



2. [about 8 minutes] Read chapters 8 and 9 silently. Read chapter 10 aloud. One person could read the speech in verses 4, 6–7, 8, 9, and 11.

1. [about 5 minutes] From your reading of Revelation over the last month (or beyond), what do you see as elements that occur repeatedly?

We are about a third of the way through the book of Revelation. It is a good time to review some of the common threads that run through the book. This week, we will look at some themes that occur in Chapters 8–10 that tie the book together.

Revelation 8–10

the seven trumpets, the little scroll

Week 5 • Sunday 4 September 2016

[spend about 5 minutes on each topic]

1. Silence! (8:1)

What sounds do you recall from Revelation 1–7? What is the effect of silence here? Why do you think it is specified as being for half an hour?

2. Sevens (8–10)

What sets of seven are mentioned in these chapters? What other uses of seven do you recall meeting in the book? What relation do you see between the seven letters (2–3), seals (6–7) and trumpets (8–9)?

3. Woes (8:13)

Read again 8:13. This is one of the four ‘woe’ acclamations. Read 18:10, 18:16, 18:19 for the others. In each case, who is the speaker? Who is the ‘woe’ addressed to?

4. Vice lists (9:20–21)

Other vice list appear in 21:8 and 22:15. How do these compare with each other, and to the ten commandments (Exodus 20)?



Looking ahead: Next week is Revelation Chapter 16.

Worth remembering (from Revelation 8:4) ... the prayers of God's people went up before God

1. In Revelation 10:4 John is told to seal up some information. Thus not everything is revealed in Revelation. How does this affect how we approach the book?
2. Revelation 8:3–4 (and 5:8) demonstrates our prayers are heard by God. How should this impact how we pray?

From there to here [spend about 10 minutes on this page]

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5. Thunder and lightning (8:3–5)

Similar expressions appear in 4:5, 11:16–19, 16:17–21. Note how the expression develops at each iteration. How do these provide coherence to the book?

6. Revealing and concealing (10:4)

Often John is told to write (e.g. 1:11, 1:19, 14:13, 19:19, 21:5). Here he is directed *not* to write. Likewise, he sometimes explains symbols (e.g. 1:20, 4:5, 8:3–4, 8:10–11, 9:11), often he does not. What do you make of this dual theme of sometimes uncovering, sometimes not?

7. Scrolls (10:1–11)

Review the main meanings of scrolls in Revelation: the book itself (1:11, 22:7, 22:9, 22:10, 22:18, 22:19); the scroll the Lamb opens (5:1–5, 7, 9); the ‘little scroll’ (10:1–2, 8–10).

8. Old Testament references (10:8–11)

How has John echoed the Old Testament so far in Revelation? In Chapter 10, there is a clear reference to Ezekiel 3:1–3. How does Revelation use, but develop, Old Testament material?



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