

Christmas 2020 Born to Die



Scriptures & Questions

1. What did you learn from **Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12**, **Matthew 1:18-25**, **Matthew 16:21-28**, and **Philippians 2:5-8**?
2. How has Jesus shown Himself to be “the way, the truth, and the life” to you and your family this year?

Romans 3:20 (NLT): *For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are. (Romans 3:20, NLT)*

Romans 6:23 (NLT): *For the wages of sin is death ... (Romans 6:23, NLT)*

Romans 3:21-28 (NLT): *But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ ...*

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood ...

Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law. (Romans 3:21-28, NLT)

Romans 6:15-23 (NLT): *For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:15-23, NLT)*

John 13:33-34 (NLT): “Dear children, I will be with you only a little longer. And as I told the Jewish leaders, you will search for me, but you can’t come where I am going. So now I am giving you a new commandment ...” (**John 13:33-34**, NLT)

John 14:1-6 (NLT): “Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. ² There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? ³ When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.”

⁵ “No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. (**John 14:1-6**, NLT)

Assignment for Jan. 2 & 9, 2021

Next Sabbath, January 2, 2021, **Ron Carlson**, our Conference President **will present our message**. The **week after that** (Jan. 9) we will begin a **series on the book of Revelation** tentatively titled ***Finding Jesus in Revelation (and Hearing His Voice)***. It would be a great time to **spend some time reading Revelation**, perhaps trying to read it through a couple of times between now and then.

As we begin the new year, our first focus will be to use the book of Revelation to learn more about Jesus. For the next couple of weeks, spend some time in **Revelation 1 – 3**.

The **Seven Churches can be approached in two ways**. Both ways give us insights and understanding. The **first way** is that together, **they give a snapshot of what the church is like at any given time**. Churches in one part of the world are more like one of the seven, while those in another part, may be more like another one of the seven.

The **second way**, is that **they give us a historical view of the church from the time of the Apostles until now**. In this view, the churches, in the order in which they are listed, give us times in the history of the church with certain prominent characteristics for each time period. **This view helps us see where we are in earth’s history**.

Keep both of these views in mind as you read through this passage. Don’t worry about understanding every detail, just **try to get a clear picture** in your mind of what John is saying.

- During the next couple of weeks read **Revelation 1 – 3** through several times. You may find it helpful to read it in several translations.
- What do you find comforting in this passage?
- Is there anything about this passage that makes you uncomfortable? Why do you think that is?
- What does this passage tell you about Jesus?
- What are the prominent characteristics – good or bad – of each of the Churches? You may find it helpful to make an outline.
- How does the picture of Jesus presented in **Revelation 1** relate to the Seven Churches in **Revelation 2 & 3**?
- What is the most important message you see in this passage?
- How will what you have learned affect the way you live your life? Why?

