## THE ROYAL Book Seven: Vision, Chapter 1 Apocalyptic Pastor Miles McPherson – November 28, 2010



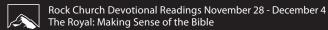
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Genre: Apocalyptic (read it like fantasy)
apocalyptō: To uncover, reveal what has been veiled or covered up.
5 Observations
Apocalyptic language was written to give persecuted peoplehope     and encourage them to persevere.
2. Apocalyptic language is a <u>symbolic</u> representation of what God is doing and will do in the spiritual realm and not a videotape of what will happen.
3. Old Testament Apocalyptic language provides background to the symbolic meaning of the images in Revelation (or New Testament) Apocalyptic language.
4. Apocalyptic language uses symbols to describe the final <u>battle</u> in the war of good and evil; between God and Satan.
5. Apocalyptic language illustrates God's final actions of judgment and restoration, and in the end God <u>wins</u> .

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"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood" 1 Peter 2:9-10

Using the guidelines below, here is a daily Bible text for you to READ, REFLECT and RESPOND.

MON – Isaiah 24 WED – Isaiah 65:17–25 FRI – Daniel 7 SUN – Zechariah 14

TUE - Isaiah 25 THU - Daniel 1-2 SAT - Ezekiel 37



**Read** and discover what God communicated to the people at the time of the writing.

Read the text 2-3 times and identify:

- 1. Read the passage 2-3 times. Don't worry at first about understanding every detail. Look for the "big picture" of God's salvation of his people and judgment against evil.
- 2. Who is the vision being given to and on whose behalf is the vision being given?
- 3. Determine whether the images or characters are acting on behalf of God or Satan.
- 4. Describe, in your own words and without making comparisons to contemporary events or people, what the images or characters are doing or accomplishing.
- 5. How does the passage or scene fit the overall story of God's final judgment and restoration?
- 6. How does the passage impact your faithfulness to God?



**Reflect**, pray and determine what is God communicating to us in the present.

Write, in your own words, a 2-3 sentence prayer or revelation identifying how this letter written to a church in the first century has application for us today.



## Respond and do something!

Do something by praying and deciding what God wants to do in and through you in the future. Identify the steps of faith you need to take in order to facilitate God's promises. What am I going to do to apply my faith to be more of who God wants me to be? Is there sin to repent of? Is there something you can praise God for? Is there someone you need to forgive, serve or speak to? How are you worshiping God in your life?

**Further applications**: Send a challenge to people in your acquaintance. Be bold in what the Lord is showing you as a step of faith. Use social media to spread the Word of God (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Blog, email, etc.).

**Devotional necessities:** A Bible, pen or pencil, notebook or journal, a quiet place, a regular time, a prayerful heart of faith

## BOOK SEVEN: VISION

## VISION: APOCALYPTIC LANGUAGE

{Visions of a hopeful and supernatural culmination of history}

GENRE – Apocalyptic Language (read it like fantasy)
READING RULES – Read the text 2-3 times and identify:

- 1. What is the story of God's judgment on evil and restoration of good?
- 2. Who is the vision being given to and on whose behalf is the vision being given?
- 3. Determine whether the images or characters are acting on behalf of God or Satan.
- 4. Describe, in your own words and without making comparisons to contemporary events or objects, what the images or characters are doing or accomplishing.
- 5. How does this passage or scene fit the overall story of God's eternal judgment and restoration?
- 6. How does revelation impact your faithfulness to God?