

Series: Game of Thrones

The book of Revelation, the last book in the Bible, can be a challenging book to read, understand and make profitable use of for the Christian life. Highly symbolic, it's not always clear what is happening or what is being referred to. This has tended to make Revelation either put aside as an unhelpful curiosity or become the focus of people trying to decode a road map for the end of the world.

However, the book of Revelation was an important document for the early Christian churches which it was addressed to and continues to have relevance for the church today. At its heart, it is uncovering (this is what apocalypse literally means) what is really happening as the church faces, not only persecution by the state, but increasing pressure to re-conform to the pagan culture.

As we too, the modern day church, experience increasing pressure to conform to our pagan culture, we are taken up with John into the heavenly sphere to see the truth behind what we experience. And, through this vision we too are exhorted to stand firm and overcome through the blood of the Lamb.

While Revelation does give us a theological vision of the end of the old age and the birth of the new, that picture is to inspire and encourage the Christian in the present time to stand firm in her faithful belief in Christ Jesus as Lord. In short, Revelation does not decode the future, but decodes the present in light of the future for a purpose.

Similarly to the popular HBO series, Game of Thrones, Revelation depicts a contest for power with the question 'who is the true ruler?' The powers that rule the world want the church to believe it is them, but (SPOILER!), in fact, it is God and the Lamb who sits on the throne and who unfolds the present and the future.

SUNDAY	TEXT	TOPIC	PREACHER
May 24, 2015	Revelation 1:1-8	Beatitude	David Schuchardt
May 31, 2015	Revelation 1:9-20	Vision	Kim Henderson (NLT)
June 7, 2015	Revelation 2 - 3	Letters	Belinda Leibel
June 14, 2015	Revelation 4 - 5	Theology	David Schuchardt
June 21, 2015	Revelation 6 (to 16)	Judgments	David Schuchardt
June 28, 2015	Revelation 21 - 22:5	New Creation	David Schuchardt