

The Story: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and God's People

Chapter 31: The End Times

As you read, take note of the cast of characters. Write a short descriptive to help you remember. Who are the main characters?

Write any notes or questions you have.

Review the questions on page 487 in your book to prepare for discussion in class.

Revelation (note no "s") is one of the most misunderstood books of the Bible. Interpreters become so focused on the things in Revelation that are not clear that they fail to highlight and celebrate those things that are very clear.

John's vision accomplishes more than simply showing us the *future*; it shows us the **center**. At the heart of everything God reigns, God is the Lord who sent his son into the world, and the Lamb who was slain is alive forevermore. For all of time, we will see, savor and celebrate the goodness and glory of God who saves. This is how God wishes to be known and revealed—and that is what we need to remember, especially in the mist of persecution and suffering.

What was John's response when he saw Jesus in the vision?

What were the warnings Jesus gave to the churches? In what way do these warnings apply to our lives today?

What do we learn about God from his actions and descriptions?

What does this chapter reveals about heaven?

Why is it important to think about and set our hope on heaven?

How does the message of Revelation help us live each day? How do we live as "if the story was real?"