

The End wk1: Assumptions and Audience

Introduction: When we come to Revelation, we usually find a lot of opinions, fears, and conjecture. It is really important to neither ignore or obsess over this book, but to approach it eagerly to try and understand what God would want us to take away, and change in light of what He has to say. As we jump in, may we set our opinions and agendas to the side and encourage one another with this amazing book.

Discussion Questions

- 1. When you hear people talking about Revelation, what kinds of thoughts or emotions usually come up for you?
- 2. In the video, Shane talks a lot about "context." How is understanding the context of both who the audience is and what they are experiencing helpful to understanding the book? Shane also introduces the term "highlighter theology." What is that and why is it dangerous?
- 3. Read **Revelation 1:1-3** What/who is this a revelation of? How do those who study this book receive a blessing?
- 4. Read **Romans 1:4-8** Why is this addressed to the 7 churches of Asia? What claim does John make about Jesus here?
- 5. Read **Romans 1:9-20** What does John say is ours in Jesus (verse 9)? Why are those things a part of the kingdom if Jesus has overcome? John hears Jesus in verse 11, but sees him in verse 12. Why does he have the reaction he does in verse 15?
- 6. What is the primary message from Jesus in chapter 1? How does that primary message match (or not) the way many of us approach this book? Why are we not to fear, even when it seems there is plenty of good reason to fear? How do we move forward, even if we experience fear?

Shaping Your Mind – "I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." Revelation 1:18

Moving Forward – May you receive the blessing of this book by taking it to heart!