

Why Is It So Important to Read The Book of Revelation?

Blessed Are Those Who Read and Study from the Book of Revelation

There are a total of 66 books in our Bible, but there is only one Book that promises some kind of a special blessing for those who will attempt to try and read it and keep the words, revelation, and knowledge that is contained in it – and that one Book is the very last book of the Bible, the Book of Revelation.

Why would God single out the very last book of the Bible, the Book of Revelation, as the only Book that He will actually say that **"blessed"** is he who **"reads"** and **"hears"** the words of this Book?

For those of you who are not aware of this very profound verse, here it is, word for word:

"BLESSED is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near." (Revelation 1:3)

Notice this statement is being made right at the very beginning of this Book. Right at the very beginning of this last Book in the Bible, God is officially making the statement that **"blessed"** will be the man or woman who will attempt to try and **read** and **keep** what is in this Book.

If all 66 Books of the Bible are highly anointed and inspired by God Himself, then why is He making the statement that the Book of Revelation is the one Book that will cause someone to become blessed in some way?

(Continued, next page.)

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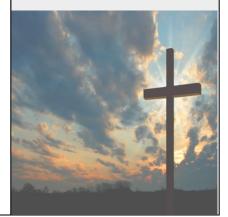
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When God is making this kind of direct statement right at the very beginning of this Book, He is trying to tell all of us something very important – and that something is that He is really wanting all of us to try and read and assimilate what is in this last Book. Otherwise He would have never made this kind of a direct statement right at the very beginning of it.

Many Christians, including some pastors, are afraid to try and get into this last Book and make an attempt to try and fully understand it.

For some, they feel it is too hard to try and fully understand. For others, it is just too frightening and scary to try and read due to the extreme events that will be taking place in the end times.

They would prefer to keep their heads buried in the sand due to the severe and extreme judgments that will be taking place, as God will be releasing His wrath and fury on this world in a way that the world has never seen before and will never see again.

Not even Hollywood, with all of its special effects capabilities, could even begin to duplicate on the big screen what is going to happen to this world once we enter into the Great Tribulation.

I believe there are three main reasons why God is really wanting all of us to read this last Book, and then make an attempt to try and fully grasp and assimilate the knowledge and revelation that is contained in this Book.

1. The first main reason that God is really wanting all of us to read this Book is due to the fact that it is the very last Book of the Bible – it is the very last chapter. It is the climax to our whole story in the Lord. As such, each Christian should know exactly how everything will eventually play out and exactly what our final ending is going to be in the Lord. Can you imagine reading a good fiction novel, and then all of sudden you quit reading as you get to the last chapter, never finding out what the final ending came out to be? Can you imagine watching an exciting movie on the big screen, and then all of sudden you walk out on the last 10 minutes of the movie never finding out exactly how the movie was going to

It's the exact same way in our walk with the Lord. There will be an eventual end to all the bad things that keep occurring on this earth on a daily basis. As Christians, we all should know exactly what our final ending is going to be in the Lord and how everything will eventually play out.

Once again, this information and knowledge should be basic 101 knowledge and revelation that should be taught in every single Christian Church – especially with the Lord Himself singling out this Book and the revelation that is contained in it as something that will cause all of His own to become blessed in some way.

If you ask many Christians what the final end of their story in the Lord is going to be, they will tell you that when they die and depart from this earth, they will go straight to heaven and live with God, Jesus, and all of their saved loved ones forever and ever up in heaven.

However, unless you have read from the Book of Revelation and all of the other Scripture verses that pertain to these coming end time events, you will not know that there are two more chapters that will play itself out after you had already died and entered into heaven.

There will be a Millennium Kingdom that will last 1000 years.

After this 1000 years has passed, the next, last, and final event will be God the

Father creating a New Heaven and a New Earth where He will then bring both Himself and the city of New Jerusalem down upon our new earth where He and Jesus will then rule this new earth from this new holy city of Jerusalem for the rest of all eternity.

The Bible tells us that our world is a world that will know no end. Unless you have studied from the Book of Revelation, along with the other Scripture verses pertaining to these coming end time events, you would not have been aware of these two remaining chapters.

The heaven where God and Jesus now live in is not going to be our final abode. <u>The</u> <u>New Heaven and New Earth</u> will be our final resting place with the Lord, and this information and knowledge can only be found in the Book of Revelation.

