

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



REVELATION 1:1-8

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What words or phrases in these verses help tell us what kind of book this is and, therefore, give us some guidelines on how to interpret it?

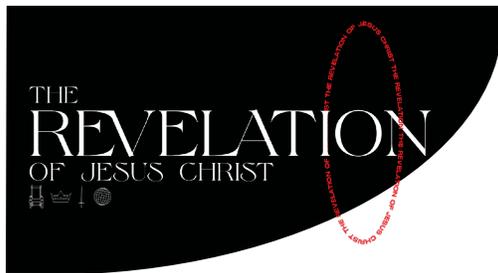
APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Revelation 1:3 says, "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near." Do you believe that reading Revelation is a blessing or a burden? Are there any feelings you need to confess to the Lord as we begin our series on Revelation—one of the most controversial books in the Bible (e.g.: intellectual pride, anxiety about not understanding, apathy thinking it doesn't apply to your life, etc.)?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie ([Read Chapter 1](#))

Article: ["4 Reasons We Avoid the Book of Revelation"](#) by Nancy Guthrie
[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

AUG. 21
2022

REVELATION 1:9-20

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Does it matter that this book is a letter written to certain churches (1:11)? How does that help us see the purpose or practicality of this book?
6. How is Jesus described here? How is this different than the ways we see him described in the Gospels? Why is it so different in this context?

APPLICATION

7. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
8. When John saw Jesus here, he "fell at his feet as though dead" (1:17). How much are you in awe of Jesus and his power? How does John's vision of Jesus need to change how you relate to Jesus this week?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie ([Read Chapter 1](#))

Article: ["10 Things You Should Know about the Book of Revelation"](#) by Nancy Guthrie
[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



REVELATION 2:1-11

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What problems are pointed out about the churches of Ephesus and Smyrna? Do these problems have any similarities in today's Christian churches (including ours)?

APPLICATION

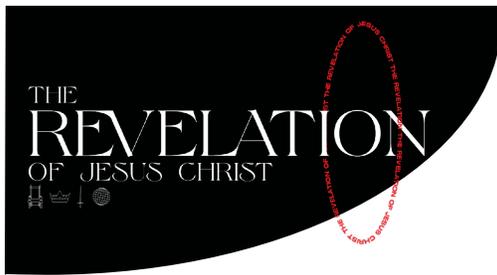
6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Have you "abandoned the love you had at first" (2:4)? What can you do this week to reset and display your love for Jesus and for others in a real, tangible way?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie ([Read Chapter 1](#))

Video/Article: ["What the Church Today Needs to Hear from the Book of Revelation"](#) by Nancy Guthrie

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

REVELATION 2:12-3:6



Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What problems are pointed out about the churches of Pergamum, Thyatira, and Sardis? How would you phrase these problems in your own words?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Do you know anyone who claims to be a Christian but they "are dead" (3:1)? What can you do to help this person "wake up" (3:2) and "repent" (3:3) and follow Jesus in sincere faith and obedience?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie ([Read Chapter 1](#))

Video/Article: ["What the Church Today Needs to Hear from the Book of Revelation"](#) by Nancy Guthrie

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

REVELATION 3:7-22



Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What problems are pointed out about the churches of Philadelphia and Laodicea? How would you phrase these problems in your own words?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Are you "neither hot nor cold" in your spiritual life and obedience right now (3:15)? What is one thing that you can do to strengthen your passion for obedience to Jesus in an area of your spiritual life where you are weak or apathetic?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie ([Read Chapter 1](#))

Video/Article: ["What the Church Today Needs to Hear from the Book of Revelation"](#) by Nancy Guthrie

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

SEPT. 25
2022

REVELATION 4

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What is implied in verse 2 by the fact that God is the "one seated on the throne"? Does this tell us anything about his role or relationship to other beings?

APPLICATION

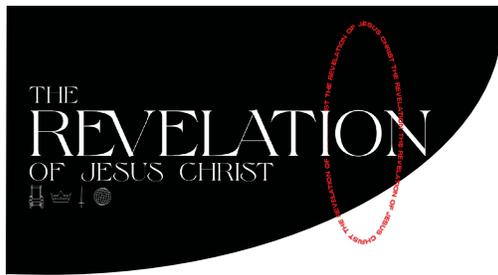
6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. God is the undeniable center of heaven's worship. If others were to look at your life, would they say that you live like God is at the center of all things? Would they say that you treat God like he's holy (v. 8) and worthy (v. 11)? How can you respond this week to God's holiness and worth in a way that is similar to how these heavenly beings respond to him?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie

Sermon: "[Revelation 4](#)" by D.A. Carson

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



REVELATION 5

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Why does John weep when no one is found worthy to open the scroll (v. 4)? What does it say about Jesus that he can open this scroll?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. How worthy do you really think Jesus is (vv. 9, 12)? Spend time tonight or this week worshipping Jesus who is the one who has redeemed God's people and holds the future.

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie

Sermon: "[Worthy Is The Lamb: Revelation 5](#)" by Mark Bates

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

OCT. 23
2022

REVELATION 6

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Is the wrath of the Lamb (v. 16) mean spirited or unfair? How does seeing the vision of the martyrs under the altar help us understand God's judgment on the world better (vv. 9-11)?

