Romans 12

¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2 Thessalonians 2

⁶And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

I Thessalonians 4

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. **And the dead in Christ will rise first.** ¹⁷ **Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.** ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hebrews 4¹² For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him to whom we must answer.

¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let's hold firmly to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things just as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let's approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace for help at the time of our need.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST



Winter 2023

Revelation is the last book of the Bible and is often treated as "mysterious" and "futuristic." However, we contend that it only *seems* mysterious because it is full of images rooted in the Old Testament and first century Roman culture—from which we are far removed. A patient and careful reading yields an understanding that is neither bizarre nor exclusively future. Rather, we find the book of Revelation to be presently encouraging and empowering for the people of God. This is because it reveals heaven's view of events that transpire on earth throughout history—including our history and the history of its original audience.

Revelation 19

^{II} Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse!

The one sitting on it is called **Faithful and True**, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a **name written that no one knows but himself**. ¹³ He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is **The Word of God**. ¹⁴ And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. ¹⁵ From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, **King of kings and Lord of lords**.

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, "Come, gather for the great supper of God, ¹⁸ to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great." ¹⁹ And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army. ²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. ²¹ And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

Revelation 12-22 Structure People of God as Woman on earth (in the wilderness) Dragon attacks the woman Beast attacks the woman Babylon attacks the woman Babylon judged Beast judged* Dragon judged People of God as Bride in Heaven (in the promised land)

Return of the King

March 19, 2023 | Revelation 19:11-21 | Pastor Roger Williams

The vision of Jesus in his justice-bringing return fuels resilient faith.

We must look to the one who is:

1. Faithful and True (11)

Who is he?

What shall he do?

2. The Word of God ⁽¹³⁾ Who is he?

How shall he do what he shall do?

3. King of Kings and Lord of Lords ⁽¹⁶⁾ Who is he?

Why shall he do what he shall do in the way he shall do it?

4. The name that no one knows but himself ⁽¹²⁾ Who is he?

What does this mean for his people after his return?