

**Study Of Revelation (2016) – 1 Intro  
Pastor O'Dorisio – May 25, 2016  
Bible Text: [Revelation 1:1-3](#)**

<https://livingwaterstabernacle.com/sermons/05-25-16-revelation-intro-revelation-11-3/>

The Lord's led us into this precious book of Revelation, and I'm grateful to God that this a great encouragement to our lives. I'm thankful to the Lord that we're not fearful in studying anything in the word of God because we know that He has given this to us, and as we'll read tonight, He has revealed these things. That veil was rent in twain, we come in there boldly and fully, and we thank God again for what He has given. But this revelation is the unveiling of Jesus Christ, and I'm very thankful that we are in this time brothers and sisters because it is, it's exciting we're seeing these things come to the pass, and it's been I believe ten years since we studied Revelation together. And in ten years how its accelerated, how even ten years ago was I was getting kind of chills in my arms thinking you know it was so evident that the Lord could appear at any moment. How much the more the Lord could appear at any moment today. And we thank God for this, and this is what this is about is just the encouragement; it's more of the love letters to us. It's I do, I love the romantic heart of our Lord that yes, there's some very difficult things to read, and some hurtful things to perceive, but it's all to His glory. 01:30

And we're thankful that we're in this age of grace that it's still extending that he would have all men to be saved. It's there for everybody, but thanks be to God and come to the full knowledge of the truth. And that's where we're at this time is really just going on to see this brilliance and clarity that is given to us in Revelation of the events that are happening right now that are just prior to the tribulation we'll study together if the Lord tarry. Obviously, many of the events that happen thru the tribulation, and then even some things that go on after the tribulation in the millennium. But as we study this, by the grace of God may it not be the events that we got caught up into. May it not be in a sense we're just looking for signs, but we're looking for Him; we want to see Him. That is who is going to see Him first are those that love His appearing; that's what Paul had said. So, we're thankful for this, God knows what we need, and you know there's a song about Jesus in disguise and I understand that there's a lot of times He's well, in everything in your life He's ministering to if you just pay attention. But I'll tell you what, you begin to look at Him and really see Him, you just see His appearance, and you thank God for that. 02:51

But before anyone, I want to make sure we really understand this, could really begin to delve into Revelation, before anyone could really have an understanding of really all of the types and shadows that are here, we must have Paul's gospel in hand. And for those that might be new or might be visiting in a lot of different things, or hearing this on the internet I don't want you to be discouraged when I say Paul's gospel. There are people I meet almost every day and talk to and they say what is Paul's gospel, and they're Christians. Well, I say they're his epistles, and to really understand that message; that hidden mystery that was given to Paul. The thing I don't want you to be dismayed about is as we study this revelation by God's grace is we're going to be right in in Paul's epistles

all the way along. And we're going to be all through Colossians, and Ephesians, and Philippians, and we'll go back to the Old Testament because there's many things. But what will open up the word of God, and especially Revelation like nothing else is Paul's gospel. You need to see the mystery of Christ in the church. We need to see the mystery as Paul writes in Romans, as he writes in Colossians, as he writes in Ephesians it was the mystery that was hidden from the sons of men. It was the mystery that was hidden from the prophets. They wrote about these things, they wanted to look into these things, but it says they wrote them for us.

04:21

And the next, it's just so beautiful, and so amazing that the grace of God to have us here at this time. But brothers and sisters, that must be known, and those things are only known through Paul's gospel. Now the one thing; I should say many things, but the one thing I really relish about and rejoice in is Revelation was written after the Apostle Paul's death. So, the Apostle Paul was already dead before Revelation was given and written through the hand of the Apostle John. However, Paul had all of its revelation before it was ever given to the Apostle John. Now, you would say well, why would I say that? Well, I want you to turn with me over to Second Corinthians, and in chapter twelve, and I think this'll begin to spark some that know where we're headed here. In chapter twelve we'll go ahead and read verses one thru four of Second Corinthians.

