

STUDY GUIDE FOR THE THURSDAY EVENING STUDY OF THE BOOK OF
REVELATION 1/26/23-2/2/23

1. What "Blessing (s)" did you find in reading Revelation, Chapters 2-3 ?
2. What questions do you have from the assignments for this evening's study?
3. Explanations of the Diagrams on pages 87-92 and the **pattern, design, or structure** in the literary design of the Letters to the Churches. We will consider one letter at a time and then the 7 Letters to the 7 Churches.
4. Comments on Dr. Christopher Wright's paper: *All the Churches Shall Know...": The Significance of the Letter to the Church in Thyatira, with Particular Focus on Revelation 2:23b*
5. The 2-kai-cnfs in Rev. 2-3: Rev. 2:2,2,2, 3, 5, 9,13,17,19,20,26-28.
Rev. 3: 3,5,8,9,12,1217,18,20

REV. 2:1-7 (There are 24, 2-kai-cnfs in Rev. 1:9-3:20) (There are 6, 2-kai-cnfs in Rev. 1:1-8)

*To the Angel of the Church of Ephesus write: These things says The One holding
the Seven Stars in His Right Hand, The One walking among the Seven Golden
Lampstands*

*I know¹ thy works **and** toil **and** thy patience*

and

[I know] that thou cannot tolerated evil men

and

*[I know] that thou put to the test those calling themselves
apostles **and** they are not **and** thou hast found them liars*

and [I know that] thou hast patience

and

[that] thou hast endured for My name's sake

and

[I know that] thou hast not grown weary.²

'But I have against thee that thou thy first love hast neglected.

'Remember therefore [the heights] from which thou hast fallen³

***and** repent **and** do the works thou didst at first*

¹ The verb translated *I know* is a verb that indicates a knowledge that is not acquired by deduction, but rather is knowledge beyond that. There is a verb translated *I know* or *we know* that means knowledge and how it is acquired by analysis of the evidence. John makes much more of the contrast between 'οἶδα' and 'γινώσκω' in 1 John. The knowledge claimed here and the other six letters is the intimate knowledge of one who sees and knows man's heart. 'Οἶδα' is also the knowledge that deals with information that comes only by Revelation. All knowledge of whatever sort, 'οἶδα' (which is the perfect tense of the verb *to see*) and γινώσκω are equally accessible to the Lord and He uses these verbs interchangeably.

² In this verse there is an interesting progression in the tenses used in the 2-kai-cnf: *thou hast* (present tense); *hast endured* (aorist tense); *hast not grown* (perfect tense). This is a little technical, but very interesting.

³ The Perfect tense of the verb *to fall* is used 23 times in the Apocalypse. Here are the references to the verb. This is an interesting Bible study topic. Rev. 1:17; 2:5; 4:10; 5:8, 14; 6:13, 16; 7:11, 16; 8:10; 9:1; 11:13, 16; 14:8; 16:19; 17:10; 18:2; 19:4, 10; 22:8

*If thou wilt not [remember, repent, do]
I am coming to thee, and will remove thy lamp stand out of its place if thou hast
not repented.*

*But this thou hast
that thou hatest the works of the Nicolaitans, and I hate these things.
The one having an ear heard what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
To the one overcoming I give to him [the right] to eat from the Tree of Life
The Tree is in the Paradise of God.*

REV. 2: 8-11

*And⁴ to the Angel of the Church in Smyrna Write: These things says
The First and The Last, The One who Died and Lived⁵
'I know your tribulation **and** your poverty (but you are rich) **and**
the blasphemy of those calling themselves to be Jews (and are not but are a
synagogue of Satan)*

*'Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the Devil is about to cast some
of you into prison in order that you may be tempted and you will have tribulation
ten days*

*Be faithful unto death and I will give you the Crown of Life.
The one having an ear heard what the Spirit is saying to the churches
The one overcoming shall not at all be harmed by the Second Death.*

