

Study Guide

Poythress, *The Returning King* For "The Book of Revelation"

Third Millennium Supervised Course

REVIEW QUESTIONS

INTRODUCTION

1.1 According to the author, the message of the Book of Revelation can be summarized in one sentence. How does he state the message?

1.2 According to Poythress, why do people often get confused trying to interpret Revelation?

1.3 "The Dragon, the Beast, and the False Prophet, therefore, form a kind of counterfeit _____."

1.4 "The Beast represents _____ power and threatens to persecute those who do not worship it."

1.5 "The Prostitute represents _____."

1.6 What is the first practical lesson from Revelation that the author gives?

2.1 Explain the main point of each of the following schools of interpretation of the Book of Revelation.

- a. Futurist
- b. Preterist
- c. Historicist
- d. Idealist

2.2 What is the author's views of the proper way to interpret Revelation?

3.1 "In the opening vision, Christ appears as the _____ and judge of the universe, and as ruler of the churches."

3.2 The author summarizes the content of Revelation 4:1-22 as "Visions that open our eyes to the kingship of God, the nature of _____, God's judgments on evil, and the outcome of the conflict."

3.3 "The appropriate response to God on the part of his creatures is _____."

3.4 According to Poythress, what is symbolized by presenting Christ as a Lamb?

3.5 What does "theophany" mean?

3.6 All the visionary material of Revelation 1:12-22:5 can be considered a "giant, complex _____."

3.7 What are some key differences between the Book of Revelation and apocalyptic writings from the period between 200 B.C. and 400 A.D.?

4.1 According to Poythress, who is the human author of the Book of Revelation?

4.2 What is the most probable date for the writing of Revelation, according to the author?

5.1 Revelation is addressed to seven churches in a region that today is the country of _____.

5.2 Revelation was written to a church in the midst of what kind of situation?

6.1 One way to make an outline of Revelation is according to grammatical patterns. What are the clues for the divisions of the Book of Revelation when we use this method?

6.2 If we make an outline of Revelation according to content, we find seven cycles of _____, each leading up to the _____.

COMMENTARY

1.1 How does the author explain the fact that Revelation speaks of events that will take place "soon," when nearly two thousand years have passed since it was written?

1.2 What does it mean to call God the "Alpha and the Omega"?

1.3 In what sense was John a "picture of the persecution that may come to any Christian"?

1.4 What is symbolized by the fact that Jesus' eyes blaze with fire, in the vision of Christ in Revelation 1, according to the author?

2.1 According to Poythress, who are the "angels" of the seven churches?

2.2 What was the name of the heretical group that held views similar to the teaching of "Balaam" and "Jezebel"?

2.3 Were all of the seven churches that received letters rebuked for some failing?

2.4 Which city that received letters to their churches possessed the oldest temple in Asia Minor devoted to emperor worship?

2.5 What was the key rebuke for the church in Thyatira?

2.6 What does it mean that the church in Laodicea was neither hot nor cold?

3.1 According to the author, when God's people are beset by temptation or persecution, what is the best remedy?

- 3.2 Why is there no detailed description of God as He appears seated on the throne in heaven?
- 3.3 According to Poythress, what do the 24 elders in Revelation 4 represent?
- 3.4 According to the author, what do the four living creatures in Revelation 4 all reflect?
- 3.5 What central paradox of the Christian faith is reflected in the fact that the "Lion of the tribe of Judah" is also the "Lamb" looking as if it had been slain?
- 4.1 According to the author, what does the white horse of the first seal represent (Rev. 6)?
- 4.2 The red horse in Revelation 6 represents _____.
- 4.3 The black horse in Revelation 6 brings _____.
- 4.4 The rider of the pale horse in Revelation 6 is called "_____."
- 4.5 What does John see when the fifth seal is opened in Revelation 6?
- 4.6 What occurs when the sixth seal is opened in Revelation 6?
- 4.7 According to Poythress, who are the 144,000 mentioned in Revelation 7?
- 4.8 According to the author, the "great multitude" mentioned in Revelation 7:9-17 emphasizes the _____ character of the people of God.
- 4.9 What does the silence indicate when the seventh seal is open in Revelation 8:1, according to Poythress?
- 5.1 The trumpet plagues are reminiscent of the plagues on Egypt, signifying _____.
- 5.2 What is the difference in the intensity of the judgments in Revelation, as they proceed from the seven seals, to the seven trumpets, and to the seven bowls?
- 5.3 The author asserts that the judgment portrayed by the conquering army when the sixth trumpet is blown (Rev. 9:13-21) has multiple fulfillments in nations and individuals who have been overwhelmed in military judgment after giving themselves to idols or the worship of power. What examples does he mention?
- 5.4 "Like the cycle of seven seals, the cycle of seven trumpets leads up to _____."
- 5.5 According to the author, what do the "two witnesses" mentioned in Revelation 11 represent?
- 5.6 According to the author, what is represented by the trampling of the holy city for forty-two months (Rev. 11)?
- 5.7 What occurs when the seventh trumpet is sounded in Revelation 11:15-19?

6.1 After the seven letters, the seven seals and the seven trumpets, Revelation 12:1-14:20 reveals seven _____.

6.2 Who does the woman represent in Revelation 12?

6.3 What is represented by the defeat of the dragon in Revelation 12?

6.4 What does the beast arising out of the sea represent (Rev. 13), according to the author?

6.5 The Beast's mortal wound and his recovery (Rev. 13) may be an allusion to what?

6.6 What is the "repeatable pattern" embodied by the second beast from the earth (the false prophet) in Revelation 13?

6.7 "_____, then, becomes the worker of miraculous signs. The signs tell us that true power resides in the modern view of the world."

6.8 How does Poythress understand the meaning of the number 666 (Rev. 13:18)?

6.9 How does Poythress understand the two harvests in Revelation 14?

7.1 With the seven _____, God's wrath is completed.

7.2 How does Poythress understand the meaning of "Armageddon" (Rev. 16:16)?

7.3 "In any case, the final battle is preeminently _____ in character."

8.1 "Just as Satan, the Beast, and the False Prophet form a counterfeit Trinity, Babylon is a counterfeit _____, seducing the world to give its allegiance to the counterfeit Trinity."

8.2 While the Beast attacks with power and persecution, Babylon attacks with _____.

8.3 According to the author, what is represented by Babylon the Prostitute (Rev. 17)?

8.4 "The Beast controls his subjects through fear; the Prostitute seduces people by playing on their _____."

8.5 How does Poythress interpret the meaning of the sixth of seven kings mentioned in Revelation 17:10, the one who "is"?

9.1 According to Poythress, who is the rider on a white horse seen in Revelation 19:11-21?

10.1 Describe each view of the millennium.

Premillennialism

Amillennialism

Postmillennialism

10.3 Does Poythress believe that chapter 20 of Revelation begins a new cycle, or that it is a continuation of Revelation 19:11-21?

10.4 How does the author understand the "second death" mentioned in Revelation 20:6?

10.5 How does the author understand the "first resurrection" mentioned in Revelation 20:6?

11.1 What is the fundamental character of the New Jerusalem, according to the author?

11.2 "The final description of the new Jerusalem contains many elements that allude to _____."

12.1 According to the author, what happens if people do not repent when they hear the Word of God?

12.2 What does the Book of Revelation strictly forbid about its content (Rev.21:18-19)?