05:24

This is the Apostle Paul speaking here, he says, it is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. So see, he's already telling us he saw some things. I know a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body I cannot tell: God knows;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knows;) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Praise be to God, so we know and see that Paul had been given such vision and revelation that, and matter of fact as we know because of what the bible tells us Paul even had again a better revelation than the Apostle John for Paul's was an inward revelation, and John's was an outward revelation, and let me explain this a little bit more clearly because this is one of the things that the Lord woke me up in the night to tell me about. See, those who are familiar with Revelation, the Apostle John writes of these things; he writes of these things that he sees , and later on in the study of Revelation the Apostle John bows down unknowingly to the angel or the man that is showing him around, and he bows down and he begins to worship him. And that angel, or as the angel says I'm redeemed just like you, see that you do this not.

07:18

You do not bow down and worship me, and he gets John up. But see, that angel; that wonderful, redeemed life that it is showing him around is so Christlike that John, that one that even put his head on Jesus' breast couldn't tell the difference; he thought he was walking around with Jesus Himself. So, see, John saw that, but what we just read about the Apostle Paul, the Apostle Paul writes and he glories in that man. The Apostle Paul had the vision of that man he had hoped to be, the man in the fulness, the stature, and

the measure of Jesus Christ; Christ in me, the hope of glory. See, Paul by the grace of God saw the opportunity to be that man in a sense, or that angel that was showing John around, whereas John didn't have any idea in a sense, but that the ultimate, or the pinnacle of glory of that life, and the reason is, is because the Apostle John, his place in heaven as it says, his place is one of the twelve thrones over the twelve tribes. So, it's a reigning thing, it's a wonderful thing but it's not the bridal place, whereas Paul, oh that's why he got a glory in that man. Paul got the glory praise God in the glory of jointly ruling and reigning together with Jesus Christ. Praise God, isn't that wonderful? And see, this'll bring to pass even as we get in this. Like I say boy, I'll tell you, I feel like that horse and the Lord has got to just take the reins and pull them back tonight a little bit because so much was just coming out.

09:05

But we'll see things in those priests and kings that will become to come together like I've never seen it before. And I'm thanking God for this, so again we're just going to wait on Him and be patient. But see, Paul's epistles tell us of Revelation, and without Paul's writings Revelation would never open up to you in its fulness. I want to start here by just giving a few points about Paul's epistles, and the things that he had written of that we see and are going to see in Revelation. See, Paul writes of the states of believers. In Revelation we're going to get into pretty soon about the seven churches, basically the state of all Christianity of this time. But see, the Apostle Paul he'd already talked about that whether it was the legality that was going on in the Galatian saints, whether it was the carnal flesh that was going on the Corinthian saints. Whether it was those fully purposed saints; those Philadelphia saints in Ephesus that were running well just like the fully purposed horses. And see, so we get that Paul had brought all of these things out.

10:18

In Corinthians Paul even speaks of the ranks in the resurrection. He talks about every man in his own order, and we begin to see this in our Revelation study, and in Revelation Chapter Three and chapter four we see different companies in heaven at different times. So, Paul was already writing of these ranks, he was already telling of these ranks. In Romans he brings out that some saints will be heirs of God, and some saints will be joint heirs with Jesus Christ if so be that we suffer together that we may be glorified together with Him. And since we were talking about glorified together, how about in First Corinthians? The Apostle Paul brings out that some saints will be a reflection of glory as the moon, and then there'll be some saints that will have the actual glory of the sun, amen? So, then when we get to Revelation, no wonder we see the bride adorned descending from heaven having the glory of God. Do you see that? See, without Paul's gospel brothers and sisters we wouldn't ever receive these things. We wouldn't understand it in its fulness and its depth as we start to talk about this, and we're just brushing over some of these things, but this kind of ramps us as we get excited as we go into this study.

