



Hunger For Truth

August 1, 2014

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HUNGER FOR TRUTH
MINISTRIES

Proverbs 7:2 – Matthew 5:6 – John 8:32 – II Timothy 3:16-17 – Hebrews 4:12
“Let us Hunger For Truth”

Please note that back issues of Hunger For Truth are viewable and printable at:
www.studytoanswer.net.

It is our desire that Hunger For Truth edifies, blesses and encourages you in your walk with the Lord. Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for us. We greatly appreciate your comments and we praise God for each and every one of you.

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The Book of Revelation (Chapter 7) (Dr. Thomas Strouse)

The following is **part 7** of a study on the book of Revelation by Dr. Thomas Strouse who is Pastor of Bible Baptist Church and Theological Seminary in Cromwell, CT (www.bbc-cromwell.org). It is a syllabus written by Dr. Strouse. It is the HFT editors desire that this study helps you grasp the deep truths within this incredible book! Please look for a chapter from this syllabus posted in upcoming issues of Hunger For Truth. We trust this will be edifying and convicting as well as a blessing and encouragement to readers. Thank you for reading. We praise God for the privilege of being able to share this study with you. May God richly bless!

The Book of Revelation / Thomas M. Strouse
CHAPTER #7

Background

Leaving the chronological sequence of Seal Judgments in Chapter Six, the vision recorded two groups of saints in the Tribulation who will experience redemption—the 144,000 and the multitudes saved by receiving their message.

Exposition

Rev. 7:1-17

The Sealing of the 144,000 (Rev. 7:1-8)

The Lord will protect His witnesses by sealing them before possible hurt to them. He sealed 12,000 Jews from the twelve tribes, excluding Ephraim and Dan, but referring to the tribes of Joseph and Levi, and giving a total of 144,000.

The Salvation of the Multitudes (Rev. 7:9-17)

Multitudes will be redeemed by the blood of the Lamb during the Tribulation, and they will serve him forever.

Theological Concerns

The 144,000 will not be Christians, or any select church group, but will be virgin Jewish men from the twelve Jewish tribes (cf. Rev. 14). Some have speculated that the omission of Dan was because the Antichrist would come from this tribe.

Textual Issues

Rev. 7:12—some MSS omit "amen."

Summary of Chapter Seven

The Lord will insure that the 144,000 Jewish evangelists will be sealed and protected in order to evangelize the multitudes that will be saved during the Tribulation.

Bread and Butter Christianity: Part 3 (By: Bro. Lacroix)

Text: I Thessalonians 5:24-28

1. *Power* (v.24). God's power is sufficient in many ways.
 - Paul testifies to God's saving power (Acts 9 and 26).
 - Paul recalled God's work in his life to the young pastor Timothy (I Tim. 1:11-15).
 - God has the power to save anyone and He too gives us the power to run the race (Heb. 12:1-2).
 - Since God has called us into His great work, He will empower us to do it because He is faithful.
 - He demonstrates His faithfulness in spite of our floundering and failing (Lam. 3:22-23).
 - We can do all things through Christ (Phil. 4:13).
 - God has used men of the past mightily, like George Mueller and Eric Lidell. God will use us mightily if we just let Him.
2. *Personal Praying* (v.25). Persistent prayer (v.17) and personal prayer are two vital components to the prayer closet, Paul argues.

