

PRACTICAL WORSHIP



INTRODUCTION

- Psalm 95 demonstrates to us the whole range of Christian experience and gives us direction as to how to express our Christian experiences through powerful worship.
- Practical worship comes from the power of the Spirit working through a pure life.
- Our worship should be filled with joy and praise to God as well as awe and reverence for God.

INTRODUCTION

- The psalm can be outlined into four parts: worship readily, worship knowledgeably, worship humbly, and worship enthusiastically.
- When we truly worship the King, our focus on the Lord is heightened throughout all aspects of our lives and deep obedience and reverence spills out through our lives.

WORSHIP READILY

PSALM 95:1-2

WORSHIP READILY

- The psalmist begins the psalm with an invitation to worship by saying “come.”
- When we read this psalm, we find a foretaste of what is to come in the New Testament when Jesus would say in Matthew 11:28, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”
- The amazing truth is that our Father in heaven wants each true worshipper to come to Him.

WORSHIP READILY

- The psalmist also gives us practical guidance on how to approach worship.
- He continues in verses 1–2 by saying that we should come “joyfully” and come with “thanksgiving.”
- We can come joyfully and with thanksgiving in recognition of all the amazing things God has done and will accomplish in our lives.

WORSHIP
KNOWLEDGEABLY

PSALM 95:3-5

WORSHIP KNOWLEDGEABLY

- Knowledge of who God is and the works He has accomplished should only cause worship to deepen in the heart of the believer.
- Knowing information about God is different from actually knowing Him through that information.
- Our deeper understanding of the works of God throughout history help to transform our thinking of God.

WORSHIP KNOWLEDGEABLY

- David, in this psalm, takes time to reflect on the magnificence of God.
- The reason Israel was to worship YHWH with joyful gratitude was because He was the great God and King above all gods.
- He held all the earth within his authority; and He possessed sea and land, having made and shaped them with His hands.

WORSHIP KNOWLEDGEABLY

- The second reason Israel was to worship YHWH with joyfulness in their hearts was because He made and holds all the earth in His hand.
- When David spoke of valleys and mountains, and later of sea and land, he was using a figure of speech that combined two parts to express the entire whole.
- God made the valleys and the mountains (the bottoms and the tops) and everything in between.

WORSHIP HUMBLY

PSALM 95:6-7

WORSHIP HUMBLY

- While the first verses of this psalm exemplify praise, verses 6 and 7 are summarized by attitude of humility.
- In fact, David emphasizes the attitude of prostration.
- The reason for this type of attitude is because God is “our maker.” Not only is God the creator and sustainer of the heavens and the earth, but He is also our Creator.

WORSHIP HUMBLY

- In verse 7, the psalmist pivots and moves from a transcendent view of God to a more relational view of God as he says, “For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.”
- This view of God conveys that God cares for us despite our rebellion and obstacles we have raised up against Him.
- Like sheep, as Isaiah points out in Isaiah 53, “We have all gone astray....”

WORSHIP
ENTHUSIASTICALLY

PSALM 95:8-11

WORSHIP ENTHUSIASTICALLY

- As this passage concludes, we are reminded emphatically not to “harden” our hearts toward worship, but instead to approach the throne of God enthusiastically.
- While most of this passage has an upbeat tone to it, these last verses give us an admonition.
- True worship is not just singing choruses but about changing our heart to more reflect the heart of Christ.

WORSHIP ENTHUSIASTICALLY

- To illustrate this truth, David reminds them of the hardheartedness that prevented a whole generation of Israelites from entering the rest promised for them in the promised land of Canaan.
- Their faith had been tested, and unfortunately, they failed the test.
- David warns them that cultivating this heart of worship will help prevent hardening of their hearts.

WORSHIP

- Lead Worship Pastor Michael Neale explained how to keep our hearts pliable to our Creator when he said:
- “Personal and corporate singing, confession, adoration and repentance are vital to the whole person’s worship of the Almighty. We must dethrone ourselves from our hearts, and enthroned Jesus.”

