**BBC’s Men’s Bible Study – Winter/Spring 2023**

**Unveiled Hope and Transformed Living: The Book of Revelation #1**

**1. The HEART of the Book of Revelation**

 1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what **must** soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, 2 who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.

 3 Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

**The Book of Revelation was primarily written as a revelation—that is, as an *unveiling* OF Jesus Christ… and BY Jesus Christ**

* Jesus is the central figure in the whole Bible (Luke 24)
* Jesus is the main character in God’s story
* Jesus is the fountain of hope for which we thirst and from which we must learn to drink continually. “Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.” (Rev. 22:17)

 **2. The HERO of the Book of Revelation: Jesus as Prophet, Priest and King**

 4 John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

**Jesus is the Prophet, Priest and King we all desperately need.**

* He speaks truth and reality
* He advocates for us in our brokenness and sin… both as priest and as sacrifice!
* He reigns over things… for our good and his glory

**3. The HOPE of the Book of Revelation: US… a Loved and Called People**

 5b To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

**Jesus loves us as no one else… unconditionally and contra-conditionally!**

* His love makes us characters in his story of reconciliation and redemption. Our biggest problem is not our sin, but our unwillingness to believe that Jesus loves us as sinners.
* His love makes us carriers of his story of reconciliation and redemption. In union with Jesus, we are called to live a prophetic, priestly and kingly story of reconciliation and redemption.

**Blessing:**  7 Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. 8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

1. First of all WELCOME! What had the most impact on you from Scotty’s introduction and overview of the Book of Revelation? What was encouraging, and makes you excited to be a part of this particular study?
2. What 3 words summarize the history of your experience of the Book of Revelation? In the past, has Revelation fueled more faith, fear, confusion, or hope for you?
3. Scotty used the illustration of studying Revelation as through you were going to Switzerland for the first time. Do. Not. Miss. The. Alps. We started with the biggest of all Alps today—Jesus, himself. What did you learn or remember about Jesus today that was encouraging and timely for you personally?
4. Close today’s small group time briefly sharing any prayer requests you might have, praying for each other, and asking our heavenly Father to really pour out his Spirit upon us in the coming weeks. Lastly, think about any other men you might want to invite to join us... whether they are believers of not.