Reveals the brief, climactic events of God’s visitation of wrath. Compare: II Thessalonians 2:1-12 (Consummate/Culminating)

Detailed:

The “core” events constituting Revelation are in three sevens—seals, trumpets, and bowls. Sound biblical interpretation does not require interpreting these as historically sequential—i.e., following one another. Rather, we see them as integrated and overlapping, except for specific events described as “God’s wrath.” The common denominator or coordinating feature of these “sevens” is “an earthquake” or “a great earthquake”—Rev. 6:12; 11:13; 16:18. This climaxing event—“The E-Quake”—is the meeting point of the three “sevens” of judgment.

A. **Seals:** #1-6 (6:1-17); #7 [ch. 8:1-6…introduces the 7 Trumpets]

These parallel the AGE-LONG “troubles” Jesus prophesied (Matt. 24). His prophecy describes all these and all this time as “the tribulation of those days.” These essentially involve Man’s action.

TIME: 30 A.D. through the “Church-age-long tribulation” – then the E-Quake.

A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW (throughout the whole of the period) from the Church’s birth (6:2) to The End (6:17).

Note: The separation of the 7th seal (see 6:17 ends #6, and 7th doesn’t begin until 8:1) and the 7th trumpet (see 6th ends at 9:21 and 7th doesn’t begin until 11:15). This seems to be a clear spacing in sequence—breaking it; evidencing that the 7’s are not essentially to be seen as “packaged” in an ongoing order of occurrence. They are sometimes chronologically separate, sometimes integrated and overlapping at other times—especially at the climax—but they conclude simultaneously with the great earthquake.

B. **Trumpets:** #1-6 (8:7-9:21); #7 [ch. 11:15-19…opens to “Wrath”]

These merge a mix of EVENTS, EFFECTS, and EVIDENCES, begetting an accumulating destruction of Earth’s ecology and human wellbeing as “the last days” draw toward their conclusion. They combine to reflect man’s lost “rule” and consequent mismanaging of Earth, giving place to ignorance and greed’s expediting of Creation’s decay, and satanic invasion exacerbating humankind’s suffering.

These “trumpets” (warning signals) essentially summarize the limited capacity of man, separated from his Creator and ineffective at managing Creation, as well as demonstrating the vicious, hateful, and willful enterprise of satanic activities as human blindness persists in
the willfulness that “gives place to the devil.” Thus, human sin and demonic violence compound to ruin Earth and crush humankind—Satan’s most hated part of God’s creation, inasmuch as humankind was “made in the image of God.”

TIME: Through the age, an increasing impact of human incapacity and demonic intensity, becoming worse and worse until the EQ—THE END.

A CORRUPTING CREATION resultant of human irresponsibility which has released the rule of satanic animosity.

The last trumpet sounds over a season of time (10:8) as a climax to “Time” (10:7). See I Cor. 15:52; I Thess. 4:16.

C. **Bowls:** The Prelude (15:1-8); the Execution of #1-7 (16:1-21); and the aftermath of the wrath of God (17:1-18:24).

A CONSUMMATE outpouring of the judgment, which human sin and rebellion had invoked upon humanity and upon Earth, mankind’s habitation. These essentially involve God’s action, dealing with the residue of human rebellion and what it has chosen for itself (9:20:21; 16:10-11, 21).


A CULMINATIVE CONSEQUENCE—brief and conclusive, finalizing the history of fallen man’s government of Earth.
Part 5 – The Earthquakes Key

God’s Truth Converging with Clarity

Text: Revelation 6:12-17 and 16:17-21

A. Blending The Seals (ch. 6), The Trumpets (ch. 7–8), and The Bowls (ch. 16).

1. Proceeding from ch. 5’s introduction of THE SCROLL (The E-Book), it is clear that all that ensues from the seals is actually one and the same—within the 7th seal. In other words, the events forecast/described as the seals are broken, the trumpets are sounded, and the bowls are outpoured, are:

a. Interrelated and overlapping—not all sequential, but a part of the overall content.

b. Described in the order they are only because that is the order in which John received each specific vision.

c. Had to be “seen” from different perspectives because each “set of 7’s” deals with a different facet of the unfolding dealings of God with Earth and humankind.