REVELATION: AN OVERVIEW

BOOK OUTLINE

- Book of Revelation is in three parts (1:19).
 - Write the things that you have seen (chapter 1), things that are (chapter 2-3), things that will take place after these things (chapters 4-22).
- The book of Revelation fills in the details of the prophecy of Daniel (70 weeks) and the prophecy of Jesus (Matthew 24).

EPISTLES

- Chapters 1-3 are the forgotten epistles.
- Letters to: Ephesus, Smryna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.
- He does not rebuke two churches (Smyrna and Philadelphia).
- One church does not receive a commendation (Laodicea).

BOOK OUTLINE

- Three judgments (chapters 4-19) – seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments.
- These do not take place concurrently but are a chronology of judgments. Similar to what God did with Pharaoh (judgments got worse).
- Telescoping (seventh seal unleashes the trumpet judgments, seventh trumpet judgment unleashes the bowl judgments).

SEQUENCE

Seals

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



Bowls

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

BOOK OUTLINE

- There are five non-chronological, parenthetical insertions (hike up mountain, break). These are times when John (looks backward & forward).
- Revelation 7, 10-11, 12-14, 16, 17-18.
- Three interruptions takes place between the 6th judgment and the 7th judgment. The two others follow the trumpet and bowl judgments.

GOD'S THRONE

- John is transported into heaven and shown a picture of God's throne: sees four living creatures, sees angels, sees the 24 elders.
- Who are the 24 elders? They represent the church: they are crowned, they are clothed in white, they are redeemed.
- 1 Chronicles 24 – says the priesthood was organized with 24 priests, we are also priests.

SEVEN SEALS

- Revelation 5:1 – John sees scroll with seven seals: represents the title deed to planet earth, Satan is the prince of the earth, God is in position to reclaim the title deed.
- The judgments in Revelation parallel the judgments in Exodus: Israelites were taken out of Egyptian bondage, now earth will be taken out of Satanic bondage.

SEVEN SEALS

- Revelation 5:2-3 – John begins to weep: no one is worthy to remove the seals of the scroll, sees the earth continuing on in bondage.
- The Lion of Judah has overcome, sing “Worthy are you (the Lamb) to break the seals.”
- Revelation 6 – seals are broken off the scroll, judgments during the Tribulation period.

