THE ROYAL Book Seven: Vision, Chapter 4 Apocalyptic (Revelation 12) Pastor Miles McPherson – December 19, 2010



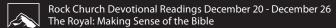
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Genre: Apocalyptic (read it like fantasy)
Reading Rules: 1. Read the entire book 2 or 3 times and look for God's story of judgment on evil and His restoration of good.
2. Who is the vision being given to and on whose behalf is the vision being given?
2a. <i>Answer:</i> The vision is given to John on behalf of the seven churches. Revelation 1:4, 11
3. Determine whether the images and/or characters are acting on behalf of God or Satan.
3a. <i>Answer:</i> A seven headed dragon is fighting <u>against</u> God and His people.
4. Describe (in your own words and without making comparisons to contemporary events or objects) what the images and/or characters are doing or accomplishing.
4a. Answer: A seven headed <u>dragon</u> fights to destroy the Child.
A seven headed dragon, followed by a third of the stars, pursues the Child into heaven. The dragon loses a fight in heaven and gets kicked out.
The dragon spits out a flood of water, but the earth swallows it.
The woman is flown away on eagle's wings.
5. How does this passage or scene fit God's overall story of eternal judgment and restoration?
5a. Answer: It describes the spiritual <u>battle</u> we are currently experiencing.
6. How does the revelation impact your faithfulness to God?

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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 – Revelation 10-11 WED – Revelation 14 FRI – Revelation 17-18 SUN – Revelation 21-22

TUE - Revelation 12-13 THU - Revelation 15-16 SAT - Revelation 19-20



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, Bloq, email, etc.).

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

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 and/or characters are acting on behalf of God or Satan.
- Describe (in your own words and without making comparisons to contemporary events or objects) what the images and/or characters are doing or accomplishing.
- 5. How does this passage or scene fit God's overall story of eternal judgment and restoration?
- 6. How does the revelation impact your faithfulness to God?