

# Precept study on Revelation Part 1, Lesson 3

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## 1 Review of lesson 2

### 1.1 Prologue: Rev 1:1-3

- God to Jesus to His Angel to John to His bondservants.
- study: revelation: apokalypsis, apo (separate) kalypto (to veil).
- What is being revealed? Answer: things that must soon take place.
- shortly; (1:1 and 22:6): tachos: quickness, speed.

### 1.2 Introduction/Greeting: Rev 1:4-8

the Trinity:

- **The Father** on the throne. He is, was, is to come.
- **Holy Spirit** 7 Spirits are before His throne.
- **Jesus:** faithful witness, 1st born from dead, ruler, loves us, released us from sin by His blood. has made us to be a kingdom. we are priests to **the Father**, who has glory and dominion forever and ever. coming with the clouds. Every eye will see Him, all tribes of earth will mourn over Him. Alpha and Omega

### 1.3 Historical setting: Rev 1:9-11

- persecution, in exile on the island of Patmos
- write what you see and send to the seven churches.

### 1.4 The vision of Jesus: Rev 1:12-16

- Jesus *like* a son of man.
- hair white *like* wool, *like* snow, eyes *like* flame,
- feet *like* bronze, voice *like* many waters.
- sword from His mouth

## 1.5 John's response and Jesus' instructions: Rev 1:17-20

- John *like* a dead man.
- Jesus tells John not to be afraid.
- Jesus literally and literally alive forevermore. holds the keys of death and Hades.
- Jesus gives His instructions to John.
- 7 stars : 7 angels of the 7 churches.

## 2 Letter to the church at Ephesus

### 2.1 Historical background

Ephesus: wealthiest and greatest city in Asia (modern-day Turkey). Seaport, site of Temple of Artemis (fertility goddess). Corrupt: extensive temple prostitution.

Church called the Light of Asia.

Paul, Priscilla, Aquilla brought the gospel to Ephesus. Paul planted the church there. Rejected by the synagogue, persecuted by the pagans. Paul wrote to them in about 60 AD. John ministered in Ephesus prior to being exiled to Patmos.

Place of demonic influence (Acts 19:11-16) and magic (Acts 19:17-19). City of about 1/2 a million at the time.

John wrote in about 95 AD to the 2nd generation of Christians at Ephesus.

### 2.2 Description of Jesus

holds the 7 stars – the angels of the 7 churches. Consider the significance. He is the authority. Walks among them and knows that goes on. He is the light of the world, and gives them light to shine.

### 2.3 Commendation

Deeds, toil, perseverance (bearing under), did not tolerate false apostles, tested false apostles, endured for His name, had not grown weary, hate the deeds of Nicolaitans

### 2.4 Reproof

Deeds without love. *Left*: a definite and sad departure, to leave or forsake.

Deut 28, 30: what does it mean to love God?

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. (1 John 5:1-3)

See also Mark 12:28-34 (below).

Acts 2, 4, and 5: what do we learn about deeds done at first?

What hinders the love of God? Love of the world.

Do not love world nor the things in the world. anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. (1 John 2:15-16)

You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. (James 4:4)

Read 1 Corinthians 13 together, time permitting.

We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth. (1 John 3:16-18)

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. (1 John 4:20)

## **2.5 Instruction**

Remember (continuous/repeated action, command) from where you have fallen. Repent, Do the deeds you did at first.

## **2.6 Warning**

Removal of their lampstand – no longer a church. Ephesus is now in ruins, but this might be the same as a removal of the lampstand.

## **2.7 Promise to overcomers**

Eat of the tree of life in the Paradise of God.

"THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND which HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM." (1 Cor 2:9, quoting Isaiah 64:4)

# **3 Love the LORD your God with all your heart, soul, and might**

In the Hebrew (Deut 6:4-5): love the LORD with all your heart, soul, and might. When Jesus quotes it (in Greek, Mark 12:30-33): with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. He adds the word *mind*. This is because the Hebrew word for *heart* is a broader term than the English or Greek words for *heart*. In the Hebrew, it means both *heart and mind*. That is, in Hebrew thinking, the heart and the mind cannot be separated. The compartmentalization of the two is from Greek

thought, not Hebrew. Thus, to convey the full meaning of the Hebrew verse in Deuteronomy, when speaking in Greek, Jesus must add *mind* to the translation.

English	Hebrew	Greek
heart	inner man, <b>mind</b> , will, heart, <b>understanding</b> , <b>knowledge</b>	center all physical and spiritual life: soul or <b>mind</b> , will and character, emotions and passions
soul	soul, self, life, person, <b>mind</b> , seat of emotions and passions	seat of feelings, desires
might, strength	force, might (from root word: fire brand)	ability, force
mind	(not used in Deut 6:4-5)	<b>mind, knowledge, understanding</b>

Jesus says the 2nd commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself (Leviticus 19:18), and that all men will know we are His disciples, if we have love one for another (as He has loved us).