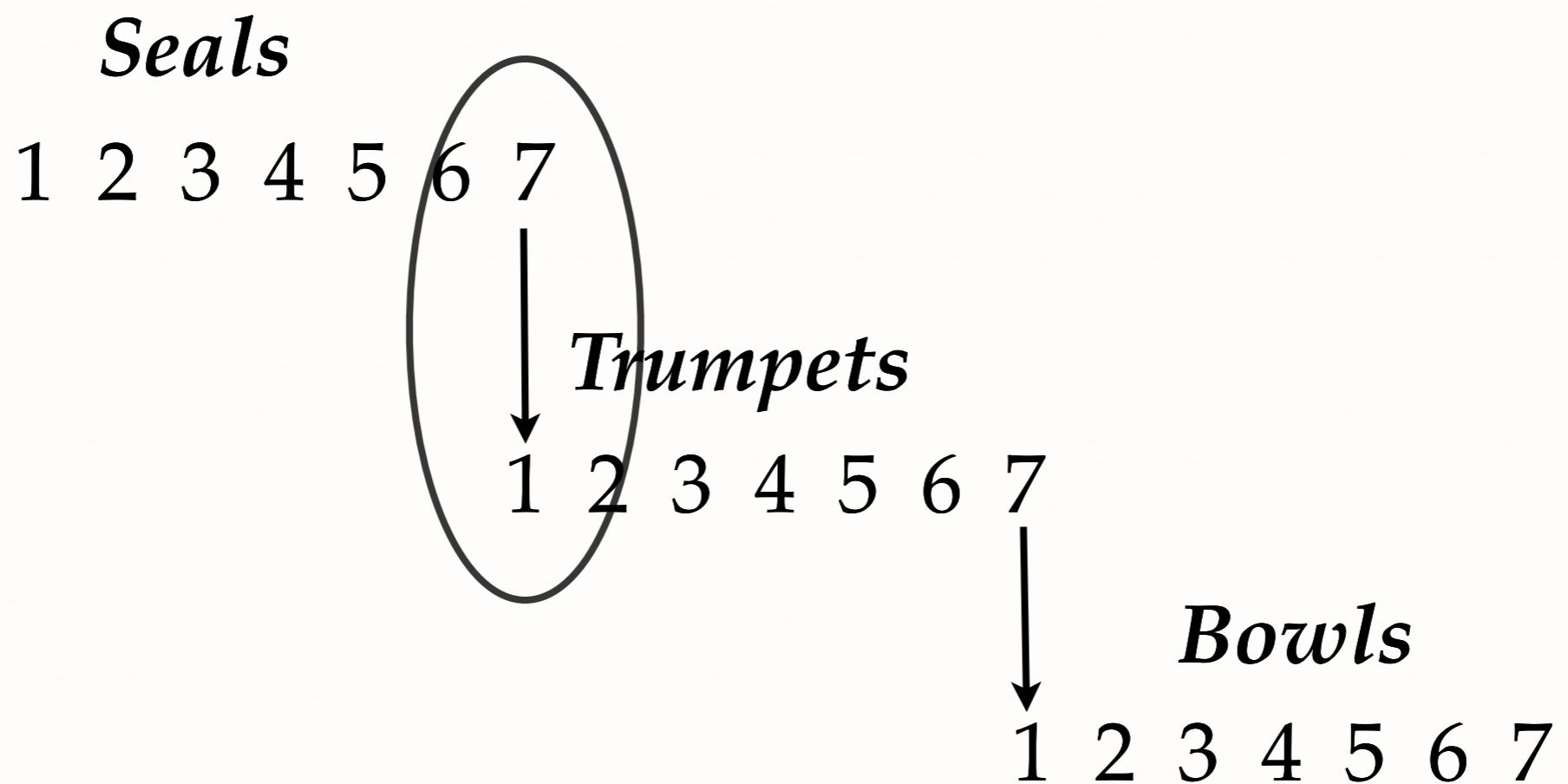
SEVEN SEALS

- Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse:
 - White Horse (peace) – not Christ
 - Red Horse (war)
 - Black Horse (famine)
 - Pale Horse (death)
- Fifth seal – massive martyrdom
- Sixth seal – cosmic disturbances

FIRST INSERTION

- First non-chronological parenthetical insertion –
Answers the question: Who can stand?
- The ones who can stand are the 144,000 (12,000 from each of the 12 tribes) Jewish evangelists.
- Revelation 7 – learn of a great multitude of Gentiles reached by the evangelists.

SEQUENCE



SEVEN TRUMPETS

- First trumpet – 1/3 of the vegetation is destroyed.
- Second trumpet – 1/3 of sea life is destroyed.
- Third trumpet – 1/3 of water supply is destroyed.
- Fourth trumpet – 1/3 of luminaries are darkened.
- Fifth trumpet – tormenting locusts.
- Sixth trumpet – an army marches from the East to Megiddo and will kill 1/3 of mankind.

SECOND INSERTION

- Revelation 11 -There is a reference to a temple.
- Four temples: two past temples (Solomon, exiles) and two future temples (temple that Antichrist will desecrate, future temple).
- Two witnesses: killed by the beast, resuscitated and raptured to heaven. Who are these two witnesses?
- Moses and Elijah – appeared with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:3).