REV. 2: 12-17

*And to the Angel of the Church in Pergamum Write: These things says
The One having the sharp Romphaia⁶
I know where thy dwelling is (where Satan's throne [is])
And [I know] thou art holding⁷ fast My name, and
[I know] thou didst not My faith and in the days of Antipas, My faithful witness
the one killed from among you (where Satan's dwelling is)*

*'But I have small things against you that you have there some holding the teaching
of Balaam,
the one teaching Balak how to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel,
to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to fornicate and in the same manner you have
those holding teachings of the Nicolaitans.
' Therefore, repent. If you do not[repent],*

⁴ The Seven Letters are in a 6-kai-configuration. This means that the Seven Letters are to be read as a unit of material. Among other things, this 6-kai-cnf indicates that the Seven Letters are contemporaneous.

⁵ This is a different configuration from Rev. 1:17, 18, but an obvious allusion to the Vision of Rev. 1.

⁶ The *Romphaia* is a large, flat, two-edged sword. There are six references to the *Romphaia* - Rev. 1:16; 2:12,16; 6:8; 19:15, 21

⁷ Note the objects or positions that are held in the Revelation. Rev. 2:1, 13, 14, 15, 25; 3:11; 7:1; 20:2

*I am coming to you quickly and I will make war against them with the Romphaia of
My mouth.*

The one having an ear heard what the Spirit is saying to the churches

To the one overcoming I will give the Manna that has been hidden

and

I will give him a White Stone

and

*upon the stone a New Name has been written that no one knows except the one
receiving it.*

REV. 2: 18-29

And to the Angel of the church in Thyatira Write: These things says

The Son of God

The One having His eyes like a flame of fire and His feet like glowing bronze

*I know thy works **and** love **and** faith **and** service and thy patience*

and thy latter works exceed the first works

‘But I have against thee that the woman Jezebel is tolerated

the one calling herself a Prophetess,

and

*she teaches **and** deceives my servants*

to fornicate and to eat food sacrificed to idols⁸

‘And I gave her time for her repentance and she is not willing to repent

from her fornication

Behold

*I will cast her upon a bed and the adulterers with her
into great tribulation if they do not repent from her works*

And her children I will kill with pestilence⁹

and all the churches will know¹⁰ that

I am the one searching minds and hearts and I shall give you individually

according to your works

And I say to you, the rest who in Thyatira,

the ones not having this teaching [of Jezebel]

those who have not known The Depths of Satan, as they call them

⁸ [BDAG] “only subst τὸ εἰδωλόθυτον, something offered to a cultic image/idol, food sacrificed to idols an expression which ὁ εἰδωλον, 2) was possible only within Israelite tradition (cp. Ps.-Phoc. 31 [an interpolation probably based on Acts 15:29]; Just., D. 34, 8; 35, 1), where it was used in a derogatory sense. Polytheists said ἱερόθυτον, ὁ ἱερόθυτος). It refers to sacrificial meat, part of which was burned on the altar as the deities’ portion (cp. Orig., C. Cels. 8, 30, 1: τὸ εἰδωλόθυτον θύεται δαιμονίοις), part was eaten at a solemn meal in the temple, and part was sold in the market (so Artem. 5, 2) for home use.”

⁹ Literally the Greek text is “kill with death.” This phrase is used in the LXX of Eze 33:27 and we have here another allusion to the Hebrew Scriptures, in Greek, and the death of Ahab’s family.

¹⁰ This is the Greek word know (‘γινωσκω’) which means that the information known is derived by deduction. “We know and here is how we know.”