2. The second main reason that each Christian should have basic knowledge on how everything is going to eventually play out is so they can share and transmit this knowledge to other Christians who do not have this knowledge under their belt.

Until more churches start to teach on this subject matter, you are going to have many

Christians, especially in the times we are living at right now, who are going to be very hungry for information on this topic, and they will seek out teachers who can educate them on this topic.

3. The third main reason that every Christian should be fully armed with knowledge on this topic is because we will never know which generation will be the one that will start to live through these end time events. And once these end time events start to take place, your knowledge on this subject matter and your faith in the Lord will be the only two things that will help get you through some of these horrific events.

You will need to know exactly how everything is going to play out. If you do not, you could easily lose your faith in the Lord due to the extreme activity that will be occurring during these very trying times.

This is why the Lord goes more than overboard in the Bible on this entire subject matter. He wants to give all of us more than enough fair warning on exactly what will be coming down the road so we can properly prepare ourselves to be able to handle all of it once it does start to come our way.



Meet Our New Administrator, Wendy Sharp

I am delighted to be here at Kissinger's. I bring with me 12 years of experience as a full-time administrator at another church in our area.

I grew up in Muhlenberg Twp. and later attended Kutztown University where I earned a B. S. in Secondary Education (I do love

math and problem solving!).

For many years our family had a summer cottage in Promised Land in the Poconos. Most of my weekends and vacation time was spent there. Now that the cottage has been sold, one of my favorite past times is singing in *OPUS ONE: Berks Chamber Choir* (It is challenging music and also a wonderful creative outlet).

The people of Kissinger's have made me feels so welcome. I already fell like part of your family.

Thank you for your warm welcome!

Kissinger's Church Picnic & Patriotic Sing-a-Long

Our picnic was held on June 30 from 4:00 - 7:00 pm. at the Stoltzfus Homestead. It was open to the public and approximately 80 people attended. The event was a joint effort by the Special Events Committee and Fellowship Team.

The Civil Air Patrol Color Guard opened the event by presenting the American Flag. Pastor Dave and Jackie Reinwald with the assistance of other musicians sang and played to the delight of everyone.

The meal was Bar-B-Que, hot dogs and a variety of delicious foods, donated by church members and was enjoyed by all!

Karen Bostard organized a cake walk and also a rock painting

activity, which was a hit with everyone. Each participant painted their rock and then printed "Kissinger's Church" and a Bible verse on it.

A great time was had by all and we look forward to doing this again next year.



Extreme Tour Visits Kissinger's

For nearly 30 years in hundreds of communities throughout 20 countries, **The Extreme Tour** has brought hope,

unity and resources to people in need. This diverse group of poets, musicians, artists, athletes, performers and communicators demonstrate love, not just declare it. They receive no wages for their services. The Eastern Leg of the Tour started June 3 in Florida and ends Sept. 18. It covers from Florida, to Maine and west to Iowa.

Kissinger's Church had the privilege of hosting a group of 25 people and providing them with food and shelter for four days this past July.

They went into various parts of the city and conducted a *Search and Rescue*, leading people to the Lord. They also did a concert at the Hope Rescue Mission. We have a local connection to this group. Janet and Gary Yeager's daughter, Yvonne Hartman (pictured above right), joined the Tour in Reading and continued to Lancaster and Clayton, NJ.

Someone summed it up best when they said that The Extreme Tour had the hard jobs as they were the front lines for the churches.

They were our guests from 8:30 am Monday through Thursday breakfast. Kissinger volunteers provided food for breakfast and supper each day (and snacks for when they hit the road). Our thanks to the Fellowship Committee for their help with the event.





EXCITING SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Sundays at 9:00 AM

 Dave Kauffman is teaching the "GOSPEL OF LUKE"

Bryan Seyler
 is teaching
 a "STUDY
 ON
 ANGELS"

Pauline Seyler will
 be teaching
 classes for
 children ages 5

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CHIPMUNK NEWS

Friends,

As we have been studying the book of Revelation this year, we have made many exciting discoveries. One of the more stirring ones has been the detection of Islam in Revelation Chapter 9. (Please see my two sermons on trumpets five and six on our Facebook page – June 23 and July 14, 2019).

Being that Islam is a mystery to many of us, I thought that it would be helpful for us to understand their belief system (Sermon – "The Rise of Islam" July 21, 2019).

