



<sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

<sup>4</sup> He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." <sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

<sup>6</sup> He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.

<sup>7</sup> He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. <sup>8</sup> But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars--their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

#### TAKEAWAYS:

##### **Faithfulness, though costly, is not futile.**

*Revelation 2:10 Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

##### **Affliction, though continuing, will end.**

##### **Until then, reign with the Lamb.**

*Revelation 22:5 There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.*

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# THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY

## The Book of Revelation

The Story, part 31

Apostles and Epistles, part 4

May 21, 2017

*Isaiah 46:10 "I made known the end from the beginning .... My purpose will stand."*

*Revelation 1:9 "I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and the kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus ..."*

### 1. See things from heaven's point of view! The Lion of Judah reigns!

*Revelation 1:12 I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and among the lampstands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup> His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire.*

*<sup>15</sup> His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.*

*<sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup> I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for*



*ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.*

## 2. No matter how bad evil gets, it is not winning.

*Revelation 5:6 Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.*

*Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. <sup>10</sup> You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."*

*Revelation 6:1 I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals.*

*Revelation 6:15 Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. <sup>16</sup> They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!" <sup>17</sup> For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"*

*Revelation 8:6 Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.*

*Revelation 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."*

*Revelation 11:17... saying: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.*

*<sup>18</sup> The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both*



*small and great-- and for destroying those who destroy the earth."*

## 3. Final judgment is the final intersection of God's love and justice

*Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

"I hold it to be inalienable right of anybody to go to hell in his own way." Robert Frost

"If you want your own way, God will let you have it. Hell is the enjoyment of one's own way forever." –Dorothy Sayers

"Either you will say to God, 'Your will be done,' or God will say to you, 'Your will be done.'"

*Revelation 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.*

*<sup>13</sup> The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done.*

*<sup>14</sup> Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

## 4. God's triumph of heaven

*Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.*

*<sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.*