

PROGRAM 98 TEASER

The book of Revelation is the only book in the Bible that contains a special promise to obedient readers and at the same time pronounces a curse upon any who tamper with its contents. It is obviously filled with the mysteries of the future—the end of the world and the glorious return and reign of Jesus Christ in a new heaven and new earth. But the book is not merely about the hereafter but the here-and-now. That’s where we are taking you and us—to see the lessons of life that can help us offer our lives as living sacrifices to the Author of life Himself, Jesus. Get ready! Tough days are coming. They’re already here. Frank Eiklor and Tom Hughes—about to tell you more—on “More Than Talk”.

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THE BOOK OF REVELATION: GOD’S BLUEPRINT FOR AWESOME LIVING (PART 2)

PAGE 1 Faith Without A Pulse

Never feel overwhelmed by the Book of Revelation. It’s the only book in the Scriptures where God promises a blessing to those who read, hear and obey the words written in this final book of the Bible. That suggests that Revelation is filled with commands and life-changing truths that pertain to your Christian walk today and not merely filled with difficult-to-understand prophecies that only “prophecy experts” can understand.

Besides, there are no “prophecy experts” who have all the answers. God reveals His truth as He chooses, and often uses the most humble servants through whom He speaks. Those who write books giving “the final word” and even give dates for fulfillment always end up wrong. Then they write another book that you can buy – if you have money to waste.

It is good to ponder the prophetic scriptures in Revelation and seek answers as to what the future might hold. But it is even more important to apply the commands, warnings and lessons in the book to how we live today. That’s what we are doing as we study the Book of Revelation to seek out its life changing truths.

This is part 2 in our Revelation study. More are to follow. Don't miss them!

Without A Pulse

Revelation 2:19

“I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first.”

James is right. Faith without works is dead. That's why I am not to be only a hearer of His Word, but a doer. **(F & T religion vs relationship)**

Mighty Overcomer Vs Merely Overcome

Revelation 2:26

“And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations.”

To overcome is to not let the world change me, but to change the world through the help and power of Christ. **(F & T discuss 2 molds—Romans 12:1,2)**

Man Sees The Outward But God Sees The Heart

Revelation 3:1-4

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, these things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you. You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.”

How horrible to play the hypocrite and have people think me a live Christian while God calls me dead. Lord, help me get serious with You and make You my number one priority in life. **(F & T describe “serious”)**

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THE BOOK OF REVELATION: GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR AWESOME LIVING (PART 2)

PAGE 2 The Cost Of Lukewarmness

The Open Doors God Has For You

Revelation 3: 7,8

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, these things says He who is holy, He who is true, He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens, I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.”

Never be satisfied with your plan for your life. Trust the Lord and ask Him for His plan for your life. Then watch as He opens new and wonderful doors. **(F & T discuss God's doors that leave no regrets)**

God's Promise To Those Who Practice Patient Obedience To The Word Of God

Revelation 3:10

“Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”

Never measure life by your emotions or feelings. Just take time daily to seek God's Word and will. **(F & T discuss living above “feelings”)**

The Terrible Cost Of Lukewarmness And The Overcomer's Greatest Reward

Revelation 3:14-21

“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, these things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you

out of My mouth. Because you say, I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing, and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

How do I move from lukewarm to hot? Reach for the gold that is Christ. Put on the white raiment of His character and purity. Anoint your eyes with the eye salve of the Word of God. He chastens those He loves. Then He rewards those who obey.

(F & T discuss dangers of “good times”)

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THE BOOK OF REVELATION: GOD’S BLUEPRINT FOR AWESOME LIVING (PART 2)

PAGE 3 The Reason For Your Being Born

The Reward Of The Spiritual Climb

Revelation 4:1

“After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.”

As you take time daily to study God’s Word and pray, you will also experience that open door to God’s heart and the voice of the Holy Spirit that will guide you to new levels of growth, obedience and discerning of the signs of the times. **(T & F discuss how knowing God’s Word will temper all of earth’s negative news)**

A 24/7 Life Of Worship

Revelation 4:8

“The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!”

Your privilege is to offer each day your adoration and praise to God. Let there be those times when you say “Lord Jesus, I’m not coming now with any requests. I just came to worship You and to tell You how much I love You.” (**T & F compare to a marriage**)

The Reason For My/ Your Being Born

Revelation 4:11

“You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.”

You were created to bring pleasure to the Lord through your love and obedience. Now how is that for incredible? You and I—created to bring pleasure to God! How? To obey is better than sacrifice. So let’s study His Word and ask the Holy Spirit to help us obey His commands as proof of our love for Christ. (**T & F what brings God “pleasure”?**)

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THE BOOK OF REVELATION: GOD’S BLUEPRINT FOR AWESOME LIVING (PART 2)

PAGE 4 Lamb Today—Lion Tomorrow

Revelation 5:5

“But one of the elders said to me, do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.”

Hallelujah, the Lamb who is your Redeemer is also the Lion who is your protector. And the One who guarantees that He will never leave nor forsake those who put their trust in Him. **(T & F God's two sides—mercy vs. wrath)**

The Glorious Result of World Evangelism

Revelation 5:9

“And they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation.”

Jesus' final order was for us to reach our world with the gospel. His love is for every person, and we have the privilege and responsibility to introduce them to Christ. Family, friends, neighbors, strangers. Jesus wants to love and reach them through us. **(T & F how to be salt & light)**

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THE BOOK OF REVELATION: GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR AWESOME LIVING (PART 2)

PAGE 5 The New Rulers On Earth

Revelation 5:10

“And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.”

Today's rulers will be gone tomorrow. But those faithful to Jesus will reign with Him forever. The rich and famous are applauded today and dead tomorrow. The faithful to Christ will be mostly unknown today but famous tomorrow. The difference is Jesus. **(Discuss FE poem “Knowing God...”)**

God's Greatest Call: A Life Of Worship

Revelation 5:12,13

“Saying with a loud voice: worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!”

If we are truly in love with our Heavenly Father and our Savior Christ Jesus, we will often find our hearts overflowing with praise and adoration. Take time – make time – to be alone with God. His presence will be your reward! **(T & F why “half-hearted searches” won’t work—Jeremiah 29:11-13)**