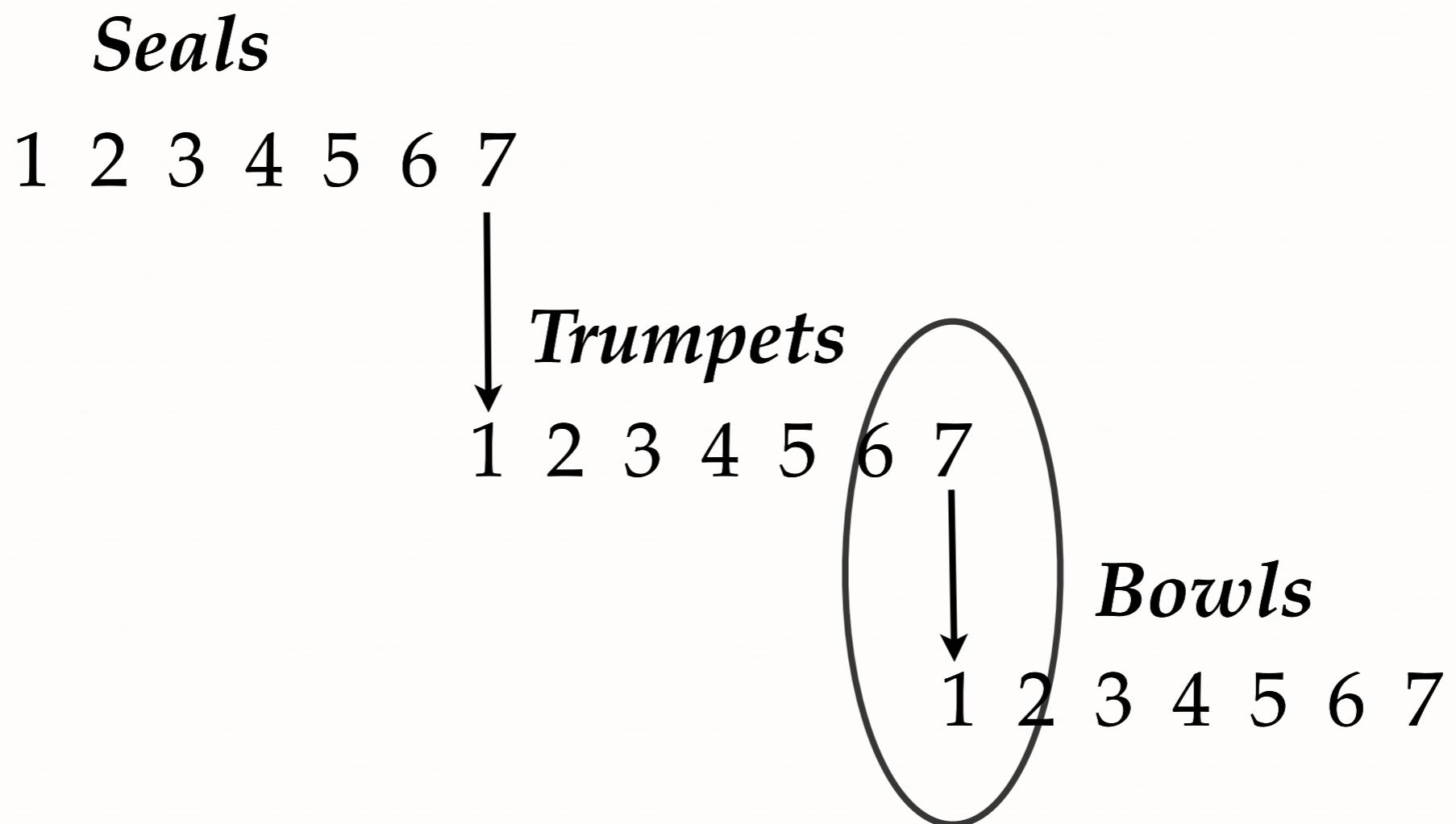
SEVENTH TRUMPET

- Seventh trumpet – as it is sounded, kingdoms of this world are being transferred from Satan's grip to God's grip.
- This will trigger the various bowl judgments.
- It also brings us to our third non-chronological, parenthetical insertion.
- Satan is fighting the final battle. Revelation 12 – woman (church), dragon (Satan), and the beast.

