Praying the Revelations of Jesus Christ

### Praying the Revelations of Jesus Christ - *Seeing the Glorified Active Jesus*

 Lecture time: 20 min.
 Prayer Time 30 min.

NOTE: Following the lecture participants use chapters to pray: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10? , 11, 14, 15 , 16, 19, 20, 21, 2 Chapters 2,3,12,13,17,18 are not suitable.

* The prayer of praise is to emphasize “The Christ” he sees in that chapter.
* Each attendee meditates for 5 minutes on his assigned chapter silently first.
* When all are finished their silent meditation the leader calls out for oral prayers.
* Groups stand **closely** in a circle of about 5-10 people.
* All Bibles are held out front at face-level - so that our focus is “UPWARD” – towards heaven.– as a type of praise offering.
* Each person begins by announcing the chapter he is using to pray from.
* Each one then prays orally before the group emphasizing “The Christ”.
* No requests / petitions are allowed in this **moment of worship**.

## 1. Praying through Revelation provides Perspective and Victory

In life, when we don't know the outcome of a given trial, we may be tempted to quit in the middle. That is why the book of Revelation—in which Jesus is revealed as the ultimately triumphant, conquering King of kings—should become an integral part of every believer's prayer life.

The apostle John had received a series of visions: he knew what was coming for the church. He knew it wouldn't be easy, but he also knew the final outcome. So he writes both the bad news and the good news. The bad news is that we are in a war of cosmic proportions between good and evil. The good news is that we win the war! His Revelation writings echo the last sentiments of Jesus to the apostles: *"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world"* (Jn. 16:33).

When we pray things from the book of Revelation, we can get a glimpse of what is coming too. Revelation is not a difficult book; a book of confusion, or hard to understand. It is a revelation!!! Since the book is primarily "the revelation of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 1:1), we can learn much about what Jesus is like in His glorified state. We are able to see the incredible power and majesty of the resurrected Christ, which goes beyond what we get from the gospels. If we had only the gospels, we would only have an earthly Jesus, who died and shortly after that disappeared. Through Revelation we have a much more complete picture of Jesus; who He is and what He is doing already now in eternity while we are still on earth. In Revelation, the visions of Jesus' supreme omnipotence are staggering.

When we want to know our Lord better through prayer, we can start by talking to Him as He revealed Himself in Scripture. When we pray the passages in the Bible that reveal His attributes, He becomes more personal to us. A very good place to start is to pray chapter by chapter through Revelation.

## 2. Praying through Revelation is a Faith Growing Experience

One person shares his testimony as follows: Several years ago, in an effort to learn to pray from the Bible, I began to examine Revelation 4 and 5. Look at some of the images: "*Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come'*" (4:8). *"Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne"* (5:11). "*In a loud voice they sang: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!*'" (5:12).

These passages are alive with unbelievably intense movement, color, and sound. This is heaven, God's dwelling place, and as I prayed these passages, I began to understand more about Him. I discovered that even as I gazed at His surroundings, a lot of the way I thought about the nature of God changed. I truly began—perhaps for the first time in my life—to pray to the God of heaven as well as earth. I went to His throne room in my spirit. I placed myself before Him in *His* surroundings. Doing so allowed me to see more clearly what He could do when I invoked Him to come into my surroundings.

Faith grew in me as I began to see who He is more fully. The authority of the universe rests in Him. Every angelic being falls repeatedly at His feet. Thousands upon thousands attend Him. He is the Lamb in the center of the throne. He is the Ancient of Days, seated on a throne of fire. He is awesome to behold. Majesty and honor surround Him. Everyone around Him adores Him with shouts of "worthy" and "holy" and "glory" and "praise."

## 3. Praying the Sights and Sounds of Heaven Gives Confidence

Praying Revelation lets us begin to see just *who* it is that we are talking to. We become familiar with the sights and sounds of heaven. Our confidence grows that our prayers are actually heard—and that we are addressing the One who has all power in heaven and on earth to answer them.

As we address Him, revelation pours out of each of His attributes. We begin to touch His power, to hear His loud voice like many waters, to tremble in the presence of the thunder and lightning bolts. We become convinced that a Being like this can surely help us.

The truth is that if we do not pray the revelations of Christ, we run the risk of limiting our prayers because we are praying to God as we understand Him to be, not as He has revealed Himself to be. God is, after all, who He says He is—not who we think He is! When we pray according to His revelation of Himself, we guard against praying to a projection of our own darkened minds.

One of the most beautiful things about Revelation is that we learn specific details about who Jesus is in heaven that we do not get from the descriptions of Him on earth. These revelations include where He lives now, who is around Him, the color of His hair and eyes, what He is wearing, and the many sounds of His voice. When we can see Him in these ways, it's almost impossible for our prayers to remain just "worrying with our eyes closed." We can "be anxious for nothing" when we see that He is powerful, a man of war, clothed with splendor, carrying a sword. Armies follow Him, creatures and elders bow to Him. He's not only on the throne, but also on a white horse, judging and making war. Confidence on earth stems from "seeing" that in heaven.

## 4. Praying through Revelation provides an Eternal Perspective

Another reason for praying the book of Revelation is that it helps us align with heaven's perspective. A distinct feature of the book of Revelation is that the hymns, choruses, and declarations reveal the attitude of heaven about the judgments of God on earth. Heaven is not neutral about this. In fact, the whole created order joins in vigorous agreement that justice has come at last.

The prayers they pray are not the types of prayers that most of us would normally say. For example, the martyrs cry out, *"‘How long, Sovereign Lord . . .until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?'"* (6:10). The angel with the bowl of wrath says, "‘*You are just in these judgments, you who are and who were, the Holy One, because you have so judged; for they have shed the blood of your saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve*.'" To which the altar responds, "‘*True and just are your judgments'*" (16:5–7). The elders declare, "‘*The time has come for judging the dead . . .and for destroying those who destroy the earth*'" (11:18).

These are not typical prayers for most of us! But if heaven is praying them, shouldn't we be praying them too? Regularly praying heaven's prayers aligns us with its perspective. God is making all wrongs right! He is bringing an end to sin and sorrow! He wins the war! And all the living creatures say, "Amen!" No matter what the state of affairs is on earth, heaven is not sad.

## 5. Praying through Revelation gives Joy and Hope

Praying the hymns of the Revelation can give faith to every suffering Christian, perspective to every unjust situation, and hope to someone who feels like giving up. While we live in a temporal world, praying the hymns of the Revelation reveals to us what is going on in the eternal world. In the book of Revelation, we go "back to the future," and our vantage point on the present is changed.

Regardless of one's theological interpretations of the book, all things ultimately conclude with the bodily return of Jesus Christ and the coming of a new heaven and new earth. When we pray to the Jesus of Revelation, we can understand the joy set before us. No matter what our state on earth is now, things are going to get better. We have a real future and a real hope.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Spirit — Hallelujah, Amen

Source =Pray! Magazine

Blessings to you, our dear friends!

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