*I place upon you no other burden
However, what you have, hold with both hands until I come.
And the one overcoming and the one heeding, up to the end, My works
I shall give him authority over the nations
and
he shall rule them with an iron scepter,
as the vessels of clay are broken to pieces,
as I myself have once and for all received
from My Father
and
I will give him the Morning Star.*

The one having an ear heard what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
REV. 3: 1-6

*And to the Angel of the Church in Sardis Write: These things says
The One having the Seven Spirits of God and the Seven Stars¹¹*

*I know thy works that you have a name that you live and you are dead.
Be on the alert and pay attention to what is on the verge of death.
for I have found [after searching] none of thy works having been completed¹²
in the sight of My God.*

*Remember therefore what you received and heard **and Keep and Repent***

*If therefore you will not wake up
I will come as a thief and you will not know what hour I will come upon thee.
But you have a few named in Sardis ones that soiled not their garments
and they shall walk with Me in white; for they are worthy.*

*The one overcoming in this manner shall be clothed in white garments
and
I shall not at all erase his Name from the Book of Life
and*

*I will confess his Name before My Father and before His angels
The one having an ear heard what the Spirit is saying to the churches.*
REV. 3: 7-13

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia Write: These things says

¹¹ Rev. 1:4, 16

¹² perfect passive participle.

*The Holy One The True One The One having the key of David
The One Opening and no one closes
and
The One Closing and no one opens*

*I know thy works. Behold, I have put before thee a door having been opened a door
no one is able to shut because thy power is little **and** thou hast kept My word¹³ **and**
hast not denied My name.*

*Behold, I will give of the synagogue of Satan,
those saying that they are Jews, and are not, but are liars*

*Behold, I shall make them to come **and** to bow down at your feet **and**
then they will know that I loved you
Because you have kept My word about patience and I will keep you from the hour
of testing
that is about to come upon the inhabitants of the whole world
to test those who think they dwell permanently upon the earth.
I am coming quickly hold fast what thou hast so that no one may take thy crown.
The one overcoming I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God
and
he will not go out from it anymore
and
I will write upon him The Name of My God
and
The Name of the city of My God the New Jerusalem
the one coming down out of heaven from My God
and
My new Name.¹⁴*

The one having an ear heard what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
REV. 3: 14-22

*And to the Angel of the church in Laodicea Write:
These things says The Amen The Faithful and True Witness The Beginning of the
creation of God
I know thy works that thou art neither cold nor hot
would that thou wert cold or hot.
consequently that thou art lukewarm and neither hot nor cold*

¹³ Therefore, they are blessed - Rev. 1:4

¹⁴ The names are drawn together in a 2-kai-cnff.

*I will vomit¹⁵ thee out of My mouth.
Because thou boasteth I am rich **and** I will always be wealthy **and** I have need of
nothing
And thou doth not know that thou art the wretched and miserable and poor and
blind and naked one¹⁶
I advise thee to buy from Me Gold that has been refined by fire¹⁷
that thou mightest become rich **and** White garments, that thou mayest clothe
yourself and that the shame of thy nakedness may not be revealed **and** Eye Salve
to anoint thine eyes that thou mayest see.
I, as many as¹⁸ I love, I reprove and I discipline Be zealous, therefore, and repent.
Behold I have stood at the door and I am knocking
if anyone heard¹⁹ the sound of My [voice] and opened the door
I will come in to him
and
I will supper with him ἀκοῦσάτω
and
he [will supper]²⁰ with Me.
The one overcoming I will give to him to sit with Me on My throne
and as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.
The one having an ear heard what the Spirit is saying to the churches.*

¹⁵ This rather gross image of the Lord's disfavor appears a dozen times in the Hebrew Scriptures. The reference in Rev. 3:16 is an allusion to these O.T. passages. Lev 18:25, 28; 20:22; Job 20:15; Prov 23:8; 25:16; Isa 19:14; 28:8; Jer. 25:27; 48:26; Jonah 2:11

¹⁶ A 4-kai-configuration

¹⁷ Here is another perfect passive participle (πεπυρωμένον ἐκ πυρός)

¹⁸ Matt. 22:9 Go therefore to the main highways, and as many as you find there, invite to the wedding feast.

Matt. 22:9 is the only other place where the idiom, as many as, is used in the N.T.

¹⁹ Remember the blessing promised to those who hear-Rev. 1:4

²⁰ Lk. 17:8; 22:20; 1 Co. 11:25; Rev. 3:20 The word *supper* is used in only four places in the N.T. Two are clearly associated with the Lord's Supper; in Rev. 3:20 we have supper with the Lord.