

Revelation Bible Study: Week 3 Homework

Before we meet next week, please complete the following:

1. Read through the passage for next week (Revelation 4:1-5:14) several times. Then apply the Four Steps of Bible Study and fill in the following questions. For help, reference the “Basic Bible Study Methods” handout.

**Optional: Read through the entire book of Revelation again, paying attention to repeated themes and points of emphasis. Try to grab the big picture idea of the book.*

Step 1: Seeing (*What does it say?*)

-Walk through the questions suggested under the headings Who? What? When? Where? How? on page 3 of the handout. (Note: not every single question will be applicable to a given passage)

-Note the change in setting. In this passage, where is John? Why is this significant?

-Identify as many different symbols and images as you can (for example, “twenty-four elders”)

-How is Jesus described in this passage?

Step 2: Understanding (*What does it mean?*)

-After identifying the symbolism and imagery, try to figure out what it means. What concept of message is the symbolic imagery conveying? Here it will be especially important to note if the imagery is from the OT and where the allusion is from.

-Are there any other significant allusions to the OT that may help uncover the meaning of this passage? If so, what are they? Make sure to read any of the significant allusions in their surrounding context.

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-What seems to be emphasized in this text? Are there repeated words/phrases or ideas? Based off the surrounding context, what stands out to you as important within chapters 4-5? What is the main point?

-What themes do you notice running throughout the addresses to the churches? Take note of repeated words, phrases, and ideas.

Step 3: Sharing (*What truths is it teaching?*)

-After identifying the meaning of the passage, come up with a main “shared truth” for chapters 4-5. This should summarize what the author is intending to get across in this section. What timeless, universal truth is he teaching?

-Having identified a shared truth for this section, come up with several other shared truths for the following themes/topics. Rather than focusing on the larger level of the two chapters, these will look at the smaller level. They will still be eternal truths taught within the text, and must be a point the author is intending to convey. Come up with a one sentence response to each of the following that fits the requirements for a shared truth (i.e., timeless, universal).

1. God: What does this passage teach about God the Father? (i.e., who he is, what he’s done, etc.)
2. Jesus: What does this passage teach about Jesus the Messiah? (i.e., who he is, what he’s done, etc.)
3. Worship: What does this passage teach about worshipping God? (i.e., Who? How? Why? When?)

Step 4: Responding (*So what?*)

-Come up with at least two response suggestions for your main shared truth for the chapter, and then at least one for the truth statements you came up with pertaining to God, Jesus, and Worship.