- He has prayed for their growth and other needs. Now he is asking for personal prayer for God to use him and keep the mission going. He had other churches to write to and minister in. He even mentions this again in his second letter to Thessalonica (II Thes. 3:1-3).
 - Praying by name for someone is the right way to go, even though God knows each person and each need already.
 - This is similar to us naming those who err doctrinally (Rom. 16:17).
 - Paul needed their prayers, and so other believers need our prayers.
 - We need the prayers of other believers!
 - It is certainly okay for us to pray for a request from a lost person, but also keep in mind that the greatest need they have is salvation.
 - James exhorted his readers to pray for personal issues four times (5:13-16). He also used the example of the prophet Elijah and his prayer (v.17-18).
3. *Presence* (v.26). The early church greeting noted here simply meant they enjoyed being in each others presence for the time.
- While we are not told what the greeting may have entailed, we have a greeting for each other upon our entrance into the house of God.
 - Usually the men shake hands with each other and the ladies share a quick embrace, and pleasantries are sometimes exchanged as well.
 - This indicator of Christian love was used in other churches as well (Rom. 16:16; I Cor. 16:20; II Cor. 13:12-13; Phil. 4:21).
 - Our bond with each other ought to be much stronger than “best friends” without Christ. Two lost people can’t share in this special bond.
 - See Heb. 13:1. Amos commented on this thought (3:3).
 - A Christian and a lost person cannot have the same bond as well, because they are unequally yoked (II Cor. 6:14-18). That goes for friendship, marriage, business, etc.
 - Two Christians should bond with each other. Corinth sometimes had that problem and divisions arose (I Cor. 1:10-11).
 - The only time a bond should be broken is if that Christian moves to another area, in which case they will develop bonds with other Christians prayerfully. If a Christian goes Home to be with the Lord, rejoice in that you will be reunited again in Heaven. You’ll see them again!
4. *Passing It On...*(v.27). Paul wanted Christians all over each area to read his letter.
- Paul only wrote one copy of one letter to each church. Since many in each area had to read it, those Christians were responsible to pass it on, one way or another.
 - Each area, especially Galatia, was made up of many churches in houses (as opposed to a “house church” which is a dangerous and popular movement).
 - As the first recipients got the letter from Paul, it was quickly to be shared with each household and other churches in the area. This also teaches about preservation, in that the recipients copied the letter to have it for edification.
 - This would have been done until the days when everyone had a copy of God’s Word, and yet some aspects of this should still be done today by the Christian.
 - We have the responsibility to share God’s Word today, both with other Christians and with the lost around us. As pastor shares God’s Word with us by effectively teaching it to us, we can incorporate it into our lives and affect others.
 - In so doing, we help others to grow and it helps us to grow as well.
 - Paul gave such a command to the young Timothy (II Tim. 2:2).
 - Pass God’s Word unto the lost. Even though they don’t have an excuse (cf. Rom. 1:20), don’t leave it up to their conscience and Creation to help them see the Light. They need the

conviction of the Holy Spirit and the clear, concise message of the Gospel in order to be saved. How shall they hear without a preacher (10:17)?

- It is up to us to share God's Word with a lost and dying world. Plead with them earnestly, Crosby wrote, ("Rescue the Perishing"). Leave tracts at the gym, restaurant, mall bench, etc.
- Sharing God's Word will abound fruit to your account (Phil. 4:17) and give you an answer (I Pet. 3:15). Christ wants us to bear fruit (John 15:1-8) and His Word does not return void (Isa. 55:11).

5. *Promise* (v.28). God gives a promise of grace.

- God gives His promise of grace to every believer and Paul pens God's promise in every epistle he wrote (Rom. 16:24; I Cor. 16:23; II Cor. 13:14; Gal. 6:18; Eph. 6:24; Phil. 4:23; Col. 4:18; II Thes. 3:18; I Tim. 6:21; II Tim. 4:22; Titus 3:15; Philemon 25; Heb. 13:25).
- His grace is greater than all our sin.
- God has showed each believer tremendous grace and everyone has been shown it by Christ dying on the cross for us.
- As God has shown us great grace, replicate it as best you can in our own lives. Our demeanor is one such way to replicate His grace (Col. 4:6).
- The promise of His grace is a vital component, and combined with the thirteen other aspects of the Christian life we looked at, we have "filled" our bellies with the bread and butter of the Christian life.

Praise God in Dance

Source: 6/19/14 -- David Cloud, Fundamental Baptist Information Service, PO Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061 , 866-295-4143 - Way of Life Literature, www.wayoflife.org. – fbs@wayoflife.org

"Praise him with timbrel and dance..." (Psalm 150:4).

Psalm 150 is not a command that every Christian dance, any more than Psalm 69 is a commandment for Christians to curse their enemies. Consider Psalm 69:27-28:

"Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous."

Christians are not supposed to pray like this. See Luke 9:54-56.

Most of the things Israel did, in fact, we do not do today in the church age. This includes circumcision of baby boys, sacrificial offerings, temple worship, dietary restrictions, sabbath laws, religious festivals, multiple tithing, and many other things.

We draw spiritual lessons from every part of the Old Testament, but we determine what part of the Old Testament to keep by comparing it with the New Testament. The believer's way of life is found in the New Testament faith.

