

St. Therese Adult Study Series
The Book of Revelation with Father Andrie

Reflection Questions for Chapter 1

For the next session on October 8th, please read Chapter 1, pages 39-55 in *The Revelation* book. Begin with this or another prayer of your choice: *"Loving Lord Jesus, who noticed the merest touch to Your cloak, I give You thanks that I need never fear being lost in the crowd of people coming to You. Beyond the words spoken, You know people's hearts, And I give You thanks that You always hear my needs even beyond the prayers I bring to You. Amen."* <https://www.heartofthenation.org/daily-prayers> Your reflections will be shared **October 8th** in your small group. Your group may not get to all the questions. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you to those questions most important for your group.

1. "The Greek work *apokalypsis* means "a disclosure of truth, instruction, concerning things before unknown; used of events by which things or states or persons hitherto withdrawn from view are made visible to all." (definition from biblestudytools.com) Does this definition change the way you perceive the title, *Revelation*? How?

2. Pg. 41-42 1:3 says, "...for the appointed time is near." We are left with encouragement to keep our "eyes peeled for the fulfillment of God's plan, since it is not far off." What are some of the things you do to be prepared?

3. Pg. 47-48 The author talks about Jesus' "coming amid the clouds...every eye will see him even those who pierced him." (1:7) How do you see Jesus returning to us?

4. Pg. 49 We read that the experience of being "in the Spirit" can be realized particularly in prayer or while engaging in a spiritual ministry. How do you set aside time for personal prayer? What effect does this have on your

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relationship with God? How would you encourage others to set aside time for personal prayer?

4. Pg. 50-51 In the Reflection & Application, the author asks us if we'd continue to pray without our parish community; to be ready to hear God speak to us about His people and His purposes; to maintain our prayer life when there is no one else praying around you? How would you answer these? How would/will you apply them to your life right now?

5. 1:12 The golden lampstand, made in the shape of a tree, could stand for God's life-giving power. We can relate this back to Adam and Eve and the tree of life. What are the seven golden lampstands? What do you think they symbolize?

6. Pg. 52-53 In verse 1:16, we read that "A sharp two-edged sword came out of his mouth.." this can be found to mean that it is judging the thoughts and intentions of the heart; or symbolizing Christ's authority and judgment; or refers to how a blade consumes what it touches, but because the mouth is also where speech is produced, the original Bible languages have an association between a two-edged sword and the word. What are your thoughts on this image?

What else stood out for you in this chapter?

For your personal application

In reference to 1:3—When Scripture is read aloud during the Liturgy of the Word, do you hear it simply as another reading or truly as the Word of God that we are called to apply in our lives?