

Revelation - Part 2 - Lecture 4

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- [Revelation - Pt 1 - Revelation 1-3, 10 lessons](#)
- [Revelation - Pt 2- Revelation 4-22, 12 lessons](#)
- [Revelation - Pt 3- Revelation 4-22, 11 lessons](#)
- [Revelation - Pt 4 - Revelation 4-22, 14 lessons](#)

If you can find a local Precept class studying Revelation, I would strongly encourage you to join the class, as I know of no other study available anywhere in the world that will equip you so thoroughly to discern the signs of the times and cause you to live expectantly as you look for Christ's Return!

Literal chart summaries

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CAN YOU SURVIVE THE DIFFICULT TIMES OF THE LAST DAYS? LISTEN...

Revelation Pt 2, Lecture 4
by Kay Arthur

Paul in his last letter to Timothy said that "*in the last days difficult times will come.*" ([2Tim 3:1](#)) How will you bear up under these

perilous, dangerous, hard to bear times?

KAY SHARES A NUMBER OF SOBERING STATISTICS (Ed note: stats from early 1990's): America's homicide rate is increasing more than any industrialized nation and in fact is the highest homicide rate of any industrialized nation in world (Cost \$100 billion/yr); 1.1 million inmates (highest in world); violence in schools; thousands of teachers threatened with violence each day; 260 teachers/day suffer physical violence; 16,000 crimes/day = 3 mil/yr; 1986 to 1990 the number of juveniles in jail increased 38%; prayer was removed in 1962 and now the list of school crimes (in order) = rape> robbery> burglary> arson> bombing> murder> aggravated assault> suicide. America leads the world in each of the following categories: divorces; teen pregnancies (in face of all the sex education!), voluntary abortions; illegal drug use. Among the industrialized nations U.S. is #1 in illiteracy! The U.S. spends \$2.26 billion on poverty/year for a total of \$3.5 trillion since 1965 (through 1993) yet we are worse off than ever. 40 million in U.S. have STD's. 12% of the GNP is spent on health costs. AIDS cost \$140,000/case. \$14 billion to treat 100,000 AIDS patient. \$1.4 trillion to treat 1 million AIDS patients, 2x the total amount of all spending on health care.

The date of this tape is March, 1993, at the time of a cataclysmic snowstorm. Kay believes God is trying to get our attention and show us that we are on the brink of the Lord's return and these are the last of "the last days." ([click here](#) for all NT uses of the phrase "last days")

We need to be prepared and know those things that **must** shortly take place (Rev 1:1) and the Revelation gives us truth that will hold us and keep us right up to the coming of the King of kings and the Lord of lords (Rev 19:16). Kay believes these introductory remarks in the book of Revelation will provide truth that will bless and spiritually prosper us in these perilous days so that we will " *be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.*"(1Cor 15:58). The promise is a blessing for those who READ, HEAR and HEED the words of the PROPHECY of this book. (Rev 1:3)

REVIEW OF REVELATION: AN OVERVIEW OF THE ENTIRE BOOK

Revelation 2-3: To the churches but at the end of each letter He says "**he who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says**". We see that the churches don't have it easy. There are trials within these churches: persecution in Smyrna ("*be faithful until death*" Rev 2:10) etc. And as we look at the problems and difficulties in each church, we also see Jesus saying over and over "**he who overcomes**". Obviously if Jesus says "he who overcomes" that means that there is something to be overcome! How will we overcome?

Revelation 4-5 "After these things" (Rev 4:1) John is transported to heaven and sees the throne of God, the **24** elders, the **4** living creatures and then he sees the scroll in the right hand of the One seated on the throne. John weeps until he sees the One Who is worthy, the Lion from the tribe of Judah, Who is also the Lamb, Who alone is worthy to take the scroll. And the **24** elders praise the Lamb for what He has done on behalf of all the tribes and tongues and peoples and nations.

Revelation 6 The Lamb breaks **6 seals** (think...*6th chapter = 6 seals*) and at the **5th Seal** we get a glimpse of the souls of those who cry out "*How long, O Lord, holy and true, wilt Thou refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?*" (Rev6:10) These are martyrs who have come out of the Great Tribulation with their faith intact because they have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb ---they are "**overcomers**".

Revelation 7 we see the angels holding back the **4 winds** that are to harm the earth, sea and trees until **144,000 sons** of Israel are sealed on their forehead with the seal of the living God.

Revelation 8 One more seal to be broken and when the **7th seal** is broken it leads to the sounding of the trumpets, which in this chapter include **the first 4 trumpets**. We see **1/3** of the sea (>blood) **1/3** of the earth, **1/3** of the sun, moon and stars are all affected (**difficult times**).

