

**REVELATION STUDIES**  
**SESSION 1: PERSEVERANCE**

PERSEVERANCE - vital for following Jesus.

“This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus” Rev.14:12

- Jesus had disciples who fell away. Jn.6:66
- Paul says, don't be “uninformed” about our troubles, suffering” 2Cor.1:3-11
- The writer of Hebrews, “You need to persevere so that ...you will receive what he has promised.” Heb.10:36

**WHY IS PERSEVERANCE NECESSARY?**

**1. The Reason.**

The message of Revelation: A cosmic clash of powers (that produces trials and hardship) but with a promised victorious outcome for the Lamb and his followers.

- How long? (6:10); Who can stand? (6:17)

Jesus and Dragon CH.12

A Clash of Powers:

- Apocalyptic picture (v.1-4)
- Cosmic battle (v.7-9)
- Woman and child protected to confront the powers. (v.13,16-17)
- Believers overcome the power of the dragon. (v.11)

The Contrast of Powers:

Dragon	Lamb
Earth	Heaven
Babylon	Jerusalem
Force	Freedom

Coercion	Trust
Viciousness	Kindness
Self-serving	Self-giving
Defeat	Victory

## **2. The Threats.**

The warnings of Revelation: "Those I love I warn/rebuke and discipline.." (3:19)

Watch out for things like:

- cold love 2:4
- fear 2:10
- false beliefs 2:14-15
- immorality 2:20-22
- spiritual sleepiness 3:1-2
- exhaustion 3:8
- indifference 3:15

Question:

What have you learned about perseverance in the last 15 months that can be written into your story? How can you apply it more to your Christian walk?

## **PART 2: HOW DO WE OVERCOME?**

### **1. The Way.**

The Exhortations of Revelation: Those who "do my will to the end.." 2:26

Revival things like:

- a spirit of remembrance 2:5
- paying attention to warnings 2:10
- allowing the Spirit to search mind and heart 2:23
- being careful with deeds 3:2-3
- going ahead and being faithful when feeling weak 3:8
- opening the door to Jesus each day 3:20

## **2. The Means.**

The Victory of Revelation: Jesus' death and resurrection procures our victory. 5:9-10

The Key to Overcoming. 12:11

1. The Blood of the Lamb - overcomes the power of the dragon

The world, flesh and devil.

2. The Word of Their Testimony - It was all Jesus and what he did.

Our testimony is for revival not survival.

3. Death to Self

Dying with Christ to our own way.

## **CONCLUSION**

- Write the God story of your life each day with the Spirit's help.
- Memorise Phil.3:14 "I press on towards the goal to win the prize.."
- Make every day the Day of Preparation.

Further Questions

Our story in God invites us into a life that "overcomes". What particular issue needs to be overcome in your life and how will you embrace Jesus' way (12:11) to do it?

How do we live in this world as witnesses to a very different kind of overcoming power?