And there is no instance of dancing in the New Testament churches. Nowhere in the Gospels do we find Jesus dancing. There are no examples of the apostles dancing. There is not one example of dancing in the first churches. New Testament believers are commanded to sing spiritual songs, but we are not commanded to dance.

The dancing in the Old Testament was associated with God's kingdom (Psa. 149:3-5). When Jeremiah described God's New Covenant with Israel and the establishment of the kingdom of God on earth, he

mentioned dancing two times:

“Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry. ... Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow” (Jer. 31:4, 13).

The reason dancing is not mentioned in the New Testament churches is probably because this is the period of Christ’s rejection and exile. The Bridegroom is away in a far country (Mat. 9:14-15).

At the Last Supper the Lord Jesus said, “But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom” (Mat. 26:29).

When the marriage of the Lamb comes, then will come the time to “be glad and rejoice” (Rev. 19:7). And I have no doubt that the joyful dancing referred to in Psalm 149 and 150 and Jeremiah 31 will begin then! Even so, come Lord Jesus!

When the kingdom of God comes again to this earth at the return of Christ, we will dance, but it will not be rock & roll dancing.

Emotions in The Bible (By: Craig Glickman)

There are many verses and passages in the Bible that relate to emotions and feelings of man and our Lord Himself in trials, suffering, affliction, and of course peace and joy. The following is an ongoing study of passages that have convicted, comforted, edified, encouraged or blessed me through hearing messages, devotions and studies over the years. I hope this is a blessing and help to you and I, and that the Lord may be honored and glorified in this series of studies on emotions in the Bible. Each issue, Lord willing, will have a verse or passage in the Bible covered. I am excited and privileged to do this. Praise God! I intend to break each passage down into the following: **Passage, Emotion(s), Cause, Effect, What does the passage say?, What does the passage say to you and I?, What should you and I do about it?, How do you and I stay accountable?**

Based on study “Good Grief” by Rick M. from FEATURE devotional

Passage: Isaiah 53:3-4

Emotion(s): Grief

Cause: Blame or guilt

Effect: Emotional distress

What does the passage say?: When grief visits us, we often find ourselves overcome with feelings of devastation and helplessness. Paralyzed with unanswered questions, confusion and stress, believers are not exempt from feelings of isolation and periods of emotional distress. But do not despair, precious child of God! Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, can and does identify with us! A man of sorrows, our Lord Jesus is fully acquainted with our grief (vs. 3)! Verse 4 tells us that He alone “hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows” (vs. 4). This means that the load we have chosen to carry is not ours to bear!

What does the passage say to you and I?: Satan employs a common trap when we are vulnerable and hurting: It is one finger. This deceitful, deceptive finger points in two destructive directions. The first is **blame**; the second is **guilt**. Both are wrong, and neither direction honors the Lord! The finger placed at others (blame) seeks to wrongly pin the cause of our pain on others. The finger turned inward (guilt) strongly takes personal responsibility for events that occur outside of our control. Reality of life and the effects of the curse are very real o' dearly beloved! It is good to know He knows, He cares and

our deepest grief He shares!

What should you and I do about it?: Satan knows that both **blame** and **guilt** are blindfolds to the truth. The Lord does not want us to be blinded to His divine purpose for our suffering or grief.

How do you and I stay accountable?: I encourage you to read Psalm 119:71-76. We find here that affliction is for our benefit—so we might depend more fully upon the precious promises of God (vs. 71). He assures us of His presence and purpose in our trials (vs. 75), and we are to pray in faith believing that God's “merciful kindness” is sufficient for our comfort (vs. 76). O' dear believer, are you facing sorrow and grief today? Please do not point your finger at others nor at yourself; rather, lift up your eyes and look to Jesus Christ in full reliance upon His grace and strength to help (II Cor. 12:9, Heb. 4:15-16)!

Only Jesus Saves! (John 14:6)

Saved To The Uttermost

“Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.” Hebrews 7:25

I would like for you to look at our verse listed above. Dear reader, it is very true that Jesus is able to save to the uttermost the “guttermost”! But that is not what our verse means. It is very true that Jesus is able to reach down to the very deepest depths of sin and save people! But that is not what our verse means. If you are reading this and have yet to repent of your sin and put your faith and trust in Jesus Christ alone and no church, religion or good works to save you, why not do it today (II Corinthians 6:2)? He stands at your heart's door knocking as you read this!