11:36

Think about Thessalonians Chapter Four. Paul writes there of the first trump, those that will meet the Lord in the air. In chapter five he also talks about those that are asleep

and that will enter into the tribulation when it could have been avoided. And how was it going to be avoided? Well in Second Timothy He says to them that love His appearing. Pretty simple, isn't it? Amen? See, that's how you're alive, that's how you're awake. When you're in love, you're always looking for your lover, amen? You're always wanting them to show up. You're always as I told you I used to run to the mailbox every day. My love lived out of town, but I'll tell you what, I wanted to hear her voice and those words I wanted to read them letters. I went to that mailbox every day; go to the mailbox every day, amen? Yeah, It's there, praise God. See, Paul writes of the tribulation even in Thessalonians 5:3. He tells us when they cry peace and safety, then sudden destruction isn't that? How about 1 Corinthians 15:22-25? Paul speaks of the millennial time when God will have handle the complete authority to His Son. It's amazing, isn't it? It's all there, praise be to God, but see the Lord has even given us more, amen because He's given us all these scriptures that it just expands and it's so perfect His love to us. 13:07

And we could go on and on with this but I'm going to cease tonight about that part of it, but by grace I'm going to tell you something we will go line upon line, and as my sister would tell me by the Spirit yea in the deep things of God He even takes it between the lines, so I like that. He said you get in there between the lines; that's like being that prisoner of Jesus Christ. You know, you're all between it, you can't get out hallelujah, so that's good stuff but we'll rejoice and together that this revelation is seen when we follow Paul as he follows Christ. 13:44

Alright, now let's go ahead and get into our study, and we'll go back here to Revelation One and we'll read verse one. And it says there the Revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave unto Him to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass. And He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John. Now, John then was given this vision by the Spirit to write, and he was exiled. He was exiled at this time upon the island of Patmos. Now, I want us to really understand this, God gives us scriptures, doesn't He, hallelujah. See, that's what God does; He gives the increase, and God gives His scriptures to His servants. And really understand what this word servant means. It means one who worships and submits to God. That's what a servant is; one who worships and submits to God. See. I pray we never get too wrapped up in ourselves, and then our ability when we hear the word servant. And I'm sorry, I can see flesh come out of a lot of Christians, oh I'm a servant for the Lord. Oh, I've gone and done service here, and I've done service there and all of these things. Please remember, remember, remember whenever there is a working of the Lord in us, whenever there is a yielding to God, whenever there is believing it's all by His grace. 15:18

It's all because of the grace of God that is with me, hallelujah, and so sweetly brothers and sisters when we submit to the Lord by believing by His grace He encourages us in the word of God and especially with the word of God it says here in the things which must shortly come to pass. And I love that, things which must shortly come to pass. Now, again John's writing this over two thousand years ago, and yet Jesus is seeing this as something that is right upon us, amen? That's what it is because it is upon us, it always

is. The expectation and anticipation of the coming of the Lord is right now. The encouragement to us by the grace of God is to be awake, alive, looking for His appearing right now. Not tomorrow, not at a more convenient time, but right now. The word of God tells us not to be slumbering, to not to be sleepy, not even to let one eye begin to get a little bit slumbered or entangled with the affairs of this life. I've heard many times people, and I'm talking about Christian people convince themselves that in some way the Lord isn't coming now. I can see it; He's not coming for a long time. 16:37

God forbid that we would be like that, because as the word of God tells us here these things which must shortly come to pass. That means things that are upon us right now; the coming of the Lord praise God is so present it's wonderful, and I'll tell you what brothers and sisters, if we really are brethren that are following Paul as he followed Christ remember this. John hadn't even written this before Paul had died. But in Paul's life he was always looking for the coming of the Lord; that's why he was trying to go back to Jerusalem. Isn't that something? See, Paul was always expecting Jesus to appear. He was expecting that praise the Lord that He was coming at any moment. That was that ravished love that was on the heart of the Apostle Paul to see the Lord. Now, how much more encouragement do we have two thousand years later? And as we'll get into Revelation seeing these things so clearly that have come to pass. Seeing the nation 1947 the nation born in a day. And Israel becoming seeing these things. And I mean I'll just jump ahead a little bit. You know, you talk about the locust they're this; you know those locusts with the teeth in the fire and All, and it was just like all over the place. 18:12

I used to think that my goodness those are all the jets and things we have. I think the last ten years we got drones. And if the Lord turns another ten years who knows what we got then, but it's all set, it's all here and He could come tonight, amen? And I thank God for that, I thank the Lord for this encouragement, I than the Lord that we can get excited about the events that are occurring, but it's the event that is going to occur and that is Jesus is going to appear praise God. So, in this first verse immediately we are introduced to the angel. Do you read that with me there and going to appear, and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John. And so, for the next twenty-two chapters that John writes this angel is the one that is taking him through and revealing these things and showing him these things as God brings these things into the vision and what John would see. 19:22

