

UNLOCK REVELATION

"Revelation's Saints: Following the Lamb" Study Guide #22



*This study guide uses the New King James Bible.

1. What does Revelation describe God's people doing in the last days right before Jesus comes?
• Bible Answer from Revelation 14:4-5 - "These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb."
• Galatians 6:14 - "But God forbid that I should boast except in the of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."
Note: Our only defense against Satan's deceptions and attacks in the last days is to take a complete stand for Jesus and Bible truth. We are called by Him to be faithful and true to His word and loyal only to Him. We must not trust in our own ways, our own thoughts, or our own traditions. We need to faithfully trust in His blood alone, and all the truth of His word Baptism is a symbol of taking a stand for Jesus. He calls us all to take this important step of faith.
2. What does Scripture say about the Christian's relationship with the things in the world that oppose the principles of God's Word and kingdom?
• Bible Answer from 1 John 2:15-17 - "Do not the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."
• Romans 12:2 - "And do not be conformed to this world, but be by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."
Note: When a man or woman, boy or girl, gives their heart to Christ, there is a change that takes place. We are no longe the same person. We now live for Jesus, and we are a new creation with a desire to please Him. This should be our sole purpose in life! The only way to love the world less is to love Jesus more. The more that the love for Jesus fills our hearts the more it presses the love for the world out of our hearts.
3. What are some of the things that prevented people from being ready for the first coming of Jesus that might also prevent people from being ready for His Second Coming?
• Bible Answer from Luke 3:1-16 - "Therefore bear worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones."
Note: Jesus calls every disciple to bear fruits of obedience in their lives. He calls us each to pick up our cross and follow Him. In the full passage, several issues prevented the people of Jesus' day from being fully surrendered to Him. One was tradition (vs. 8); another was particular issues of lifestyle (11), and another was the love of money and serving it above Goo (12-14). One final one was an issue of authority (14). Ironically, these are often the same issues that people deal with today that are preventing them from being ready for His 2nd Coming. The sinful human heart is the same in every age and is in need of God's grace. We will address each issue and the solution God has from Scripture to solve them in our hearts.
4. What has God done to help us with this problem of covetousness and selfishness in regards to money?
• Bible Answer from Malachi 3:8-9 - "Will a man God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'in what way have we robbed you?' in tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed meeven this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and try me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such a that there will not be room enough to receive it."
• Matthew 23:23 - "Woe to you, Scribes & Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law; justice, and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done without leaving the others"
Note: Both in the Old and New Testaments, God has set up the tithe and offering system to support His church. A tithe is a tenth of the gross of our income. The offering is whatever the Lord impresses the individual above the tithe. It may seen

like a lot, but when God blesses the remaining portion, it will go farther than the whole without His blessing! Giving tithe and offering is an act of faith, trust, and worship. We are saying with our hearts and actions that we believe God will take care of us and provide for our needs. God calls us to remember Him in our giving and says we are robbing Him when we don't. He doesn't need our money, but He asks us to return it as a sign that we acknowledge Him as our Lord. (Deuteronomy 8:16-18). In the Adventist Church, the tithe goes to the local Conference and world church to support the pastors and missionary work taking place around the world. Pastors receive the same livable wage regardless of how big

their congregations are. This allows the funding to go farther. No one in the church gets rich off the ministry. The local church is not funded by the tithe but rather freewill offerings known as "combined budget." This is the importance of maintaining both tithe and offering as the Lord has prospered us. God will bless our faithfulness and pour out the windows of blessing upon us as He has promised! (See also: Numbers 18:21-24; Nehemiah 13:12; Genesis 14:20; Genesis 28:22; 1 Corinthians 14:9:13-14; Hebrews 7:8; Psalm 96:8; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Luke 6:38; Luke 12:34)

5. What Bible principle should Christians use in regards to entertainment and recreation time?

• Bible Answer from Philippians 4:8 - "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy, ______ on these things."

Note: In our world today, there is much in the music, movie, and entertainment industries that is anything but uplifting. God calls His people to be discerning about what they read, watch, and listen to. He is not asking us, however, to simply avoid that which is bad, but to also engage in what is good. He is not trying to restrict us, but He is seeking to give us a more full, abundant life. He desires that we take pleasure in things that are pure, true, and good for us. He has provided us with many things in our lives that meet those standards. As Christians, we must be selective with our entertainment, because we wish to honor Him in every choice we make. It may take some adjusting, but He will walk with us at every step. Always ask yourself the question: "Would Jesus feel comfortable doing this with me?" Obey whatever the Bible says and the Spirit speaks.

6. Does the Bible give us principles concerning how Christians should dress?

- Bible Answer from 1 Timothy 2:9-10 "...in like manner also, that the women (and men) adorn themselves in apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women (and men) professing godliness, with good works."
- 1 Peter 3:3-4 "Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God."

Note: The Bible in many passages speaks of modesty and the refraining from wearing gold or pearls. The whole purpose for this is that God desires His people to shine from the inside out. Jesus desires that we not have people attracted to us because of what's on the outside, but rather the inside. Jesus gives us everything that we need. A major pattern that you see in Scripture is that when God's people strayed away from Him, they would always put on jewelry. When He called them back and they repented, He always told them to take it off. As we are living in the last days, Jesus invites us to live simple lives in preparation for His soon return. This was a teaching of every major Protestant church 100+ years ago, yet it, like many other truths from God's word, has fallen by the wayside. We need to come back to Bible truth, and follow Jesus in all of our choices. Society has caused many things to appear harmless, but God would have His people know the truth. (See also Genesis 35:1-4; Exodus 32:1-5; Exodus 33:4-6; Isaiah 3:18-23; Hosea 2:13; Woman in Revelation 12 vs. the woman in Revelation 17)

7. Do little things matter to God?

- Bible Answer from Daniel 1:8 "But Daniel ______ in his heart not to defile himself with the portion of the kings delicacies..."
- Philippians 2:5 "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus..."
- John 8:29 "And He who sent Me is with Me....I always do those things that please Him."

Note: God cares about everything in our lives, even the small things. He desires to give us a more abundant life, and little things always make a difference. Even a small thing like food in Daniel 1 made all the difference in the world. Daniel obeyed God, and God blessed Him and used Him to reach the world. Jesus invites us to obey in even the little things, and the blessings He gives in return will transform our hearts and those around us.

8. How can we improve our self-image and bring joy to our lives God's way?

- Bible Answer from 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 "For the love of Christ compels us...that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for who died for them and rose again.
- 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new...now then, we are ambassadors for Christ..."

Note: When Jesus makes us new, we now live for Him and not ourselves. His ways are always best, and He invites us to lay anything at His feet that is not His ideal for our lives. When we are willing to let Him be in control, our happiness will be at its greatest level!

9.	. Would you make the commitment today to lay all at Jesus' feet, obey Him in the little things, let every choice in your
	life be subject to His word, and follow the Lamb wherever He goes so that your happiness and life will be abundant,
	full, and free?