

Week 52 – Questions to Consider

Revelation 18 thru Revelation 22

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

What is your favorite Christmas activity or childhood memory?

1. What modern day wars have caught your attention in your lifetime? What does it feel like to see enemy victories? What does it feel like to see allied/friendly victories? As you have read Revelation, how might you see this future battle playing out? What are the best ways we can prepare ourselves and the next generations for any such battles happening in their lifetimes?
2. What do you think life was like for Christians under Roman (“Babylon”) persecution? How do you think Romans treated their government and rulers as “gods”? Do we see people looking to modern day governments and political leaders as “gods” today? If so, how?
3. What does a balanced Christian perspective on governments look like? Why do you think the Lord allows evil governments to exist? Why do you think he allows evil governments to be overturned?
4. Fallen “Babylon” is described as a “dwelling place for demons” (Revelation 18:2). What do you think that means? Biblically speaking, what do demons do? How do think demons are actively working in our cultures and governments today?
5. As you read about the final battles in Revelation 19 & 20, what stood out to you? How did you feel in seeing the vindication of the martyr’s deaths? (Revelation 20:1-7). If you were in a situation where your life was threatened unless you disowned Jesus & Christianity, what struggles would you face? How hard would it be to see your loved ones (parents, spouse, kids, etc.) threatened or tortured for your faithfulness to Christ? How can we prepare now for the ongoing and increasing reality of Christians being persecuted? How do we stay faithful to God to the end?
6. What do you love about the description of Jesus in Revelation 19:11-16?
7. What is Jesus’ weapon in this final battle (Revelation 19:15)? How does that connect with Isaiah 11:4 “he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked” and 49:2 “He made my mouth like a sharp sword”? How is that our weapon already today? What does it look like practically to wield the “Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God” (Ephesians 6:12)?

More questions at: www.southfork.church/2022-discussion-questions

The Newness of New Year

Revelation 21 (ESV)

First Creation

Genesis 1:1–27

First Sin

Genesis 3

New Generations - After the Flood

Genesis 6:5–8; 10:1

New Commands

Exodus 20:1-21

New Sacrifice

Leviticus 2:14–16

New Punishment

Numbers 16:25–35

A New Deliverance, A New Exodus, New Mercy

Isaiah 43:18–21

Lamentations 3:22–24

New Prophecies

Isaiah 48:5–6

New Songs of Praise & Celebration

Psalm 33:3, 40:3, 96:1, 98:1, 144:9, 149:1
Isaiah 42:10
Revelation 5:8-10, 14:2-3

Nothing New

Ecclesiastes 1:9

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Romans 7:6
Luke 22:20
1 Corinthians 11:25
2 Corinthians 3:6
Hebrews 8:13; 9:15; 12:24

New Commandment

Mark 1:25-28
John 13:34-35
1 John 2:7-8
2 John 5

New Creation (You) - A New Name, Self

Isaiah 62:2
Ezekiel 36:25-29
1 Corinthians 5:7
Galatians 6:15
Ephesians 4:20-24
Colossians 3:5-10
Revelation 2:17

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New Creation (Everything)

Isaiah 66:22-24
Matthew 19:27-30
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
2 Peter 3:13
Revelation 3:12-13

Revelation 21:1-5 “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. [2] And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. [3] And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. [4] He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” [5] And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” (ESV)

This Next Week’s New Testament Reading Plan:

- Week 1: Psalm 1-3 Proverbs 1:1-16
- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
 - **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
 - **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2023-bible-reading-plan

www.Bible.video

January 1, 2023

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