Now, this angel that it speaks of here is no human angel, most likely is no human angel; well excuse me; no human angel, and most just want to gloss over this, so I want you to go with me to Revelation Twenty-two so we can just get this right now and understood who this angel is. In Revelation Chapter Twenty-two and we'll read verses eight and nine. And it says there and I John saw these things and heard them. And when I had heard and seen I fell down to worship but for the feet of the angel which showed me these things. And the bride mentioned these things a little bit earlier how John started worshipping the one as we read back there as the saint began to show him around to show him these things he begins to worship this angel that's showing him around, and

the reason John's worshipping him is because he thinks that this angel is Jesus. He's so Christ like that he thinks that this is Jesus. Then saith he unto me; this is what this angel says to John, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. 20:38

Now you think about this. This is a glorified saint; this is one that, praise the Lord, is that again has been revealed and such glory that John believed that this is Jesus. So, we're so thankful to God of what we know that the grace of God can transform in our life and will give us some day, and we will be like Him, amen? But think of this as well. He says worship God. You think about how there are different religions that we have today, very great religions. They get you to pray to different saints, worship idols, worship saints, all of these different things. This was one that was so Christlike the Apostle John was worshipping him, and he said you worship God. See that? Just little things like that. Listen to the word of God; that it puts things, stops it right there. Worship God, amen? Alright. So, we see that this angel as it says here where we just read, he said look, I'm of your brethren. I'm of them which keep the sayings of this book. I'm of thy brethren and of the prophets. So, this angel is a brother in the Lord, and the brother of the prophets, and is and I sincerely believe that this is inferring that this is the brother in the Lord who happens to be from Jewish lineage possible of the prophets. I believe most likely this could be Paul himself that is showing him around. 22:20

Now, we don't know that. It's not to get in there to say well I know that this is who it is, or this is who it isn't, but I believe so sweetly that as we read about the sun glory, as we read about that we are changed from glory to glory into His very image. I mean we're talking about the Apostle John. He was the disciple as we remember in our study that the Lord loved, this is the disciple that Jesus loved. John knew Jesus. John put his head on Jesus's breast. John wouldn't let Jesus's out of Jesus's sight even when all the other disciples were kind of turning away a little bit, but John too. Again, nobody was there, Jesus went alone, but John went in there when they began to give him the trial and give him over and despising Him. But John thought that this brother in the Lord was the Lord. I want you to really receive that like Him. Like Him praise God, amen. See, it isn't somethings that's offensive, you seem this is the word of God and it's real. So, we do not specifically know, but what we do know is that is that that honor and glory bestowed upon the saints that keep the sayings of this book can worship God. Hallelujah, it's going to be like Him, it's going to be the heights of glory and I by the grace of God and praying that this will be the likes of us, and how this has encouraging to me that we would know and be, and called into this company that would perform these things with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I am grateful to God as He shows this in the life of this brother that is showing John and around. 24:16

Now, let's go on back to verse two. Revelation One. Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. So, see what John is saying here is he's bearing testimony of all the things that he saw of the word of God. And you have to think of that because that's encouraging to us; it's just like our

testimony or our reward; it's going to be based upon we see. See, without a vision the people perish. What do you see, praise God. and I always remember my dad would give me that expression as he raised us whether it was athletics especially going into business and schooling and all of that. He said well son, you got to see it to be it; you've got to see it. You know, you're not going to get there unless you see that you can see there to be there, and he said you can be anything you want. And it's the truth. And I believe that very sincerely when people are encouraged and people are loved and given opportunity you'll get there; I really do. But how much more so in the word of God? What you see and most of Christianity today, do you know what they see? They see kingdom. That's why they want us to do kingdom preaching. That's why they want to live in that; we're going to go out and save the world and all that.

