#### Why Revelation?

* Focus.

* Difficulties.

* Promise.

#### Three things God wants to say to you

* Faithful.

* Alive.

* Ruler.

* Why these three?

#### Three things John wants to say to you

* Loves us.

* Freed us.

* Made us.

#### For reflection

* How big is your vision of Christ at the moment? Is anything dulling it? What is helping to sharpen it?
* What’s causing your heart to go ‘wow’ so that evangelism, transformation, worship, leadership are flowing from a compelling vision of this Jesus.
* What blessing are you craving as Christ is revealed in our moments in Revelation?

#### How jealous are you?

#### Jesus and the churches

* Jesus knows the churches.

* Jesus warns the churches.

*  Jesus challenges the churches.

#### A significant loss

* The reality.

* The reasons.

* The remedy.

* Remember.

* Repent.

* Redo.

#### She’s ready (Revelation 19:6-8)

#### For reflection

* Reflect on how you talk about the church or ministry you serve. Would people know from your words and attitude that you see her as Christ’s bride? If Jesus is more jealous for her than we can imagine – how should this shape our attitude?
* The Church is to be a lampstand – so how brightly is yours shining? Does it need cleaning? What do you sense Jesus would say to her today?
* How’s your heart?

#### A common question – why?

‘The only sort of faith that is immune from this kind of questioning is blind faith, a faith that dare not look the realities of the world in the face, a faith that has to close its mind off to anything that threatens its creed. That is an irrational faith, a cowardly faith. It is a faith that fully deserves the contempt of the sceptic for it confirms that believers are pathetic weaklings who need a crutch of faith to limp through life. BUT real faith is not blind, real faith does not shut its eyes to the evidence that seems to contradict its convictions – it cannot do so.’

#### The nature of God’s government

* What picture does this paint of God?

* What does this tell me about his rule in our/my life?

* How does this cause me to dance?

#### What next?

#### For reflection

* Where do you need to ponder afresh the nature of God’s rule in your own life? What questions do you have for God at the moment?
* Is there any area where you need to say ‘if He is like this I will trust him… and I will “dance”’?
* What dimension of his government do you want to seal in your heart?
* Who comes to mind when you think of the cry ‘How long O Lord’? – Pray for them.

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#### A glimpse of the end of the story

#### Two destinies

#### Two images

#### God’s community

* New location.

* He is there!

* ‘No more’.

* Glorious.

#### feel at home

* Provision.

* Serving.

* Belonging.

* Permanency.

#### For reflection

* If God’s tactic for strengthening his people in the present is by showing them the end of the story, how much do you think about your destiny? How homesick are you?
* ‘Hope is the music of the future and faith is dancing to that music in the present’ – how well are you ‘dancing’?