Revelation 9: The **5th trumpet** is blown signaling the **First Woe**, a time of locusts with tails like scorpions stinging men for **5 months** to point that the men desire death yet they cannot die. The **6th Trumpet** unveils a "weird" army from the Euphrates and **1/3 of those who dwell on the earth** die from the **3 plagues**, the smoke, the fire and the brimstone that come out of their mouths.

Revelation 10: **7 peals of thunder** which John is told not to write. Then a little book which is sweet in the mouth but bitter in the belly.

Revelation 11: **2 witnesses** who bring judgment on the face of the earth, who are then killed bringing celebration on earth until they are resurrected and the world watches in wonder as those bodies go into heaven. After the **2 witnesses**, the **7th Trumpet** is

sounded and the **Second Woe** is passed.

Revelation 12 : **2 signs**-- a woman with Child, a great red dragon, who is going to devour the woman's Child. But the Child is caught up to heaven. The woman runs into the wilderness where God has prepared a place for her for "**time, times and half a time**." The dragon spills out a flood in an attempt to drown her but God opens the earth and swallows up the flood.

Revelation 13: **2 beasts**: the **first BEAST** from the sea, bringing persecution to the saints upon the face of this earth. The **second beast** comes up out of the earth and has an image made which all the world is commanded to honor and to take a mark on their right hand or their forehead and without the mark they could not buy and sell. Yet later we are told that anyone who takes that mark will never go to the heaven. (difficult times are coming!).

Revelation 14: **144,000** with the Lamb on Mt. Zion. Angels making proclamations. One says throw in the sickle and reap the harvest and the blood comes up as high as the horse's bridles. These are **difficult days**. Yet in the midst of these difficult days we find this verse: **Rev 14:12** "*Here is the perseverance of the **saints** who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus*" Who are these **saints**? Kay's not going to tell but you'll know this book so well that you will be able to distinguish who they are.

Revelation 15: The temple of the tabernacle of testimony is opened and John saw **7 angels** with **7 bowls** filled with **7 plagues**.

Revelation 16: The **7 angels** dump the **7 Bowls** on the face of the earth. The bowls are filled with the wrath of God.

We are living in **difficult days** because of the men in power, and the corruption all around us. There are also cataclysmic events occurring all over the earth.

How am I going to handle these difficult days? What do I need to remember?

The answer is the truths that are in the book of Revelation

Rev 1 shows us that grace and peace are supplied and they are adequate for every need. Kay shares that she found herself thanking Him for the fact that she had this grace and peace from Him Who is and Who was and Who is to come. These truths are not to be just head knowledge but are to seep down into our hearts and being so that we become living epistles known and read by all men (2Cor 3:2), because these truths are constantly in our thoughts. We should pray these truths back to God worship to Him Who is and Who was and Who is to come, Who is the unchanging God. Kay tells the story of teaching at the Teen Conference on Elijah as he was taken up in a whirlwind and then the query came "**Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?**" (2Ki2:14). The God of Elijah is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb13:8). We need to know not just "*where*" is the God of Elijah but "*Who*" is the God of Elijah.

Revelation 1:4-6 "*John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come; and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne; and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who **loves us**, and **released us from our sins by His blood**, and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father; to Him [be] the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*"

Notice that the verb "**love**" in the phrase "*to Him Who **loves us***" is in the present tense (Ed note: continuous or habitual action) which means He keeps on loving us and He never stops loving us!

TRUTH YOU NEED TO REMEMBER From Revelation 1:5-6

These truths will hold you in the "difficult days"

1). **JESUS LOVES US**: and He keeps on loving us. Why? Because we are living in a time when the enemy comes at us, telling us that God loves everyone else but not us. You've got to know that JESUS LOVES US. One of the times when we doubt His love is when the enemy says that there is nothing lovable about us. REMEMBER that He loves us because of Who He is. We also tend to doubt His love when difficult times come reasoning that if God really loved me, then why would He allow this in my life. Why am I going through this trauma?

LET'S LOOK AT THE FACT THAT "JESUS LOVES US":