25:45

I'm going to tell you by the grace of God. I see what Paul sees, I see ruling and reigning jointly with Jesus Christ; that's what I see because I have those enlightened eyes of understanding by the Holy Ghost that that's where He wants me to be. He put me in this time, He put you in this time and to win Him, and I thank God that this is the enlightened eyes of understanding. Turn with me over to Ephesians Chapter One. Then going back to one of Paul's epistles here in Ephesians. Chapter One, verses eighteen and nineteen, and this is Paul's first prayer that was put on his heart. He says that the eyes of your understanding being enlightened that ye may know what the hope of His calling is. Isn't that something? How many times do we hear in life, and we say I don't know what my calling is? I want to know what His calling is, amen? See, we need to settle down in His calling because His call is really evident, and His calling is what Paul is praying that our eyes and our understanding that the mind of Christ would dwell in us. that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in who? In us, in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, and that's the Holy Ghost.

27:23

So, we thank God that this can be worked in our lives, it's all there in this provision and power. So, this is the enlightened eyes of understanding, and so here's the question. Do we see it brothers and sisters? Do we see the hope of God's calling for us? Well, if we really do, you'll see Philippians Three- fourteen and that calling is none other than the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. That is the mark where the prize for the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. And then as it said there, and the riches of His glory in the inheritance in the saints? Well., the riches of His glory, that's the height of His glory. And what is that? That's the Lamb; that's the Lamb's wife, hallelujah. Having the glory of God descending from heaven all by His grace. Praise His name, this is that vision that the Lord has given us to see the opportunity that we could look yea into the deep things of God.

28:28

Now, notice here in verse two the three things that John states here. He says he was privileged by grace and see that's how you're always privileged and this is how it all works. We grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He

says first He bear record of the word. John knew the scriptures, and he did. John knew the Old Testament scriptures. John knew the word of God, and he preached truth. Secondly it says testimony of Jesus. Now again we mentioned earlier John was the disciple that Jesus loved, and what a testimony that is, and John grew in that love. And you think about John growing in that love, John was given such grace he was able to write three more epistles; John One, John Two, John Thre and then given the grace of God to be used to write Revelation. 29:30

Now, that is some love, that; that is bearing testimony of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, praise the Lord? But think of this, as well brothers and sisters before we get to the third one, what is Jesus in so many ways? But He is the author and finisher of our faith, amen? So, he is writing the word of God in our lives if we'll allow Him to do that because by the grace of God it says that we live by faith, and faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God, and it's impossible to please God without faith. And we know God the Father is only going to take what's going to please Him. And the only thing that pleases Him is the life of His Son, the only thing that pleases Him is the word of God, the only thing that pleases Him praise the Lord is faith believing the word of God. So, here we are as John again is given us opportunity to write these things. I'm thanking the Lord that He's giving us the opportunity to live here to have this written in our lives. 30:36

We're this volume hallelujah of the word of God to Him that he's writing this word of God in us. Now I'll tell you with what the Father is given us in Jesus Christ, by your grace write it all in you. I want to believe all the word of God, I don't want to believe just bits and pieces of it, I want to go into the depth of this love Jesus. I want to understand you, I want to have this relationship that takes me on, and again that we have this fellowship of this divine love. But then thirdly as John again as he said he bear record of the testimony of Jesus Christ, finally he bears record of the visions that were given. John was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; John was not ashamed of yea the deep things of God. Now I'm going to give you a testimony; I remember when the Lord really began to reveal the bridal truth to my life. I mentioned that about when I was seventeen years old. There's a sweet brother there that was encouraged to really bring forth the study of Revelation to me for the first time that the Lord had readied me to really receive it, and I thank the Lord and boy I'll tell you, when the Lord starts opening your heart, and the Holy Ghost starts pumping that bridal truth into your life you get a little jacked up. 32:06