APPLICATION

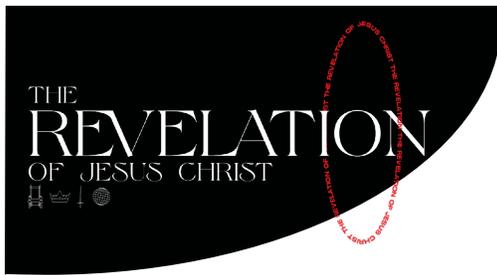
6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. In what ways are you clinging to the world for your hope (comfort, prosperity, health, etc.)? Jesus is going to bring judgment on the world and these false sources of hope. How can you more fully transition your hope from what the world can give (but will pass away) to Jesus and live completely for his glory—even if it means suffering (like the martyrs in vv. 9-11)?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [*Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation*](#) by Nancy Guthrie

Article: "[The Cry of the Martyrs](#)" (Ligonier)

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



REVELATION 7

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Who is a part of the people worshipping Jesus in verses 9-10? Why is this significant for how we understand the church? Evangelism? Missions? Racial unity? Conflict resolution?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. How should seeing the diverse yet united "great multitude" around Jesus (vv. 9-10) affect how you interact with other Christians? What is one way you can model biblical unity in diversity this week?

FURTHER RESOURCES

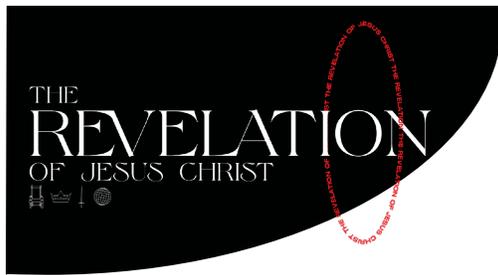
Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie

Article: ["Who Are The 144,000? \(Revelation 7\)"](#) by Thomas Schreiner

Article: ["Lament: An Open Door for Racial Reconciliation"](#) by Mark Vroegop

Article: ["End of Days for the End of Conflict"](#) by Kent Bass

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SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



REVELATION 8-9

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Why do you think there is silence in heaven before the seven trumpets are blown (8:1)? What does this represent? Does it indicate God's patience? His hearing prayers before judging? A sobering moment before judgment?

APPLICATION

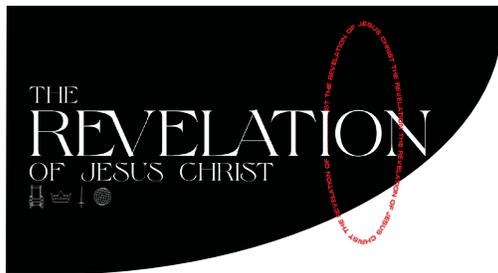
6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. Are you sobered by the judgments that will be unsealed by God, while he keeps his children sealed under his protection (9:4)? How can you humble yourself this week under God, recognizing that he has the right to bring judgment on the earth?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie

Article: ["Four Trumpets of Judgment"](#) (Ligonier)

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

NOV. 13
2022

REVELATION 10

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. Why is the scroll of prophesying about the coming judgment sweet to John's taste then bitter in his stomach (vv. 9-10)? What is sweet about the coming judgment? What is bitter?

APPLICATION

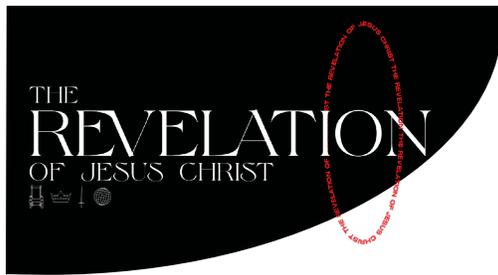
6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. What is harder for you to meditate on—the sweetness of God's mercy on some or the bitterness of his judgment on the world and sinners? Pray this week, asking God to help you accept the fullness of his good judgment and to help this be an opportunity for you to more fully know God for who he is in all his greatness, goodness, and holiness.

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation](#) by Nancy Guthrie

Article: "[The Angel Brings a Scroll](#)" (Ligonier)

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



REVELATION 11

Read this week's passage aloud before discussing together.

OBSERVATION

1. What are your personal observations about the passage?
 - What sticks out to you (words, phrases, concepts, themes)?
 - Why do these things stick out to you?
 - Does it remind you of other Bible passages?
2. Examine the context of the passage:
 - What's happening in the book before and after the passage?
 - What's going on in history at the time of the passage?
 - What type of literature or genre is the passage?
3. What was one of your main takeaways from Sunday's sermon?

INTERPRETATION

4. What questions does this passage raise for you?
5. What are some of the suffering words/phrases you notice in this passage (e.g.: "trample" v. 2, "make war on them" v. 7, etc.)?

APPLICATION

6. How should you apply this passage to your life? Consider how it applies to your thoughts, attitudes, habits, decisions, relationship with God, and relationships with others.
7. After the painful journey of the two witnesses in verses 3-10, God brings resurrection (vv. 11-13) and receives worship for bringing his kingdom (vv. 15-18). Do you believe that we will have to suffer in this life for Jesus if we are faithful witnesses? Do you believe that God will bring us resurrection and into his kingdom? Which of these do you need to remember more this week? Why?

FURTHER RESOURCES

Book: [*Blessed: Experience the Promise of the Book of Revelation*](#) by Nancy Guthrie

Podcast/Article: "[Q&A: A Bible Scholar Answers Your Questions about the Book of Revelation](#)" by Tom Schreiner (see esp. 21:03 – "Who Are the Two Witnesses?")

[Children's Ministries Family Devotional](#)