1 John 4:10 (love is used 28x in chapter 4) *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins.* (So this is how you know love...this is how you know that Jesus loves you -- He loves you not because you first loved God but because God first loved you. He is the Initiator of this relationship. If you have a relationship with Jesus Christ, it is not because you started it but because God so loved the world that He gave His only Son to be the propitiation -- the covering, the satisfactory sacrifice -- for our sins. Yes, you are a sinner, lost and rebellious to one degree or another but in that state God loved you and allowed His Son to be crucified for you.) **16** *And we have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.* (If you are going to make in these difficult days be assured that God loves you. Come to know and believe God's love for us. The essence of His being is love. Kay has never doubted God's love for her despite her past failures simply because she knows what God says about Himself. She knows Who He is and that the essence of His being is love. [1Jo 4:8](#) "...for God is love." You may think but wait a minute--He doesn't seem like a God of love to me in Revelation. Yes, Revelation talks about His wrath but it is not wrath to those who have believed in His Son. When difficult times come if you continue to remember that Jesus loves us then you are abiding in God and God is abiding in us so that we are never by ourselves. He is always there. Knowing that God loves you is your help to get you through every difficult situation of life.) **17** *By this, love is perfected with us, that we may have confidence in the day of Judgment* (this is the book of Revelation) *because as He is, so also are we in this world.* **18** *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, (or "torment") and the one who fears is not perfected* (matured, brought to its full stature) *in love.*"

WHEN DID JESUS LOVE US?

Ro 5:6 *For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.*

(What do we see when the bowls are poured out on the face of this earth in Rev16? The **wrath of God**. What will save us from this wrath? the fact that Jesus loved me, that He died for me, that He released me from my sins, that He made me to be a kingdom, that He made me to a priest unto God...this saves us from the WRATH of GOD) **10** *For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.*

How do I know that God loves me? By looking to Calvary and seeing Jesus' arms open wide bidding you to 'Come' that He might give you life, and give you life abundantly (John 10:10).

LOOK AT ROMANS 8:31-39:

Ro 8:31 "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? **32** He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? [Listen: Jesus Loves you. Grace and peace come from Him Who loves us. That will hold us in difficult days] **33** Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; **34** who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, Who is at the right hand of God, Who also intercedes for us. [Where do we see the Lamb at the right hand of God? Rev 5 as the Lion comes forth as the Lamb as if slain. And He will carry those brand marks through all eternity. Zech 13:6-7] **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (difficult things) **36** Just as it is written, "For Thy sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered." (cf the church at Smyrna Rev 2:8-11) **37** *But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him Who LOVED us. 38 For I am CONVINCED that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor THINGS TO COME, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

2). JESUS RELEASED US FROM OUR SINS BY HIS BLOOD:

The word "**released**" means to be loosed or freed (Note that the KJV has "washed" which is a different Greek word)

THREE FACTS ABOUT SIN:

(1). SIN HAS A PENALTY = death not only physically but spiritually including eternal separation from the presence of God [Ro 6:23](#)
"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

The Penalty of Sin Described

Rev 20:11 And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. 12 And I saw the dead, (refers to the spiritually dead who are about to taste the second death, the lake of fire.) the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds....14 And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire." Sin has a penalty, the ultimate penalty being the Lake of Fire where Jesus says "...THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE IS NOT QUENCHED." (Mk 9:48) Rev 20:1 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Rev 19:20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone."

Rev 20:10 "And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever." (cf Mt 25:46)

And other passages make it clear that this *lake of fire* burns forever and ever.

So Jesus loosed us or released us from the penalty of sin--we who were dead in our trespasses and sins (Eph 2:1) have been raised up together with Christ Jesus and have been seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Eph 2:4-7) We have "*passed out of death into life*" (Jn5:24) and will never die again spiritually.

(2). SIN HAS POWER:

John 8:34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits (present tense = habitually commits sin) sin is the slave of sin. 35 And the slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. 36 If therefore the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.

What does sin do?

Sin enslaves you. Sin has power. You think are going to just "try" a certain sin. You try it again and then you want it some more until finally you are "addicted" or enslaved to that sin. So sin has power over you. But if Jesus has released me (loosed me) from my sins, then He has set us free from our sins and the power sin has to enslave a person. We need to remember this important principle in these **difficult days** to come God is going to judge the world. God is going to judge the unrighteous and sinners.

The Power of Sin Described

ROMANS 6: Shows better than anywhere else in Scripture that Jesus has released us from the power of sin.

Ro 6:6 knowing this, that our old self (What Kay was before she received Jesus Christ) was crucified with Him, (we were "co-crucified" with Jesus Christ) that (states purpose) our body of sin might be done away with (rendered inoperative), that we should no longer be slaves to sin...11 Even so consider (continually reckon this to be true) yourselves to be dead to sin (to the power of sin), but alive to God in Christ Jesus. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body that you should obey its lusts, (Paul is addressing Christians in this verse) 13 and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin [as] instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members [as] instruments of righteousness to God. (Why?) 14 For (because) sin shall not be MASTER (the one you are obligated to obey!) over you, for you are not under law, but under grace."

Jesus has released us from the power of sin

When you are being tempted to sin and your flesh is crying out "*I've got to, I've got to*", What do you do? Call to mind and lay hold of the truth of Romans 6. Embrace the truth that your death, burial and resurrection with Jesus has **released you from the enslaving power of sin** and you reply "*No, I do not have to. Sin is not "master" over me. Jesus Christ is in me. I can walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.*" "The power of the Spirit" is elaborated on in more detail in Ro 8.

