



Overview of Revelation:

Christ, our Final Hope!

For the week of May 10, 2020

Memory Verse:

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." Revelation 1:8

**Scripture Memory Song:

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/content/kidsseries/338086?episode=4>

(or Log into Right Now Media → Search Seeds Family Worship → Click on the "Jesus" album → Click on song "Alpha and Omega") If you scroll down on the song list there is also a video with hand motions if your family prefers to learn that way!

Worship:

Consider singing songs as a family that come from Revelation and talking about the lyrics. Some suggestions:

"Holy, Holy, Holy" hymn

"Revelation Song" by Kari Jobe

"Sing to the King" (lyrics here: <https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/passion/singtotheking.html>)

Additional Resources:

What's in the Bible #13: God's Kingdom Comes!

Episode 2: The Revelation to John

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/KidsSeries/1142?episode=2>

If your kids are familiar with this series, they might enjoy this concluding video about Revelation

REVELATION OVERVIEW:

Author: John, who was exiled to the island of Patmos because of his faith. God gave him a vision and told him to write it down.

Purpose: “to show (God’s) servants what must soon take place” (Rev 1:1). Revelation is a book of prophecy. Some even call it a book of history, even though it hasn’t happened yet. Why? Because if God says it will happen, we know it is as true as if it has already happened!

Theme: God’s Kingdom is Coming!

How does Revelation relate to the rest of the Bible?

In the Old Testament, we see the sin of Adam and Eve spread to all mankind. God chose His people, the Israelites, but they continually disobeyed God. They do this so much that he punishes His chosen people, but he never forgets them! He sets them aside for a time, for the sake of many Gentiles (us!) coming to believe in Him. Revelation is the time when God sets things right. There is a huge Jewish revival and the Jewish people who believe have a special place with God again.

We also see God fulfill His promise to Satan. Back in Genesis 3, God promises that Jesus will crush Satan. For a little while, Satan is allowed to have increased power in the earth, but he is still limited by God. God uses even this for His own glory! We see that no matter how much proof people have of God’s power, no one will choose Him apart from God changing their hearts. We also see that Satan cannot steal any true believers away from God! We see believers undergo many hard times, but when those times are over, they get to be with Jesus!

What do we learn about God from this book?

He is faithful! Just as He has kept his promises to those in the past, he will keep the promises he makes for the future. We see God keep His promises to redeem the Jewish people, to crush and defeat Satan, and to give believers a place to live with him for eternity!

How should we feel about the book of Revelation?

When we read the book of Revelation, the events described seem very scary. Many people hope that we do not live through that time, but there are many different opinions on whether believers now will remain alive through these events. As we look through the book of Revelation, we will focus on the themes of HOPE that we see. There will be many hard things, but there is always hope! We trust that God is always with us and we know that those who truly believe in Jesus will be saved!

Let's look at the book!

Have your Bibles open and flip through the pages of the book for this overview. Stop and read excerpts from each section if you feel your child would like to hear more.

Chapters 1-3: God instructed John to write these letters to seven churches. We will learn about these letters next week!

****Read Revelation 1:4-8.**

HOPE! John opens the book by reminding his readers who it is that we serve. We serve a God who is holy and just!

Chapters 4-7: A vision of God's throne. God holds a scroll in his right hand with seven seals on it, but John despairs because it seems no one is worthy to open the scroll to see what it says!

****Read Rev 5:1-5.**

- Who is the Lion of the tribe of Judah and the Root of David who has triumphed?
- Jesus opens the scroll one seal at a time and we see terrible things begin to happen on earth.

HOPE! Heaven rejoices when Jesus is found worthy to open the scroll!

They sing a new song in Revelation 5:9-14.

****Read Revelation 5:9-14 slowly.**

- What characteristics of God and Jesus stand out to you.
- What does it say about those whom Jesus "purchased with His blood." Does that include you?
- How do all the creatures respond to God's holiness? What do you think it would be like to be a part of worshipping God in His presence?

HOPE! ****Read Revelation 7:9-17**

- We see a great multitude who has gathered from every nation, tribe, people, and language. They are worshipping God together.
- Who are these people?
- Are they people who have had an easy time?
- Why do they worship?
- What is promised to them as a result of the hardship they faced?

Chapters 8-11: Angels begin to sound trumpets, and more terrible things happen on earth. Things seem scary and dark.

Chapters 12-13: We hear about Satan and his followers who are allowed to rule on the earth for a time. Things seem really bad because Satan has been allowed to have more power. But God has never lost control!

HOPE! Did you know that there is a war in heaven? God's angels, led by the angel Michael, fight against Satan and the angels who followed Satan. Who do you think wins?

****Read Revelation 12:7-9 to find out!**

Chapters 14-15: We have a pause before we read about God's wrath poured out on the earth, where we see Jesus with his 144,000 followers standing on Mount Zion.

HOPE! We hear that the time is coming soon when Jesus will judge wickedness and redeem His people!

Chapters 16-18: We see God's wrath poured out on the earth and on Satan's followers. God's bowls of wrath remind us of the plagues that God sent on Pharaoh and the Egyptians back in the book of Exodus. Just as Pharaoh's heart was hard and he did not change, neither do many of the wicked repent of their sins.

Chapters 19-20: Jesus returns and defeats Satan and we read about the thousand year reign of Christ on earth. After those years have ended, it says that Satan and people are judged according to what they have done. Those who never trusted in Christ now are sent to receive punishment for their sin. Those who have believed in Jesus had their sins taken away on the cross, now have Christ's righteousness and can be with Christ in the new heavens and new earth.

HOPE! Even after so many terrible things have happened, chapter 19 shows how heaven rejoices because God is trustworthy and just. God is not mean or bad. He has to punish sin, and it is good to remember that his character stays true and he will do what he says. Read Revelation 19:6-9

HOPE! Jesus wins!

****Read Revelation 19:11-21.**

- What names for Jesus do you see here?
- What do they mean?

Chapters 21-22: We read about the new heavens and the new earth, where there is no sin and suffering. Only those who have trusted in Christ will be there with Christ for eternity.

HOPE! Jesus reigns! Revelation chapters 21-22 paint a picture of what things will be like when Jesus reigns and all is made right again! We will study this in more depth in the coming weeks, but be encouraged that our future is bright with Christ!

Pray:

Does your child truly understand what it means to believe in Jesus and be saved? Is their fruit of their continued walk with Jesus? Take some time to talk and pray together about the state of their heart and their feelings about the book of Revelation.

Say... The book of Revelation really causes us to pause and think about the end. Maybe the end of the world, the end of our life... When we think about the end, of course we wonder... Where will I go when I reach the end? Where will my soul go at the end of my life? To Heaven? To Hell? The **HOPE!** Is this - we can have assurance in Jesus (which means we can know, without a doubt) that when we die, we will go to heaven. All we have to do is BELIEVE that we need Jesus and He is the only one who can save us from an eternity in Hell. When we know that we believe that, we come to Him and ask Him to come into our lives. We ask the Holy Spirit to come into our lives and live with us forever. John 3:36 says "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them."

Ask... Do you know that you, just like all of us, are a sinner?

Ask... Do you know that you need a Savior?

Ask... Do you know that ONLY Jesus is enough to save you, and that God created the WHOLE world knowing that Jesus would die for YOUR sins and mine.

Ask... Do you know that you have received the gift of His salvation? If not, are you ready to receive that gift?

If so, pray together to ask Jesus for forgiveness of your sin and to ask Him to save you from the punishment for your sin. Lastly Ask the Holy Spirit to come and live your life with you and help you to serve God.

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