

APOCALUPSIS (A revealing)

Elders

John Deffenbaugh
Wayne Douthitt
Glen Honeycutt
Rick Hyder
Bill Reiboldt

Deacons

Pete Babb
Carl Cobb
Barry Flint
Casey Flint
Josh King
Mike Kidwell
Tim Murray
Bryan Reiboldt
Jim Scott
Peter Wald

Preacher

Danny Boggs

Youth & Family Minister

Caleb Boggs

Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday
6 p.m. Sunday

Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday
7 p.m. Wednesday

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In our weekly Bible reading we have finally come to the book of Revelation. We often wonder why this book is in the Bible. It is filled with signs, symbols, and images that are hard for us to understand. In our attempt to understand the symbolism, some have been lead to false conclusions. We need to have our conclusions harmonize with the rest of the Bible.

The grand theme of the book is that of a war and conflict between good and evil resulting in a victory for the righteous and defeat for the wicked. The book reveals the gigantic spiritual struggles between God and His forces and against Satan and his forces. Satan uses the Roman powers to back and support paganism and social worldliness, while God uses Christ to strengthen and lead his faithful saints and uses his righteous judgments to overcome and defeat Satan and his powers. It is a war to the death for one, and eternal victory for the others.

The purpose of the book is to reveal, through symbols, the nature and character of the great conflict between good and evil. The book is designed to give courage for Christians to remain faithful in the face of all opposition and persecution. Its message is not only for those to whom the book was written but to all who suffer as Christians in the future. The book gives comfort and assurance that in every spiritual and moral conflict, Christ gives victory to those who are steadfast in faith and life.

One key word used in the book is conquer or overcome, which is used some 17 times in the book. Rewards are on the basis

of overcoming (Chap. 2,3), which is made possible by the power of God and the victory of Christ. The conquerors overcame, "because of the blood of the Lamb, and because of the word of their testimony. And they loved not their life even unto death" (12:11), and these that overcome shall inherit that which God has provided for the victors (21:7). Someone has said, "The revelation has all the appeal of a fairy story in which the bad dragon is beaten, and the beautiful lady is saved."

We now come to the key verse in the book. Revelation 17:14: "These shall war against the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them, for he is Lord of Lords, and King of Kings; and they also shall overcome that are with him, called and chosen and faithful." The ten kings and the beast shall war against the Lamb and his forces. These kings and all opponents of the Lamb shall be defeated (19:19ff.).

This book pronounces a blessing on those who read it. "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of the prophecy, and keep the things that are written therein, for the time is at hand" (1:3). Likewise there is a blessing for those who hear. Hearing means more than just listening to what is being said; it involves hearing with a view of doing. Jesus said, "if ye know these things, blessed are ye if ye do them" (John 13:17). James would say; "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deluding your own selves" (James 1:22).

Wayne Douthitt

His own people, eager to do what is good – Titus 2:14




Pam Babb, Fred and Carolyn Bukowich, Joyce Clarkson, Edwin & Vera Cornell, Erma Cornell, Lee Crabtree, Mary Deffenbaugh, Eli Dodson, Jaren Dodson, Joe Freund, Teresa Freund, Wilma Hill, Justin Houston, Nadine Keith, Leopoldo Lizardo, Cheryl Neilans, Dale Privett, John Privett, Bette Sinden, Susie Tomlin, Edith Toney, Ruth Ann Wilson.

Bette Sinden remains at Landmark Hospital in Joplin. Susie Tomlin is at the Medicalodge during her recovery.

Every "One" Counts: Remember when you give an extra dollar each Sunday, it goes to help someone in need. We just helped two families from the Christian school who had some medical bills. If you know someone who needs help, please contact Jennifer Daniels or Natalie McInturff.



 **Devo and Donuts** is every Tuesday morning at 7:00 in the activities center. Come and bring your friends.

Caleb Boggs, Danny Boggs, and John Deffenbaugh returned last night from **Honduras**. We are grateful for their safe trip and the encouragement they were to the church there.

Our Bright Futures' **Christmas family** is a mom with four children. If you took a star to purchase a gift, please return it, unwrapped with the star attached, to the table in the foyer this Wednesday. You may still help this family by giving a cash donation to Brenda Kimbrough through Sunday.

The **ladies' ornament exchange** is Thursday at 6:30 at Heather Reiboldts'. Bring a wrapped ornament and snacks.

The **Senior Saints** will have a holiday pot luck lunch this Saturday at noon in the fellowship room. Bring your favorite holiday dish and a small gift for a "dirty Santa" exchange.



This Sunday's Sermons:

A.M.: *Imagine a Resurrection Body*

Danny Boggs

P.M.: David Grimm from

Fair Haven Children's Home

Ladies, if you would like to be part of a **hostess group** and have not been assigned to a group, please contact Molly Cobb.

Our **monthly singing night** will be this Saturday at 7:00 in the activities center. Bring snacks. Drinks will be provided.

Christmas Bingo Party for grades 7-12 will be this Friday at 7:00 p.m. starting in the church foyer. Young adults and parents will be driving you around town to find the items to mark on your Bingo card. Invite a friend and come join the fun.

Sunday, **pick up your copy** of Tim Alsup's *The Church of Christ: Pursuing God's Goals for His Church in a Divided Religious World*. They will be in family groups in alphabetical order on the tables in the back. Start preparing for our special effort January-March. Pray for and start inviting those who need to learn the value of the Lord's church and the truth about it. See Danny's article from November 25 for more details.

Lads to Leaders is in the fellowship room Sunday after lunch.

Join the devotional Sunday at 1:30 at the **Medicalodge**.

New Devo for grades 7-12 and their parents will be Sunday right after evening worship at the current home of Caleb and Bethany Boggs, 1211 Reid Road.

Young adults' Christmas party is December 19 at Caleb Boggs'.

Youth group: ice skating in Bentonville, AR on December 21.

Children in **Kindergarten through sixth grade** will have a winter party in the activities center on Sunday, December 22.

We are having a **Bible Bowl** over Luke 1-6 after services Sunday night, December 22. Everyone is welcome to participate or stay and watch.

Upcoming **Hillcrest Youth Group** events:

January 11- TSYS Ski Trip

January 17-19 - Challenge Youth Conference , Dallas

Looking for a way to be a servant? Help keep our activities center clean by **volunteering** to tidy up for two weeks. See Todd Murray if you can help.

Mark your calendar: We will deliver **meals-on-wheels** December 23 - January 3.

I want to thank all those who worked so hard moving me to town. It was such a help and so appreciated. Thanks so much.
Carol Bessman

PRAYER LEADERS

Sunday, December 15:

- AM Opening: Alec Fehring
- AM Closing: Jim Friend
- PM Opening: Zane Berner
- PM Closing: Kaed Thomas

Wednesday, December 18:

- Opening: Trace Wilson
- Closing: Tim Wald

RECORDS

	12-08-19	12-09-18
Bible Study	139	137
AM Worship	189	178
PM Worship	128	111
Wednesday	144	136
Contribution	\$8,676.78	\$9,275.23
Budget	\$7,717.37	\$7,630.58