You get excited, you're about ready you know to go preach to everybody about bridal truth, and I'd get around some Christians and I'll tell you what, they didn't go over very well. Matter of fact it went over just the lead balloon, boom. They didn't want to have anything to do with it; they didn't want anything to do with more than salvation and, and you know encouraging to be filled with the Holy Ghost and the things of that nature. And where I'm going with this, then it was almost like well I'll just go ahead and fellowship a little bit and I'll hide this real treasure undern a bushel because it was almost discouraging when I begin to tell people about bridal truth they didn't want to receive it. And the Lord encouraged my heart in a way; wait a second. And I remembered how he showed me

that, and I appreciated again the way that God had dealt with me, I'm a pretty simple guy and He'll give me really simple things. Well, when I courted Polly and sometimes in high school you get teased and say oh yeah you got a girlfriend: yeah, I got a girlfriend; yeah, sure you know. Well, I had a picture; I had a picture, and it was a real picture, so I would show that picture, and I would show that picture, and then you know I'd even be talking to people at the restaurant and they didn't even know who I was when I'd showed them that picture, and I'd show that picture because that was my love. And then the Lord began to deal with me again about this bridal truth, and I show that picture, and I'm not going to be ashamed of it.

33:47

And I appreciate about John and you know that's kind of where it happens a lot of times is you get isolated with Jesus, and John was exiled to Patmos, and isn't that how the Lord does that so sweetly in our lives? He'll bring you out to the wilderness, He'll take you out from among the camp if you're really going to really receive the deep things of God. You have to remember the camp; the camp is the family, the camp is of Christians, but He said come unto Me, go into Me out from among the camp. Let's get into that fellowship, and you think about the ones that did, it was Moses and Joshua. And then as Moses would be in the tabernacle and everything, Joshua wouldn't read. You wonder that brother got a double portion out there; you see what I'm Saying? It's just, there's a calling on our lives and we're hearing that; you'll hear that truth in the word of God and it's a very rare thing but by the grace of God if we want it God is ready to give it to us.

34:49

But see, John not only did he hear these things, but he made them known to his life and again may that be us. May I as the word of God says hold that fast which thou hast that no man take thou crown. I know nobody can take my salvation, this is talking about bridal truth, and I do. I've say it many times, it's the engagement ring; it's my engagement ring just like my picture. I've been around ladies that have gotten their new engagement ring: SEE MY RING? See my ring, see my ring? You see my bridegroom, huh? And this is what it is, he's not ashamed of it, and we thank God that John had to be; he did, he had to be banned from all society for God to really show him these things and, sometimes we have to be banished from all society to say well Jesus, I guess it's just You and me, and then after we really take it He might bring us back around and then we're like Lord, I want to go back out to the wilderness with You again and say oh no, I got a new wilderness for you around all these other ones huh? See, that's how God will do it.

36:04

Alright let's go to verse three, we'll just go through a few verses tonight because this is a lot, and by the grace of God just really a rest upon it, and I'm hoping that again we go back into the scriptures and as you write these verses down, and these studies are on the internet as well too, get the word of God out that, and there's a wonderful study books. We you have Revelation studies on the internet as well too, and there's the Brother Copley's study book as well with it, and it's just precious to go through this because you'll see how divinely the Lord loves you. How divinely, how perfectly, how immensely He loves you. But verse three, blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this

prophesy and keep those things which are written therein for the time is at hand. So this is glorious brothers and sisters. In Daniel 12:4 and verse nine, if you know about Daniel, Daniel was given much revelation of the things that would happen in the end times. I was reading through that exciting through that exciting tenth, eleventh chapters of Daniel are beautiful about the little horn, the antichrist. And again, the false prophet and how all the nations will give him authority, and he does it an a very deceitful way. It says he flatters them. He takes then by flattery; he's got that silver tongue. And then when they start disagreeing you know as the little rats holding hands, then they starting fighting and then you get yourself into an Armageddon, and then you got you know a fourth of men, and a third of men; you're talking about a lot of lives that are going to be lost because there's so much wickedness that's going on.

37:54

But in Daniel, as the Lord showed him all these things. Daniel wanted to look into it and really know what the Lord was showing him; he wanted to know more, he wanted to see all this. And the twelfth chapter, verses four and nine God says it two times to Daniel. He said Daniel, seal up what I've said to you until the end time. Isn't that something? Seal it up until the end time. Now brothers and sisters as we know as it tells us in Hebrews Eleven, we live in a better time, we live in a time of a better thing. We now are shown these things, and as John says here, we're encouraged to read it, to hear it, and to keep it.