B. Blending the E-Quake reports of Revelation 6 and 16.

Revelation 6:12-17:

12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.
13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.
14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.
15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,
16 and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!
17 “For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”
6:14b; 16:20—Both describe this as a global cataclysm.

6:17; 16:19—Both identify this event as God’s wrath.

6:17; 16:18—It is unprecedented in time—“the great day,” and unprecedented in scope, such an event “not occurred since men on the Earth.”

6:12; 16:17—Both term this “The End.” (Join 6:12 to Matt. 24:25/Acts 2:20; and 16:18 to I Cor. 15:51-54 and II Thess. 4:16.)

6:17; 16:21—In neither case is repentance manifest following the cataclysm.

Revelation 16:17-21:

17 Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, “It is done!”
18 And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.
19 Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.
20 Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.
21 And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great


**Part 6 – The Israel, the Church, and the Rapture Key**

*Text: Revelation 7:9-17*

**A. The Promise In The Word**

1. The definition of the term: “harpadzo” (Gr.)
   a. to seize, with a sudden, overwhelming force,
   b. to transport to another setting,
   c. to seize and rescue from imminent peril.

2. The definition of the time:
   a. This will occur in conjunction with “the last trumpet.”
   b. This will occur in conjunction with the climax of the age-long struggle/travail of humanity Jesus calls “great tribulation.”

**B. The Rapture Texts of Revelation**

1. The text at hand—7:9-17, (on the heels of the chap. 6 “great earthquake”).
   7:1-8, (the seeming intent, “setting apart” Jews).

2. Three other Revelation perspectives:
   a. 19:1-10 - The Celebration of the Assembled “Bride.”
   b. 14:1-5 - The “Messianic Jews”? (Rom. 11:12-15)
   c. 11:12, 13 - The “Two Witnesses”

**C. The Significance to The Church Today**

3. The Church’s ministry – Acknowledging our “root-point,” Rom. 11.
4. The “last days martyrs” – The concept of “the two witnesses.”

**D. The Hope of the Rapture Truth and Your Life Today**

1. The promise of being “caught up together.”
2. There is an ultimate promise of great deliverance.
3. The moment of deliverance.
4. There will be great relief.
### Part 7 – The Last Trumpet Key

**Text:** Revelation 10

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<tr>
<th>SEALS</th>
<th>Age long</th>
<th>The “Tribulation”</th>
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<td>Ends w/ Great Earthquake</td>
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<th>TRUMPETS</th>
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<th>BOWLS</th>
<th>Climactic</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>The wrath of God</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ends with Great Earthquake</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Very short time—“days of sounding”</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>of 7th Trumpet</td>
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**Introduction:** Everything of this world, including your present struggle, will come to pass. As we study the book of Revelation, it’s significant to recognize that we’re dealing with ultimate manifestations or expressions of things that are constant realities in the practicals of our lives.

A. Satan knows he has a short time.

B. He is coming down with great fury in the last days.

C. The book of Revelation says there comes a time when Jesus says, “This is the end of it.”

D. My approach to the seals, the bowls, and the trumpets are as three different slices of the picture of the whole Church age, not necessarily in succession.

1. Sequence does not necessarily argue chronology.
2. Some have called it the “Great Tribulation” (see Matt. 24).
3. Some give it a seven-year period of time, though it’s conceivable it could be less.
E. Chapter 10 makes first mention of the last trumpet.

1. This final trumpet as it sounds, occasions a marching forth from out of the presence of the Throne of God of seven angels bearing great bowls, each filled with the wrath of God.

2. This final trumpet is mentioned again in ch. 14; in ch. 15 is the spelling out of the bowl it announces—a frightening period climaxed at the great earthquake.

