Revelation Lesson 5 Handout
Here are the remains of an old Roman fort in Masada.

The temple was very likely located by the Gihon Spring where there is running water.
Revelation 1:1
1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ...

unveiling, uncovering, revealing

How Jesus will come back and take His rightful place as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

We see Jesus in the beginning of creation and the end of the world.
John 1:1
1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14
14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 1:16
16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Revelation 19: 11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

Revelation 1:1
1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants,

the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,

Mark 1:19–20
19 When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the boat mending their nets. 20 And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him.
Revelation 1
1...And He sent and communicated it through His angel (messenger) to His bond servant John, who has testified to and vouched for all that he saw [in his visions], the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.

A vision is something given when you are awake. A dream is something you are given when you are asleep.

A spiritual vision occurs when an individual is moved upon by the Holy Spirit to see something with the eyes of their spirit and not with their physical eyes. During a spiritual vision your mind is not displaced. Your physical senses are not suspended in any way. You know who you are. You know where you are. You are simply seeing things within your spirit, on the inside of you.

This is so much more than just human imagination and you will know when you are experiencing a spiritual vision. Spiritual visions can be very simple or they can be very dramatic. How simple or dramatic they are has nothing to do with how important they are. If faces, places, events, ideas, etc., keep “popping up in your spirit,” you will want to ask the Holy Spirit to help you to not miss what He is revealing.

Keep in mind if people, places, things or events continue to be brought before you from the inside, you will want to pay very close attention. You may be experiencing spiritual visions as God is attempting to direct you according to His plans and purposes for you.
Revelation 1:3
3 Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

Revelation 1:4
4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Isaiah 11:2 (AMP)
2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the reverential and obedient fear of the Lord—
**Rev. 1:5** and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood—

**Rev. 1:6** and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**1 Peter 2:9**

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God’s] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

**Rev. 1:7** BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.

Revelation 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

9 I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.
Jerald Ferren, came to know Jesus in the midst of filing for bankruptcy. This dad of 7 kids walked into my church and surrendered his life to the pursuit of knowing Jesus. Jerald instantly got involved in church work. He started a ministry for the hearing impaired. He drove a bus to the needy neighborhoods of our community and picked up children whose parents would not bring them to church. He became an usher and a fill in Sunday school teacher for my class. Everyone in the church agreed that Jerald’s faith was growing by leaps and bounds. But despite his newfound faith, Jerald’s financial situation did not improve. In fact, it got worse. This was an irritation to Jerald. Subtly, his irritation became anger toward Jesus for not fulfilling his end of the understood bargain. Little by little, Jerald began stepping away from his ministries. A little more than three years into his salvation experience, Jerald and his family left church altogether, saying it was a waste of time. Apparently, Jerald brought his family to church and trusted that his good works would bring financial favor into his life. Many of today’s churches like the success stories. We like to hear the stories about paupers who become CEO’s and about cancer patients who eventually go into remission. We look for the stories about alcoholics who find Christ and never take another sip. We love to hear the stories about prostitutes who leave their profession behind once
they hand their lives over to a loving God. We parade these individual across the stages of our churches and cry “This is the life of someone trusting in the power of Jesus.” From these stories and examples, people end up trusting that Jesus will walk into their situation too – any situation – and make everything better.

How I wish the Christian life worked this way. Who wouldn’t want to follow Jesus if it meant assured riches, blessings, good health, and success?

There have been many situations where instead of trust being an ongoing lifestyle I pursue, it’s a means to an end. I think to myself, “I will trust in God through this situation in hopes that he will bring blessing upon my life.” But this isn’t trusting in Jesus; it’s a mockery of trust. A person with provocative faith trusts in the middle of his situation – whether or not it’s miraculously resolved. It’s not an “if” faith but an “although” kind of trust that endures despite the situation. It’s not a faith we hear proclaimed much on the stages of churches, but we can read it all through the Bible. “Though the cherry trees don’t blossom,” writes Habakkuk... “though the apples are worm-eaten and the wheat fields stunted, though the sheep pens are sheepless and the cattle barns empty, I’m singing joyful praise to God. Hab. 3:17-18

It’s easy to tell ourselves that if God really loved us, He would make our situation easy. But the truth is, our difficult situations show us that we’re weak. And I think Jesus wants us to be weak. He can use the weak. Jesus wants His followers to be at a place where our ability to trust in ourselves is completely destroyed and no longer available.
John 16: 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

His circumstances never destroyed his faith.

you can— you just don’t want to.

Allow God to use the rough patch to grow your faith and trust in Him.

Carthage Dye -

It is something that is not often mentioned or even discussed in the modern-day American church. Christ told us in the Bible that persecution would come for those who truly follow Him. Believers are to expect it, and be blessed because of it.

The Lord has blessed me with being able to work with 115 different churches in Africa, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, South America and here in the States. Most of the churches overseas where we have been face enormous persecution each day — murder, torture, kidnapping, prison, etc. It is
the life that they live.

What I have seen is that in areas where the church is suffering persecution, the good news of Christ is spreading like wildfire. In these areas, the church is flourishing, healthy and believers live out a poured-out existence in following the Son of God. All that they are, and all that they have, is attributed to Jesus Christ. The Spirit of God moves in and around these people. They are truly filled with the Holy Spirit.

I went to Somalia this past January with a fellow preacher to contact the underground church there. The first Christian that we came in contact with was highly offended when I asked her if she was in fact a “Christian.” She told us that in that part of the world, the term “Christian” is offensive.

She went on to say, “There it identifies them with a person who only goes to church now and then and does not truly serve Christ ... you know, like the Christians in America. We want to be called ‘believers’ because everything about our lives points to following Jesus Christ.” Wow!

I must say that I was surprised, but it is something that I have seen and heard many times around the world. Every time I return home here to the States, I see so many churches — not all churches, but most — that are barely getting by, very weak in power and very unknowledgeable of the Word of God.

They are not reaching out to people in their community on a daily basis. The members say that they love God, but do not keep His commandments. The Bible says that people like this are liars, plain and simple. Many are only interested in feeling better about themselves and do not follow the God of the Bible.
The members say that they do follow God, but are not found studying God’s Word, living a sacrificial existence or fulfilling the Great Commission. The Great Commission commands believers to go unto all of the world telling of the good news of Christ, teaching, baptizing and making disciples.

Not until persecution reaches our shores, and not until America is broken of its comfort, will the church begin to truly flourish here. A missionary who I am good friends with in China said this to me recently; “All of the servants of God that I work with in China pray daily that America will be broken for God and that persecution will reach the American church.”

It is time for Christians here to step up to who they are supposed to be.

In His service,
Carthage Dye

What God wants supercedes what I want.

We are blessed when we study Revelation.
Hardship brings us closer to Jesus.