

Reflections From Revelation_Episode 3 _Seven BE-attitudes of Revelation | Rev 1:3 (John Walvoord)

“The book of revelation, instead of being a hopeless jumble of symbolic vision, is a carefully written record of what John saw and heard, with frequent explanations of its theological and practical meanings.”

God Wants to Bless Us!

Rev 1:3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

- This verse reveals the heart of God...He is a good shepherd that loves His sheep
- He feeds us spiritual food with His Word

Jesus taught the BE-Attitudes in Matt 5:3-12. (Sermon on The Mount)

- This word BLESSED literally means happy, fulfilled, and satisfied
- Opposite of the world's system to finding happiness
- Blessings don't always come the way we want...it may even cause us to be uncomfortable at times
- Just because we are uncomfortable, it doesn't mean God isn't working, **Isa 55:8-9**

Seven BE-attitudes of Revelation

1. **Rev 1:3 Blessed** is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.
 - Blessed when we hear and obey, **Psalm 1:1-3**
2. **Rev 14:13** Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: **Blessed** are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.”
 - This blessing comes from when we die in the Lord...when we surrender. **Matt 16:24-26**
 - We find rest from our labor and effort and rest in His work
3. **Rev 16:15** “Look, I come like a thief! **Blessed** is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed.”
 - This blessing comes from when we are ready for the Lord's return
“Specific knowledge in anticipation of God's future program is an incentive to holy living and commitment to Christ.”
 - Knowing that He will return causes us to have wisdom on how we live here and now
 - The blessing is in being ready and watchful and living for Him now, **Matt 25:1-13, Psalm 14:1**
4. **Rev 19:9** Then the angel said to me, “Write this: **Blessed** are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”
 - This blessing comes from responding to an invitation...a choice
 - God has died for all people and desires that everyone comes to repentance
 - The question isn't are we invited BUT have we responded to the invitation. **Matt 11:28-30**
 - We are blessed when we repent and turn to Jesus, **Luke 15:7, John 6:37**
5. **Rev 20:6 Blessed** and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.
 - This blessing comes from the resurrection and straight from Jesus
 - We will rule and reign with Jesus for all eternity if we become born again here in this life. **John 3:3**
 - The time to repent is now before the first death **Heb 9:27, John 11:25-26**

6. **Rev 22:7** "Look, I am coming soon! **Blessed** is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll."
- this blessing comes from APPLICATION in fulfilling God's Word
 - We should be positioning ourselves to walk in God's ways and asking God for help. **James 1:22**
 - We do this by being before the presence of God and asking for a fresh filling of His Spirit **Gal 5:16**
7. **Rev 22:14** "**Blessed** are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city."
- This blessing comes from confessing our sins to Jesus and allowing Him to make us clean, **1 John 1:9**
 - We need to come along what God says about our sin and repent (turn to Him)
 - Our righteous deeds are like filthy rags and we are only cleansed by Jesus' blood and sacrifice, **Eph 1:7-8**
 - And this cleansing is perfect and forever!!! - **Isa 1:18, Psalm 103:12**

"Probably no other book of scripture more sharply contrasts the blessed lot of saints with the fearful future of those who are lost. No other book of the Bible is more explicit in its description of judgment on one hand and the Saints' eternal bliss on the other. What a tragedy that so many pass by this book and fail to fathom its wonderful truths, thereby impoverishing their knowledge and hope in Christ Jesus. God's people who understand and appreciate these wonderful promises can join with John in his prayer, "come, Lord Jesus"

*Quoted text form *Seven Beatitudes of Revelation* from John Walvoord's Commentary *THE BIBLE KNOWLEDGE SERIES*