He is able to save to the uttermost! It is not how far down He reaches; it is how far out His salvation goes. It means that He is able to save to the uttermost—to the end; to the farthest extremity. While the ages roll, while eternity goes on and on and on, Jesus, Praise and thank God, is still saving people and keeps his people saved. He is able to save to the farthest extremity all those who come unto God by repentance and faith in His Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! Why? How? “...seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them”--for us. For us into the very presence of our great God!

Based on devotional by Tom Malone

:) Children For Christ :)

A VERSE FROM EVERY BOOK

Memory Verse: Psalm 119:105 – Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

The Bible is indeed a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. Please take your Bible and a few sheets of paper and write the first verse you find from each and every book in the Bible or a verse that comes to mind, or any verse God leads you to. The important thing is to write a verse from all the books of the Bible. Then read what you wrote and share it with others. It will be amazing what you will learn from God's Word the Bible!

<p>“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God...” 1 Corinthians 2:14. This explains why the Bible remains to a great degree a closed book to the most educated but unconverted man, while it is an open book to the most ignorant believers. This explains why a man may be educated and trained and hold all the theological degrees that all of the theological seminaries in the world can bestow upon him, and yet be utterly blind to the great spiritual revelations of the Word of God, while a poor, uneducated believer will see truths and revelations of infinite depth and glory in this Book of books” (M.R. DeHaan, M.D., <i>The Tabernacle</i>, 1955). – <i>Notes, July 18, 2014</i>, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org</p>	<p>“Joseph went from the pit to Potiphar and from the prison to the palace”</p>
<p>“Failure to realize the true, awful nature of sin lies at the root of man’s denial of eternal punishment. Man revolts at the idea that a loving God will punish His creature in an eternal hell. Modern preachers love to tell us that God is love, and that He will do no such thing at all; but all such talk is silenced immediately when we get a true picture of these two things: God’s HOLINESS, and the AWFULNESS OF SIN. Sin is not a little thing. We repeat this without apology. It is the cause of every sorrow in the world. It blights lives, breaks homes, kills children, beclouds reason, slays the body, and damns the soul” (M.R. DeHaan, M.D., <i>The Tabernacle</i>, 1955). -- <i>July 25, 2014</i>, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org</p>	<p>Praises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praise God for opening the door for a possible transfer for Bro. Craig to a Wal Mart store in Naugatuck, CT! <p>Prayer Requests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job and living situation needs for Bro. Craig and Andrew • Bro. Craig who is looking for work in CT and for possible move to Plainville, CT area. • Wisdom regarding the new location for Heritage Baptist Church • Sherrie (Sister of Bro. Craig's Fiancee Tash) (Lymph Nodes) (Heart issues) • Wedding for Bro. Craig and Sister Tash on May 2, 2015 • Abby Lafreniere (ALS) (Wife of Pastor John Lafreniere, church planter to Fairfield, CT) • Dr. Michael Thompson (Member of Heritage Baptist Church of Norwood, MA) (Brain cancer) • Pastor Gary Freeman (Race Street Baptist Church in Catasauqua, PA) who is battling colon cancer. • Needs of New Hope Baptist Church of Lynn, MA • Needs of Chester Baptist Church of Chester, MA • Missionary Tim Hawes (To Papua New Guinea) (Church Planting, Bible Translation, Agricultural Development) • Brother Bill Moore of Heritage Baptist Church (Health needs) • Those affected by the Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines • The condition of this nation following the abomination that has occurred with the DOMA decision. • Needs of the body of Heritage Baptist Church • Salvation and needs of those affected by the tragedy in Boston, MA on April 15th 2013

- Salvation of Brother Andrew Lacroix's family
- Salvation of Wendy and friend Ben, Jacob, Kaitlyn, Sybil and Bernice (Family of Craig Glickman)

Hunger For Truth is a bi-monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman and Andrew Lacroix who are members of Heritage Baptist Church of Norwood, MA where the Pastor is Steve Hathaway.

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Thank you for reading this. We praise God for all our dear brothers and sisters in Christ and we greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

**His Servants,
Craig Glickman Andrew Lacroix
Prov. 3:5-6 1 Thes. 5:18**

