

## **Teaser**

The book is so important that I memorized all 22 chapters. After all, the book of Revelation is more than about the future. It's also about the present. If it's really true—and I believe it is—that we are in the last days of planet earth—then how should we live so that we end up winners and not losers? You're about to find out as we study Part 2 of this incredible book of Revelation. I'm Frank Eiklor—and this is MORE THAN TALK.

## **Intro**

When I was a new believer, I heard Christians say “The book of Revelation is the only book in the Bible where you are promised a blessing just for reading it.” So I read it and joined in all the arguments about the future prophecies. Later, my eyes were opened. The blessing was not given to those who only read this book—but who obey it. Wow! Instead of Revelation being only information for tomorrow—it became my transformation for today. Now I share it with you—in Part 2—on MORE THAN TALK.

# **THE BOOK OF REVELATION: LESSONS FOR THE HERE AND NOW (PART 2) (Life Changing Truths--Not Doctrinal Arguments)**

## **No Place To Hide**

The apostle John is the only one of the original disciples who did not die a violent death. Tradition says that a miracle occurred when the enemies of the gospel of Christ attempted to burn John to death in boiling oil. God preserved his life because John the beloved had a final task to accomplish.

He was exiled to the island of Patmos where his enemies figured he would die quietly without any more impacting the world with the preaching of Christ's cross and resurrection. They figured wrong. Instead of banishment and isolation. God was preparing John for his greatest work.

This was the Lord's plan in order to have John alone and able to receive all of the incredible messages from the Holy Spirit. The book of Revelation covers the important events that will take place in the final days before Jesus Christ returns to set up His kingdom and rule. That is for the hereafter. But Revelation also is filled with lessons for you and me in the here and now. That's where you and I are spending time—learning many important truths that can make us better and more faithful disciples in our world today. Then we will be ready for whatever happens tomorrow.

In our last telecast we covered the first five chapters of Revelation. We will now move on to chapter six.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **The Cry Of The Martyrs**

Revelation 6:9-11

“And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow-servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.”

Many Christians are dying today as martyrs for Jesus. Pray for the persecuted church around the world – and be willing to die to self so that you can be a faithful witness where you live, work and serve.

## **No Place To Hide**

Revelation 6: 15-17

“And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come: and who shall be able to stand?”

People who refuse to pray to God will one day call out to mountains to hide them from His face and wrath! Let's be faithful witnesses so that more will pray to God now and receive Jesus Christ as their Savior.

## **The 144,000 “Apostle Paul’s” Of The Future**

(Revelation 7:4)

“And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.”

God began His plan of redemption through the Jews. He is going to use them to finish the job of world evangelism as we shall see in chapter 14. Thank God for the Jewish people. Through them we have our Scriptures and Savior!

# THE BOOK OF REVELATION: LESSONS FOR THE HERE AND NOW WHEN HEAVEN FALLS SILENT

## CHAPTER 7

### The Great Heavenly Multitude

Revelation 7:9,10

“After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.”

The Father chooses to use you and me to help complete world evangelism. And when the good news reaches the whole world, Christ’s return is assured. He calls some of us to go across the street—others (like me) to go across the world. What a privilege we have as His ambassadors.

### God’s Reward For Faithful Service

Revelation 7:13-17

“And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

Seek His plan for your life and let God use you for His glory. Look what awaits His faithful disciples! He will lead them—and feed them—forever! WOW!

## CHAPTER 8

### **When Heaven Falls Silent**

Revelation 8:1

“And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.”

There appears to always be sounds of rejoicing in heaven. Now, as God’s terrible judgements are about to fall on the rebels of earth, there is total silence in heaven – perhaps because of the impending horror.

### **The Incredible Power Of Prayer**

Revelation 8:4,5

“And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel’s hand. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.”

No sincere prayer to the Lord is ever lost or discarded. So learn to pray about everything.

## CHAPTER 9

### **When Death Is Not An Option**

Revelation 9:6

“And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.”

Today, many men seek more life so they can enjoy more sin. A day is coming when many will seek death to evade God’s judgment but not find it.

### **The Insanity Of The Human Heart**

Revelation 9:20,21

“And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold,

and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.”

It is amazing and demonic how hard a human heart can become in saying “No” again and again to God’s repeated warnings to repent of sin. Always remember, never excite sin, never embrace sin, never excuse sin.

## **CHAPTER 10**

### **When Time Runs Out**

Revelation 10:6,7

“And swear by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to His servants the prophets.”

One day, perhaps very soon, time will be swallowed up in eternity. You and I have only a brief time here to love and serve our Jesus. Don’t waste a day – or a minute. Seek His Word and His will.

## **THE BOOK OF REVELATION: LESSONS FOR THE HERE-AND-NOW YOUR LIFE HAS PURPOSE AND MEANING**

### **The Sweetness and Bitterness Of Truth**

Revelation 10:8-10

“And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up: and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.”

It is not easy to love and walk in truth. There is a cost to discipleship – but it will be worth it all when we see Jesus.

### **Given Life For A Purpose**

Revelation 10:11

“And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues and kings.”

Don't be satisfied with just being “saved”. Ask the Lord to use your prayers and witnessing to help reach the world for Him. He may choose you to have the highest calling of all – that of a missionary to the nations. And pray for this telecast as we reach out to 192 countries—truly many peoples, nations, tongues and kings.