BEAST-ANTICHRIST

- Son of lawlessness - 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- Son of destruction - 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- The lawless one - 2 Thessalonians 2:8
- The antichrist - 1 John 2:22
- The beast - Revelation 11:7

SEQUENCE



BOWL JUDGMENTS

- First bowl – boils to skin of men and women
- Second bowl – sea becomes blood
- Third bowl – fresh water becomes blood
- Fourth bowl – sun scorches man
- Fifth bowl – darkness takes place
- Sixth bowl – Euphrates river dries up
- Seventh bowl – great earthquake, hailstones

FOURTH INSERTION

- Fourth non-chronological, parenthetical insertion – Revelation 16:16, the battle of Armageddon.



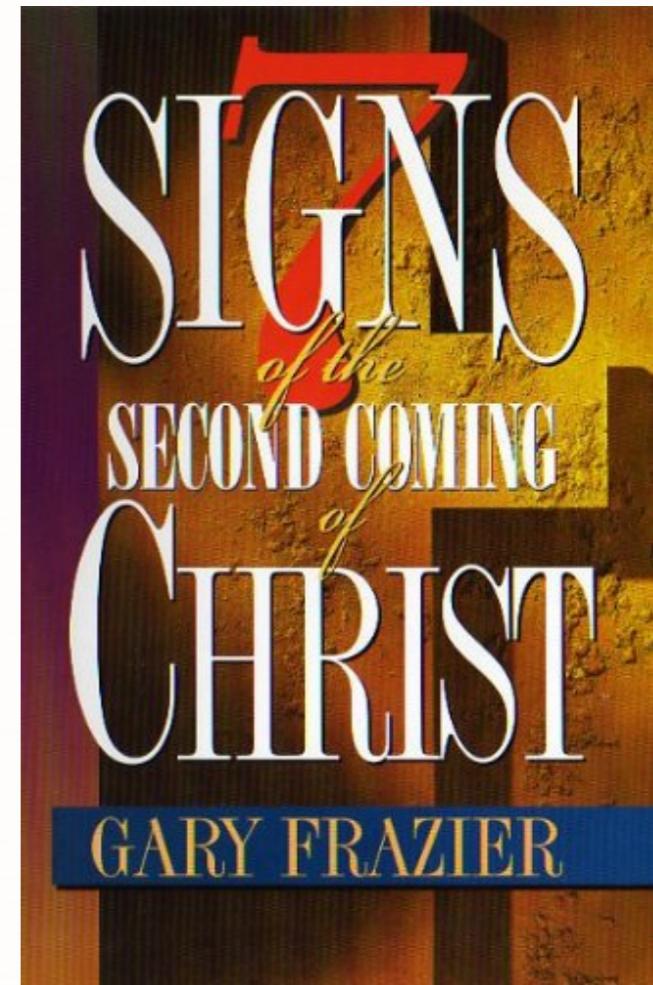
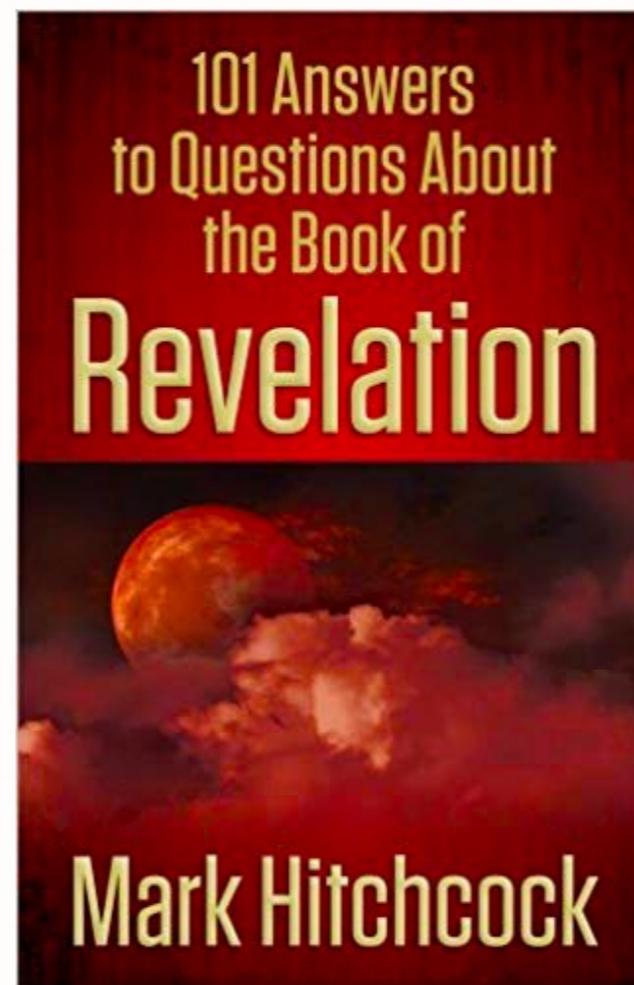
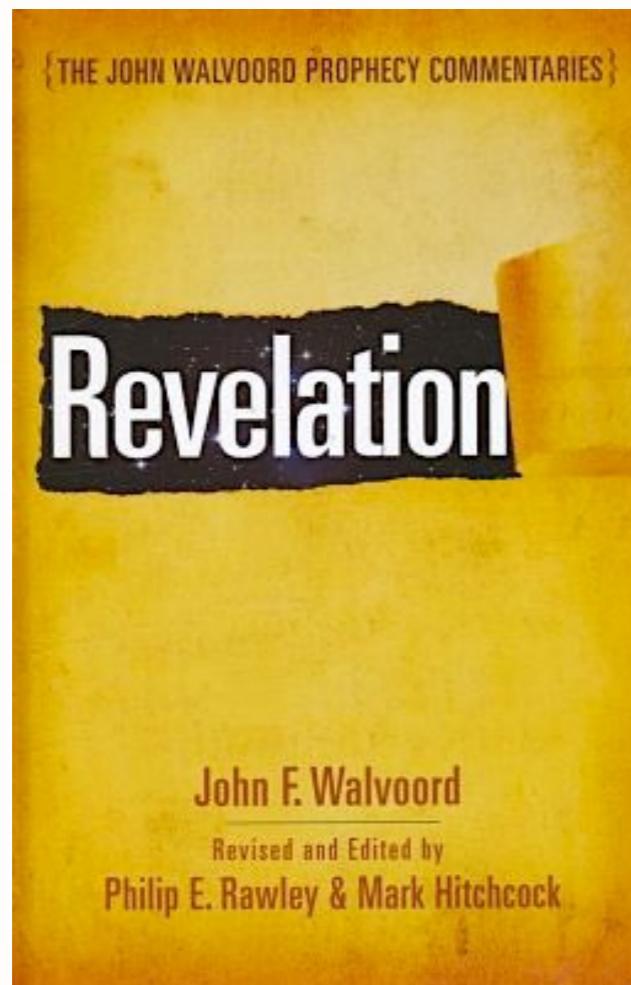
REVELATION 19-20