Among other things, we talked about the, "Six Articles of Faith" and the, "Five Pillars of Islam". I believe that it is helpful to become familiar with the faiths of other religions, denominations, etc. in order to become knowledgeable as to how to befriend them and, hopefully, lead them to an encounter and/or a deeper experience with Christ.

Becoming friends and confirming what we have in common is a great way to start. In regard to Islam, that would include:

Helping the poor.

Prayer.

Holy living.

Also, acknowledging the need for reform in Christianity, and even revealing to a Muslim that God reveals their religion in the fifth and sixth trumpets of Revelation!

So, as the Apostle Paul states in 1 Corinthians 9:22, "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some."

Blessings,

Pastor Dave

Give a man a fish, and you'll feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he'll buy a funny hat. Talk to a hungry man about fish, and you're a consultant.

- Scott Adams



Recipe of the Month Settler's Beans

(To stretch the recipe, a larger size may of pork and beans may be used.)



Ingredients

- 1/2 pound ground beef
 1/2 pound bacon, diced
 1 medium onion, chopped
 1/3 cup sugar
 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
 1/4 cup ketchup
 1/4 cup barbecue sauce
- tablespoon prepared mustard
 teaspoon pepper
 teaspoon chili powder
 can (16 ounces) pork and beans, undrained
 can (16 ounces) kidney beans, rinsed and drained
 can (16 ounces) great northern beans, rinsed and drained

Directions

- **1.** In a large skillet, cook beef, bacon and onion until meat is done and onion is tender. Drain any fat. Combine all remaining ingredients except beans. Add to meat mixture; mix well. Stir in beans.
- **2.** Place in a greased 2-1/2-qt. baking dish. Cover and bake at 350° for 1 hour or until heated through.



The following people are members who have recently joined Kissinger's Church.

We welcome:

Catherine Wilkie Shirley Bender Robert & Faith Heim Richard & Sandy Moyer John & Ginette Griffith Our best wishes to Richard and Sandy Moyer who were wed at Kissinger's on June 22. May God richly bless them as they grow in faith together.





Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the friends and family of **Lois Barrett**, a Kissinger's Church member who passed away on July 19.





Speaker Luncheon

Paolo's: Listen, Lunch, Learn Thursday, **August 1** at 11:00am at Paolo's Restaurant (Shillington). The guest speaker is retired career military member who works with other retired military. RSVP to Andee Swoyer

Men's Gathering

The next Men's Gathering is a BBQ on Sunday, **August 11** from 4-7:00pm at the Bytof home. Sign up at the kitchen window or call/email the church office.





Fellowship Lunch Sunday, August 11

Sign up at the kitchen window to bring a potluck dish. All are welcome!

Coming in September...

Game Night

Friday, **September 13** at 7:00pm Learn some new games; play some favorites. More details next month.





Be Included in the New Kissinger's Church Directory

It is time to update our photo directory. Lifetouch photographers will be here Monday and Tuesday, **September 9 & 10,** from 2:00-9:00 pm. Please sign up for a timeslot for you and your family.

Pet Food Collection

Food donations of dry or wet food for dogs and cats will be accepted <u>during September</u> for the Humane Society of Berks County. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Davies at 610-921-2859.







BARBER SHOP

A man went to a barbershop to have his hair cut and his beard trimmed. He began a conversation with the barber who

attended him. They talked about many things and a variety of subjects.

Soon they touched on the subject of God. The barber said, "Look man, I don't believe that God exists."

"Why do you say that?" asked the client. "Well, it is so easy, you just have to go out in the street to realize that God does not exist. If God existed, would there be so many sick people? If God existed, there would be no suffering nor pain. I can't think of a Loving a God who permits all of these things."

The client stopped for a moment, thinking, but he didn't want to respond and cause an argument. The barber finished his job and the client left the shop. Just after leaving the shop, he saw a man in the street with long hair and a scraggly beard (it seems that it had been a long time since he had his hair cut, and he looked very untidy.)

Then the client again entered the barber shop and he said to the barber, "You know what? Barbers do not exist."

"How can you say they don't exist?" asked the barber. "I am here and I am a barber."

"No!" the client exclaimed. "They don't exist, because if they did, there wouldn't be people with long hair or beards like that man on the street!"

> "Ah ..., barbers do exist, but what happens is that people do not come to me."

"Exactly!" affirmed the client. "That's the point. God does exist. What happens is people don't go to Him and don't look for Him. That is why there is so much pain and suffering in the world!