38:36

Now, going back to Revelation 22:9 as opposed to what Daniel was told to seal up these things in Revelation 22:9, we already read this. Then saith he to me. He Says see thou do it not for I am thy fellow servant and I am of thy brother the prophets, and of them which should keep the sayings of this book and worship God. So, again we want to keep these things, we want to know these things, and God has revealed this to us, so praise the Lord we're in the end times. This is it; we're in this time; we're in the time of the coming of the Lord. But to enjoy this blessing as it says back here in verse three, we need to read. Really? I have to read the word of God. Yeah, by the grace of God that's why we need to pray because there isn't a one that naturally wants to read the word of God. God drew you tonight, His grace brought you here tonight. But you know what? I'm thankful to the Lord that we love to come to a bible study, and I've been there brothers and sisters, and I'm there in battle all the time.

39:47

Yes, thank God, He's called me to pastor. I'm thankful to bring forth the word of God, but I need to pray always, Lord, give me the desire to study the word of God. I don't want to just go in there just to study the word of God. to study the word of God because this is my job; it's not how I want to approach it, and I don't want you to study the word of God because God just told me to study the word of God. Lord, I need to pray by Your grace. Give me the desire to go study to show myself approved. Show that by the grace of God that I love You Lord, and I want to study this word and to know You Jesus. I want to know praise God my inheritance that You're speaking of. And then it says beyond reading we need to hear. And see, that is for yourself; not just to know something by rote, but you need to hear it that it is yours. And I look at this in many different ways. We need

to be taught the word of God, we need a preacher, we need to hear the word of God; that's why He's given us teachers, and pastors, and evangelists and all these things. We need to hear that. 40:56

But there's something even beyond that as well too, you need to hear the Spirit give you; you the word of God, amen. But it is yours, that this isn't again just a saying. I've met many a people and I thank God for ones that can quote scripture, and know scripture, but do you live scripture? Does that scripture love you, and is there that fellowship with that scripture? Knowing what it is, and how powerful and effectual it works in them that believe. So, here we read, we hear the word of God; he that hath an ear, let him hear, and then finally it says and keep those things. And that last word keep, it means to cherish those things. Guard it by giving it the more earnest heed. As the word of God says giving the more earnestly to the things which we have heard lest at any time we should let them slip. I know by the grace of God there's some in here that have studied Revelation I'm confident hundreds of times. I thank the Lord that you're here tonight. I'm grateful to God that we can come and rejoice it never grows old; praise the Lord it's always new, and I thank God because there's nothing like the word of God; it's not just a book. It's the living word of God, it's alive, it never grows old. It's Jesus Christ the same yester, today, and forever. So, we guard this, we give the more earnest heed to it, and it says don't neglect so great salvation. 42:30

This word keep, it all also means to keep your eye on it. It also means to remain as one unmarried; I love that. To keep is to remain as one unmarried for Him; you're a chaste virgin to Christ as you go follow Paul as he followed Christ loving Paul's gospel. You're engaged, hallelujah. We keep the faith, praise His name. This is what this is about, and it is a good fight of faith. So, again as he ends it here for the time is at hand; Isn't that wonderful? The Lord in the very first three verses He tells us things which must shortly come to pass, and the time is at hand. Now, you could say and there are ones that'll say well that was written two thousand years ago, why didn't He come then? Well, the word of God also says when you get those little chirpers that say where is your Jesus, that's when it's time to look up because He coming, amen? And it says in the word of God that a day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years is as a day, so if you just want to get kind on snippy about it, well this was two days ago. But with God can I tell you something? There's no time. He's present in all of it. He sees it, He's just like we rejoicing the last couple Sundays as God said about the Lamb of God; the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world. 44:00

See, that was already done, it was already finished, it was already completed. Yes, Jesus is going to go to that cross, we know that in the sense in the way we comprehend time, but there was nothing stopping that. There's nothing that's going to stop the word of God, it's the only thing that's ever going to remain, it's the only thing that's ever going to be. Heaven and earth is going to pass away, but the word of God endures forever, and I thank God, isn't it wonderful? And we shouldn't even say in a sense but that's how we think about it. It's just a matter of time; these events have not

happened yet, but it's just as the word of God says, all authority. It has been given to Him; it's all been given to Him but yet it hasn't been in a sense fully shown. He hasn't taken the throne as God, but it has been given, it's all there for Him. It's just again as we say the only way we can comprehend it, it's a matter of time. 44:53