- Fourfold Hallelujah (Revelation 19:1-6)
- Second Advent of Christ (Revelation 19:7-21)
- Millennial Kingdom (Revelation 20:1-10)
- Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15)
 - names are not found in the Lamb's book of life are cast into the lake of fire.

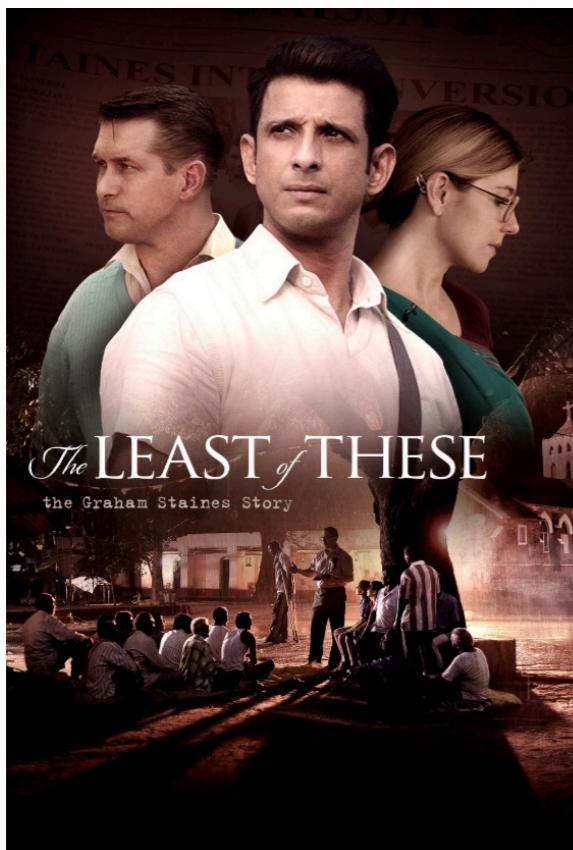
REVELATION 21-22

- Eternal State (Revelation 21:1-9) - The New Heaven and the New Earth
- What was lost in Eden is now restored. God has won the conflict and is free to start afresh.
- The New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:10-27).
- River and the Tree of Life (Revelation 22).

RESOURCES



STEPHEN BALDWIN



IN THEATERS JAN 31

The Least of These

The Graham Staines Story



Based on a true story and shot on location in India, *The Least of These* beautifully illustrates the power of love, hope and forgiveness to overcome hate. This special, sneak-peek cinema event includes an exclusive discussion with actress Shari Rigby, apologist Ravi Zacharias and speaker Krish Dhanam.

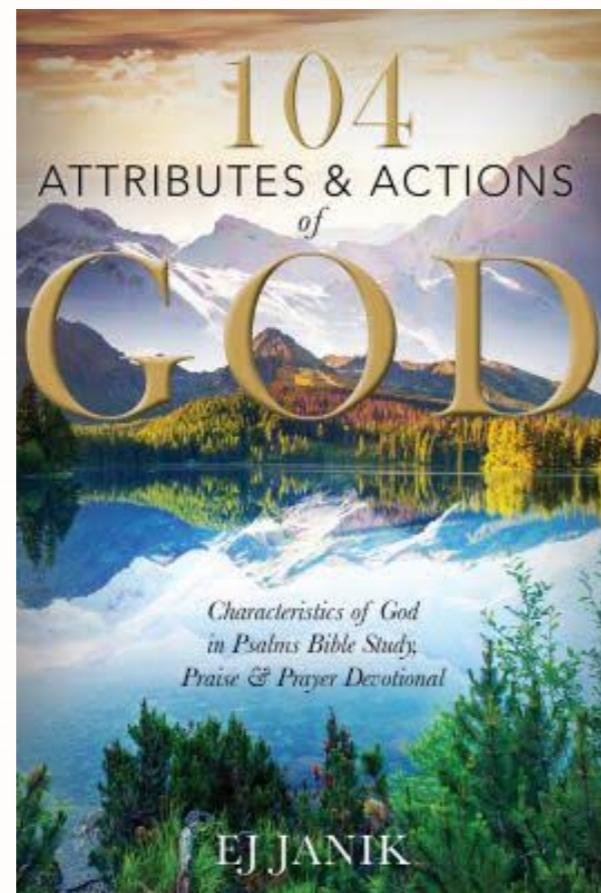
As the social fabric of life in rural India disintegrates in the late 1990s, journalist Manav Banerjee (Sharman Joshi) moves with his pregnant wife to the town of Orissa in hope of a better life and the promise of a lucrative career. When speculation mounts that local Australian missionary Graham Staines (Stephen Baldwin) is illegally proselytizing leprosy patients, Manav agrees to investigate undercover for the newspaper.

What he finds is a series of revelations that are difficult to fathom and even harder to explain, and Manav is forced to make a choice between his own ambition and the truth.

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Wednesday, January 16 - 2:00-3:00 pm

E.J. JANIK



Thursday, January 24 - 1:00-2:00 pm