F. The trumpets go through the whole of the age but increase in intensity of two dynamics:

1. Ecological decay due to man’s inability to exercise the dominion given him by God over Earth.

2. The increase of demonic invasion

3. Like “labor pains” (Matt. 24), these increase in frequency until the end (“delivery”)—deliverance of the Church into His presence and deliverance of the world from the last vestige of satanic control because of the ultimate and conclusive judgment that comes.
**Part 8 – The Evil Trinity Key**

**Text:** Revelation 13:1-8

**Introduction:** Revelation summarizes the battle of the ages between Satan, the Arch-Rebel, and the Almighty God, Creator of all things and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When Paul describes the spiritual warfare of the believer (II Cor. 10), he describes the boasting of the Adversary, that he will arrogate and claim as his right everything that is God’s. That plays into his quest to manifest as a trinity, just as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

With the theme text above, the following gives significant development of the craft, the lying, the viciousness, and the utter self-centered, God-and-humankind hatred that surfaces in Satan’s last efforts to “boast himself against all that is God,” calling us to be equipped well for the spiritual conflict that increasingly intensifies through this present age (II Cor. 10:1-5; Eph. 6:10-19). His last effort at full dominion is his effort to manifest “a trinity of his own”: the Dragon, the Beast, and the False Prophet.

**The Dragon**

When we come to the evil trinity’s Dragon, he is shown as being cast down out of heaven and is specifically identified as Satan himself (12:9). Virtually all commentators see this as aligned with Isaiah ch. 14 and Ezekiel ch. 28, preceding time as we know it.

A. Satan’s warfare against Israel and the Messiah (Rev. 12:3-4)

3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

B. His character – masking himself (serpent), Liar (global deception), perpetual strategist of warfare against the people of God. (Rev. 19:9, 13, 17)

9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child.

17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.
The Beast

The Beast draws his power from the Dragon. Just as Jesus became the incarnate picture of Father God on Earth, here is the identical opposite: the incarnate manifestation of evil.

A. Wounded and revived (Rev. 13:3)

3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

B. Political manipulation (Rev. 13:1-2)

1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.
2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

C. Spiritual tyranny, mandating worship/submission (Rev. 13:5-6)

5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.
6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

D. Adversarial—temporary victories (Rev. 13:7)

7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

(See also Daniel 7:21 - I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them.)

The False Prophet

The Beast has an advocate: the False Prophet—something like a lamb; something that could seem Christ-like. People are attracted, but increasingly they are called to worship the Beast. It could be a system, an individual, or both. While “ministering,” the False Prophet may sound godly, but it has a self-serving objective—not the priorities of Jesus, the truth of God’s Word, or the call to live His way.
A. Deception: “Like a lamb but speaks like the dragon” (Rev. 13:11-14)

11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.
12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.
13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.
14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

B. “Marketer” the Beast – including the global imprinting of his “logo” (Rev. 13:15-18)

While not attempting an interpretation of “666,” the significant issue is that we are increasingly living in a logo-oriented culture where people are more and more dependent upon identifying with a brand, a logo, or a mark.

15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.
16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,
17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.
18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: his number is 666.

Their “End” (Rev. 19:20)

20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.
Text: Revelation 17 and 18

Introduction: The cataclysm of the Great Earthquake that comes at the end of the outpouring of the wrath of God—the seven seals and the seven bowls—while characterized by an overwhelming and massively destructive shaking of the Earth, is yet not the end of time.

A. There will be survivors.

B. Judgment of the “great harlot of Babylon” will take place.

   1. While not trivializing the nature of immorality, the issue here isn’t so much the physical act as it is the massive seduction in which people “prostitute” themselves—compromising or selling out for whatever they can get.

   2. “Mystery” (17:5) - in the Greek language, “mystery” refers to a secret which has now been exposed. It is the driving spirit of the world system that gains control by seduction and the offer of provision (fulfillment) in exchange for control.

C. A call is issued from Heaven (18:4) – “Come out of Babylon.”

   1. Refusal to heed results in bondage to the world system by the power of the world spirit.

   2. Trafficking of all merchandise comes to its conclusion (18:11-13).

   3. There comes the illegal trafficking in human bodies and souls (18:13-14).

   4. Similar summons to “come out” from the world’s system issued by the apostle Paul (II Cor. 6:11-18).

D. The Lord’s call to us today is:

   1. Don’t sell out for something other than what I’ve called you to be.

   2. Come to the One who really loves you...

   3. Who will never prostitute anything in you but will fill you with all of His fullness, goodness, purpose, and destiny.
Part 10 – The Millennium...and Beyond

Key Concepts Summarizing the Lessons of the Overreaching Message of Jesus’ Revelation

1. Jesus Christ is a mighty yet loving Savior who sees and cares for each one of His own—through all trials and throughout all time.