I would rather say let's just praise the Lord as we abound in that hope. It's not an if, it's just when, amen? So, that's how the word of God is, not just for the event but even for the promises of God in your life, amen? I know we all come in here with trials tonight, but have we not already made the way of escape, amen? Has He not already promised us and we know that all things work together for good together for good to them that love God; to them who are the called to His purpose? Amen. Did He not say I'll perfect that which concerns you? Praise God, so let's abound in that hope, but hallelujah we call those things which be not as though they were because it's the promises of God, and that's where we rest and we thank Him for this. So, we know that this is all about to break forth at any moment. 45:47

As we end here I love to think about the Jewish bride in that old times, and we talk about this often it was a tradition that the bridegroom would come and give His fiancé, or bride to be at any moment and a lot of times it was kind of funny because they would like to come and get their bride like at two or three in the morning. And that would really go over well now, but there were girls that really were in love back then that were ready to get married. Maybe it was just to get out of the house, I don't know; that's not the way you should do it, but they would sleep with their clothes on because they wanted to be ready, they had to be ready the moment that bridegroom came, it's time they would get them. And it's just like the Shulamite in the Song of Solomon, you know at the first part of the Song of Solomon. You know she's loving; she's thinking about him and loving his appearing and all of this, and she's laying in her bed kind of resting, and his hand is at the door, he's ready to get her, and so she gets up immediately and goes but then she glances. I can see this happen here in a way; oh, just a second, I got to get ready.

47:03

That's not what he wanted to hear. I'm here now, I'm ready and I'm going to be with the ready. And so, when she gets to the door he's gone. So, this is that expectation again that he could at any moment. There isn't anything more important brothers and sisters. I know the Lord has given us lots of occupations in a sense in our life; we occupy as dads, as brethren. I occupy as a pastor, you occupy in your works or work or whatever it may be, but don't let that become as Brother Hill would always say that's not my vocation; that's not my vocation and my calling. That's what I do and abide till Jesus comes but my calling is moment by moment. I'm listening for that trump. I'm listening for the voice of the archangel. I'm listening and waiting for that rise up, come away My love, My fair one; that's the in tune by the grace of God. And this is why He gives us this urgency always of love and devotion, and anticipation. And brothers and sisters, think about it. When we're living in that anticipation of the coming of the Lord, isn't it wonderful?

48:19

When I'm living entangled in the affairs of this life, and I'm kind of forgetting a little about that Jesus is coming, my life ain't as good. When I start to get entangled in the things down here, I think is so important they're just ripping at me and everything and not looking into the word of God I say wait a second honey, this is a trial of your faith; this is the trying. But it's working the glory that shall be revealed. Now I'm back immediately in the word of God and thinking oh He could come today. Hallelujah, that's the life, that praise God is that calling that's upon us. The Lord's Day, Jesus's day is about to begin. And I'll tell you the bride, you know what she says? she says that's our day. At any moment it's going to begin when He catches His bride away. And in closing that is the condition of the heart, that is the state of full joy of love of those that will go; it's all about the bridegroom, it's all about Him leaping over the hill, running through the field, and brothers and sisters we can really get off a little bit even in these studies and things. Is my focus on the journey, or is my focus and my affections set upon Him? Is it about Him? Now go back often and talk about Genesis Twenty-four; the bride for Isaac; the bride for Isaac, okay? So, here comes the Master sending out that servant to go find the bride for His Son. Alright?

50:02

I think there's sixty-seven verses if I recall in that chapters: sixty-seven verses. And sixty-six and a half verses are all about the proposal, all about marrying My Son; all about how wonderful He is, all about how He wants you right now, all about how you got to go right now. All about how what all is His is yours. And one half of one verse is about that journey, amen? So, let by the grace of God the Lord prioritize what we're going to be studying; it's wonderful to see all that, but it's about Him, amen? Let's go ahead and stand and be dismissed.

50:56