

Home group questions - Revelation 19-22.
Satan's fall, the new heaven and the new earth.

You might like to start your meeting with a time of worship, glorifying our holy and righteous God - the Alpha and Omega, the King of kings, and Lord of lords.

1. We only had time to read relatively short passages from Revelation, but it would be really good to take the time to 'read round' chapters 19-22 in the group. You'll already know the content, but nevertheless be prepared to be shocked and overwhelmed with wonder in turn.
2. Jesus - the rider on the white horse - comes to judge and make war (19.6). How difficult do you find it to reconcile this Jesus with the (same) compassionate, loving Jesus we so love from all that we read of Him in the gospels?
3. Post, pre and a-millennialism were very briefly described. The topic of the 1,000 years before Satan is released is one which has been fiercely argued and debated over many years, sometimes to the detriment of church unity. Do discuss the three theories in the group.
4. 20.7 reads 'when the 1,000 years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison and will come out to deceive the nations...' Can you think of any reasons why the Lord defeats evil in stages rather than immediately? (One suggestion is that some believe that a period of perfect government would induce a change in human nature. But we read that Satan is tragically still able to influence humankind for evil even after such a period when Christ has reigned.)
5. How does reading 20.11-15 make you feel? Do we remember to be thankful for the gift of eternal life through our Saviour Jesus? Might it prompt our urgent prayers for those we know and love who have yet to come to faith?
6. 21.1 'then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...' Is this your understanding of the future, or do you subscribe to the prevalent belief that humankind will be destroyed, leaving behind a spoilt earth?
7. Satan is despatched for all time in the 3rd chapter from the end of the bible, just as he first appeared 3 chapters from the beginning of Genesis. What do you make of this perfect symmetry, and the consistency and completeness of Scripture which we noted earlier with especial reference to Isaiah?
8. 'I am coming soon' v.7; 'the time is near' v.10; 'I am coming soon' v.12; 'Surely I am coming soon' v.20
'The Spirit and the bride say 'Come', and let everyone who hears say 'Come', And let everyone who is thirsty come' v.17.
How are we preparing for the promised coming of the Lord Jesus?

I love this quote from a woman who learnt to trust God in the most desperate circumstances:
'Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God'. Corrie Ten Boom