Ro 6:16 *Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and having been freed from sin you became slaves of righteousness.*

So in these last **difficult days** men will be so evil as we read in Revelation that even in the midst of God's judgment they still do not repent of their evil deeds. So REMEMBER: Jesus loves me. Jesus released me from my sins...from the penalty--the lake of fire in Rev 20-- and from the power of SIN.

3). RELEASED FROM SIN'S DOMAIN:

Where is the domain of sin today? On this earth. What is Satan called? Satan is called the *'the prince* (ruler, chief, first in rank and power) *of the power of the air*" (Eph 2:2), the **prince** of this present world system ("*sin's domain*"). In these **difficult days** to come Satan will be kicked out of heaven and comes to earth filled with fury because he knows he only has a short time left "in power". ("*the great dragon was **thrown down**, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was **thrown down** to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him...the accuser of our brethren has been **thrown down**, who accuses them before our God day and night...Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having **great wrath**, knowing that he **has only a short time**."* (Rev 12:9-10,12)

How do the believers overcome Satan and his dominion?

By the **blood** of the LAMB ("*And they **overcame** him because of the **blood** of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death.*" Rev 12:11 cf Rev 7:14), the **blood** that **released** us from Satan's power (Rev1:5), the **blood** that **took away the penalty** of the lake of fire, the **blood** that **moved** us from darkness to light (*He delivered us from the **domain** [the right and the might] of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins....having made peace through the **blood** of His cross* Col 1:13-14, 20)

Paul explains how believers are released from Satan's dominion speaking in Acts 26 Paul to the Ephesian elders at his farewell exhortation and explaining what Jesus had commissioned him to preach the Gospel which would "*open...eyes* (of unbelievers) *so that they may turn from darkness* (Satan's domain) *to light and from the dominion* (right and might - the power to direct, control, use and dispose of) *of Satan to God, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me* (Jesus)." (Acts 26:18) What's that "*inheritance*"? Do your homework this week and you will see!

Paul further explains how we are released from sin's domain writing that "*now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man [came] death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive* (that is all who by faith accept the free gift of salvation). *But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming,* (What does Rev 1:7 say? Behold He is coming and every eye will see Him...) *then comes the end, when He delivers up the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.* (That is what we see in Revelation as Jesus abolishes ALL rule and ALL authority and power and takes His dominion.) *For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is DEATH*" (1Cor 15:20-26)

John writes

"And I saw no temple in it (the new city, the New Jerusalem) , for the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its temple. 23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp [is] the Lamb. 24 And the nations shall walk by its light, and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory into it. 25 And in the daytime (for there shall be no night there) its gates shall never be closed; 27 and nothing unclean and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. " (Rev 21:22-25,27)

When you received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, when He released you from your sins, He released you from the **penalty of sin**, which is allotment eternally into the "*lake of fire*" (Rev 20:11-15), He released you from the **power of sin** so that you are no longer a slave to sin and He also released you from the **dominion** (the right and might of) Satan (to exercise his rule over your life) and He gave you a brand new home, the New Heaven and the New Earth. And those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life live in that city. We are a kingdom and we are priests unto God.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO REMEMBER IN THESE "LAST DAYS" WHICH WILL BE "DIFFICULT DAYS"?

(1). You need to remember that Jesus loves you and that perfect love casts out fear (cf 1Jn4:18)

(2). You need to remember that He will never leave you nor forsake you (cf Heb13:5) . Why not? Because He loves you and love doesn't turn it's back on another.

(3). You need to remember that He has released you from your sins and that the penalty and the wrath of God is not on you, that you have passed from death to life and that there is no condemnation and that you have passed from judgment into blessing. The power of sin has been broken. You will live in His domain, and in His domain He wipes away all tears and there is no more death or sorrow

because former things have passed away.

DIFFICULT DAYS ARE COMING.

But you can make it if you remember these TRUTHS. You are going to reign with Him over angels whom you will judge. He is coming soon as King of kings and Lord of lords

Prayer: Father, we thank You for Your word, that it's a purifying word, that it's a cleansing word, that it is Truth and that when we embrace that Truth, that Truth will hold us. Father You promised a blessing to those who read, to those who hear and to those who heed. We need to heed the fact. We need to believe the fact that Jesus loves us. We need to heed the fact that we have been released from our sins by His precious blood. We need to heed the fact of what we have been made. We have not just been released and set free but we have been made a kingdom. We've been made priests unto You. Oh Father, we say, to You be the glory and the dominion forever and ever and ever. Amen.

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