Our love for the LORD cannot be seen, but our love for one another can. It points others to Him. This is what pointed me to Him; I saw the real love that his followers had for each other, and I thought “There is something real here. What is it? God must be real.” Their love (the 2nd commandment) pointed me to God’s love (the 1st). All can see God’s love by seeing the effects of our love for one another.

### 3.1 In the Old Testament

- Deut 6:4-5

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul** and with all your **might**.

- Deut 10:12-13

Now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require from you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul**, and to keep the LORD'S commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?

- Deut 11:13

It shall come about, if you listen obediently to my commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the LORD your God and to serve Him with all your **heart** and all your **soul**,

- Deut 13:3

you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams ; for the LORD your God is testing you to find out if you love the LORD your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul**.

- Deut 30:6

Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your **heart** and the **heart** of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul**, so that you may live.

- Joshua 22:5

Only be very careful to observe the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God and walk in all His ways and keep His commandments and hold fast to Him and serve Him with all your **heart** and with all your **soul**.

## 3.2 The Hebrew words:

- heart [H3824]: lebab
  - 1) inner man, mind, will, heart, soul, understanding
    - \* a) inner part, midst
      - 1) midst (of things)
      - 2) heart (of man)
      - 3) soul, heart (of man)
      - 4) mind, knowledge, thinking, reflection, memory
      - 5) inclination, resolution, determination (of will)
      - 6) conscience
      - 7) heart (of moral character)
      - 8) as seat of appetites
      - 9) as seat of emotions and passions
      - 10) as seat of courage
- soul [H5315]: nephesh
  - 1) soul, self, life, creature, person, appetite, mind, living being, desire, emotion, passion
    - \* a) that which breathes, the breathing substance or being, soul, the inner being of man
    - \* b) living being
    - \* c) living being (with life in the blood)
    - \* d) the man himself, self, person or individual
    - \* e) seat of the appetites
    - \* f) seat of emotions and passions
    - \* g) activity of mind
    - \* h) activity of the will
    - \* i) activity of the character
- might [H3966]: m@'od, mehode'
  - 3) muchness, force, abundance, exceedingly
    - \* a) force, might
    - \* b) exceedingly, greatly, very (idioms showing magnitude or degree)
      - 1) exceedingly
      - 2) up to abundance, to a great degree, exceedingly
      - 3) with muchness, muchness
  - from the root word [H181] 'uwd
    - \* 1) brand, fire brand

### 3.3 In the New Testament

- Matthew 22:37-40 (quoting Deut 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18)

And He said to him" 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND**.' "This is the great and foremost commandment. "The second is like it , 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

- Mark 12:30-33 (quoting Deut 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18)

Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **STRENGTH**.' "The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these." The scribe said to Him , "Right, Teacher; You have truly stated that HE IS ONE , AND THERE IS NO ONE ELSE BESIDES HIM; AND TO LOVE HIM WITH ALL THE **HEART** AND WITH ALL THE **UNDERSTANDING** AND WITH ALL THE **STRENGTH**, AND TO LOVE ONE'S NEIGHBOR AS HIMSELF, is much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices ."

- Luke 10:27
- John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

### 3.4 The Greek words

- heart [G2588] kardia
  - a) that organ in the animal body which is the centre of the circulation of the blood, and hence was regarded as the seat of physical life
  - b) denotes the centre of all physical and spiritual life
    - \* 1) the vigour and sense of physical life
    - \* 2) the centre and seat of spiritual life
      - a) the soul or mind, as it is the fountain and seat of the thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, endeavours
      - b) of the understanding, the faculty and seat of the intelligence
      - c) of the will and character

- d) of the soul so far as it is affected and stirred in a bad way or good, or of the soul as the seat of the sensibilities, affections, emotions, desires, appetites, passions
  - c) of the middle or central or inmost part of anything, even though inanimate
- soul, [G5590], psyche
  - 1) breath
    - \* a) the breath of life, the vital force which animates the body and shows itself in breathing (of animals and men)
    - \* b) life
    - \* c) that in which there is life; a living being, a living soul
  - 2) the soul
    - \* a) the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart, soul etc.)
    - \* b) the (human) soul in so far as it is constituted that by the right use of the aids offered it by God it can attain its highest end and secure eternal blessedness, the soul regarded as a moral being designed for everlasting life
    - \* c) the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body)
- mind, [G1271], dianoa
  - 1) the mind as a faculty of understanding, feeling, desiring
  - 2) understanding
  - 3) mind, i.e. spirit, way of thinking and feeling
  - 4) thoughts, either good or bad
- understanding, [G4907], synesis
  - 1) a running together, a flowing together with
  - 2) knowledge
    - \* a) understanding
    - \* b) the understanding, i.e the mind so far forth as it understands
- strength, [G2479], ischys
  - 1) ability, force, strength, might