## **CHAPTER 11**

### **Temporary Defeat, But Final Victory**

Revelation 11:7

“Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them.”

It often appears that Satan and his followers will annihilate the Church of Jesus Christ. Yet these seeming defeats we believers suffer will end in final victory.

## **The Devil's Party**

Revelation 11:10

“The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.”

Here we see Satan's followers worldwide celebrating the death of Christ's two faithful witnesses. This has happened down through the centuries to the martyrs for Jesus. But God always has the final word!

## **When God Roars, Some Repent**

Revelation 11:13

“At that very hour there was a severe earthquake and a tenth of the city collapsed. Seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the survivors were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.”

God is not willing that any should perish without Christ. Many have come to know Him when human confidence has been destroyed during hurricanes, earthquakes and other disasters. Here we see how the fear of God can cause hardened sinners to repent.

## **When God Says “The End!”**

Revelation 11:15

“The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.’”

Skeptics often ask, “Why does God let people continue to do such terrible things! Why doesn't He end it all?” That moment will soon come when Christ returns to the earth, not to die, but to reign forever.

## **The End Of Sin On Planet Earth**

Revelation 11:18

“The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those



who reverence your name, both small and great—and for destroying those who destroy the earth.”

From the time of Adam and Eve, sin has reigned and multiplied on planet earth like a horrific cancer. Even all creation groans to be released from this terrible curse (Romans 8:19-23). That glorious day is on the way!

# **THE BOOK OF REVELATION: LESSONS FOR THE HERE-AND-NOW**

## **The weapons of our warfare**

### **CHAPTER 12**

#### **The Enemy Is Defeated In Heaven**

Revelation 12: 7-10

And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.’”

Satan was totally defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Now we believers have been given Christ’s authority to defeat the evil one and resist any and all of his attacks.

#### **The Means To Defeat The Enemy On Earth**

Revelation 12:11

“They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.”

Throughout history, God’s faithful followers have overcome Satan through the power of the blood of the Lamb of God, by the boldness of their testimonies, and by refusing to deny Christ even when faced with death. We must follow their examples.

#### **Why The Devil Is So Desperate**

Revelation 12:12

Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.”

Corner a rat and it will fight desperately to keep from being killed. The evil one—Satan—knows that his time is short. He attacks with great fury, but remember, his power has been broken. As you submit to God and resist the devil in Jesus' name, he flees in defeat. (James 4:7) Use your spiritual authority.

## **CHAPTER 13**

### **Satan's Delusion Over Temporary Victory**

Revelation 13:7

“He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation.”

A deluded Satan has often thought he would destroy the Church and rule the earth forever. Here we see how he will still deceive himself in his future attacks against the righteous. But he always loses in the end.

### **By Their Fruits—Not By Their Miracles—You Shall Know Them**

Revelation 13:13-15

“And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men. Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed.”

Many people have said, “If I see miracles, then I'll believe!” Don't ever fall into that trap. Satan and his followers can perform some “miracles” as they deceive people into following them to destruction. You and I must always remember Jesus' words, “By their fruits you shall know them. - Matthew 7:15-20

# **THE BOOK OF REVELATION: LESSONS FOR THE HERE-AND-NOW**

## **To the victor go the spoils**

### **CHAPTER 14**

#### **The Lamb's Faithful Followers**

Revelation 14:3-5

“And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.”

God calls each of us to be faithful. That's why Jesus spells “l-o-v-e” as o-b-e-d-i-e-n-c-e (see John 14:21). Meditate on the character of the 144,000 young men who will follow Christ wherever He leads. Not even pretty girls will redirect their attention from the Savior they adore. Now ask yourself, “Am I obedient today to my Lord so that He can use my life as an example of faithfulness to all who are around me?”

#### **God's Terrible Wrath**

Revelation 14:8-11

“A second angel followed and said, “Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great,” which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries. “ A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: “If any one worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name.”

Never speak of God as “the man upstairs” or as “my buddy”. He is your Father in heaven who has demonstrated incredible love for you by allowing the Son of God (“in whom I am well pleased”) to die a horrific death so that your sin and rebellion against God could be erased. Jesus paid the price to give eternal life. Those who reject the greatest offer ever made will have to pay their own price—and it will be terrible.

## **Faith And Obedience—Twin Pillars Of Discipleship**

Revelation 14:12

“This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God’s commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.”

You have access to God’s very Word—the Bible. Make searching the Scriptures your greatest priority. Faithfulness and obedience to His Word will keep you from Satan’s traps and empower you to fulfill God’s will for your life.

## **The Ultimate Rest Of God**

Revelation 14:13

“Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.”

Life is a vapor. Some of us die young, but even the old live 70 or 80 years and soon there is that final breath. Each of us have just enough time on earth to glorify God if we learn and do His priorities. Nothing we do for Jesus will ever be lost—including the people we introduce to Him.

## **CHAPTER 15**

### **The Reward Is To The Victors**

(Revelation 15:2-4)

“And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God and sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb: ‘Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. Who will not fear you, O Lord, And bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy.’”

Look around you at those the world considers rich and powerful. Yet all their riches and power cease when they die. Now look at those whose only goal in life is to please God and do His will. We will face many temptations and trials, but the Lord will give us His grace and power to be faithful to the end of this temporal life and the beginning of eternal life—just like these we read about in the scriptures.