2. Jesus Christ is Lord of the Church and is actively present all the while...
   a. …to receive our worship (5:8-14)
      As the Enthroned Majesty and Sovereign of His Kingdom
   b. …to evaluate our actions (2:1-3:22)
      As our Master and Leader
   c. …to sustain us in trial
      As our Strength and Sustainer (1:9-20; 2:8-11; 3:7-13)
   d. …to lead us to overcoming victory
      As our Savior and Deliverer (ch 2, 3, 12:7-12).

3. Jesus Christ is Lord of the Earth, and as Creator/Redeemer:
   a. He has unfolded the “deed” (scroll) to reclaim it actively (5:1-7; 6:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12; 8:1); He is the manifest Warrior en route to manifest victory.
   b. He has commissioned His own to evangelize it (6:1; 10:8-11; 11:1-6; 22:17); and the Baptism with the Holy Spirit enables His disciples to manifest His love, life, grace, and person.
   c. He is executing justice and judgment toward its ultimate cleansing and renewal and will ultimately rule the Earth in righteousness (19:11-20:6). He is the God of history and Judge of all humanity.

4. God is tireless in His continued dealings with Israel as a people:
   a. Spiritually, He is constant in reaching to each Jew in a personal sense now (7:1-8), overseeing the apple of His eye according to His everlasting processes. The Ruach ha-Kodesh blowing upon and breathing life into the dry bones.
   b. Nationally, historically, His dealings were suspended. Now over the past four generations, He has evidenced His intent about realizing His purpose for them in a national sense (11:1-2). This has phenomenally manifested in our time.
c. Ultimately, the finale will be realized in a way yet undefined (14:1-5; see Rom. 11:12, 15, 25-27), resulting in (i.) a global awakening of all Israel and (ii.) a worldwide move of God’s Spirit among all nations.

5. The Adversary, the Devil, is a relentless, age-long foe.

a. He is manifest in the world system by manipulating it and deceiving its participants. The Deceiver is relentlessly systematic in opposing God by blaspheming all that pertains to Him (13:1-4; 17:1-9; 8:24);
b. He is merciless in his deployment of demon beings to torment and destroy mankind (9:1-21); and
c. He is to be ultimately and conclusively judged and consigned to eternal torment (20:7-10).

6. This world is on a certain “path” of deterioration through human failure and satanic hatefulness.

a. All its environment is deteriorating as man violates it (6:5-8; 8:1-4);
b. All its political, economic, and spiritual systems are limited at best, and ultimately doomed to desolation, destruction, and damnation (17:1-18:24); and
c. It will ultimately be disintegrated and replaced by a new creation (21:1, see II Pet. 3:10-13), a new heaven and a new Earth exceeding our imagination and description (Isa. 65:17, I Cor. 2:9).

7. As a member of His Living Church, His Body, Jesus calls you and me:

a. To ever live in faithful anticipation of Jesus’ return (2:25; 3:11; 16:15; 22:7, 12, 20);
b. To stand firm when experiencing apparent defeat, being confident of ultimate victory (13:7-10; 14:9-13; 19:1-10);
c. To faithful intercessory prayer and constant praise-filled worship “Unto Him Who is worthy!” (5:8-10);
d. To hear the Spirit’s voice, to know the Father’s Word, and to walk the Savior’s pathway of obedience (2:7, 11, 17, 26-29; 3:5, 6, 12-18, 21, 22); and
Appendix

Resources Related to this Study

The following resources may be ordered from the Jack Hayford Ministries Media Store at jackhayford.org or by calling 800-776-8180. Outside the U.S., call 818-779-5593.

KEYS TO REVELATION (2010) (Companion teaching to this Guide.)

This 2010 series of the SPIRIT FORMED® TV broadcast provides “keys” of insight and understanding for the purpose of living out what Jesus reveals to us in practical terms today. Ten episodes.

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