

# Revealing The Soon-Coming All-Powerful Sovereign World Ruler

## [Part 6]

**1 John 1:5-8** [NIV] *“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: **God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.**”*

### **Are we walking in the light of what has been revealed so far in our study of the book of Revelation?**

The book of Revelation is centred on Jesus Christ, the Son of Man as He is today.

The book of Revelation is intended, as we saw in the last article, to help us worship the glorified Jesus Christ the Son of God and also the Son of Man.

In Christendom there are two distinctive camps of Christians!

**The Liberals** also known as modernists and rationalists who question the inspired authority of the scriptures and deny that Jesus was more than a master teacher and a splendid human example.

**The Evangelicals** who accept without question the total authority of the Scriptures as God’s Spirit-inspired Word and recognise Jesus Christ as God embodied in the flesh.

Now increasingly scholars and authors claim to be in both camps, evangelicals and rationalists.

But always through Christian history there have been devoted, adoring followers of Jesus Christ, who found it possible to love their Saviour and Lord with all their heart, mind and human spirit.

Such people are referred to today as “*evangelical mystics*” in a rather cruel, cynical way.

Yet evangelical mystics have been a potent force for God and His Word throughout history.

If we list evangelical mystics in the past we have to include Moses, David, Isaiah, John, Paul, Augustine, Luther and the Wesleys along with a host of other men and women.

All of these had as their greatest delight in life a rapturous love of God.

What God has revealed through the inspired writing of the apostle John is that we will all be judged by Jesus Christ as to our love for God.

**1 John 5:3-5** [NIV] *“**This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.**”*

Our love for God is linked to our accepting Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

**John 13:34-35** [NIV] *“**A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**”*

**Our love for God is reflected by the way we love other human beings, and our being disciples of Christ is proved by this love.**

Are we forgetting today that we will have to answer to Jesus Christ for the decisions we make in our lives that accept or reject the spiritual light God has given us.

Have we forgotten that the moral judgement of God will fall upon individuals and nations according to the light they have received?

**Luke 12:47-48** [NIV] *“That servant who knows his master’s will and does not get ready or does not do what his master wants will be beaten with many blows. But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.”*

God is a merciful God, but He is also holy and just.

God in His justice and fairness has provided us with many warnings and cautions in the Scriptures about the spiritual light and our spiritual responsibilities.

We see around us and see a world brim full and overflowing with evil.

One day God will say *“Enough! Open the seals and sound the trumpets of judgement.”*

**God’s throne of grace will become a throne of judgement.**

If I was not a Christian, saved and forgiven, after studying these passages in the book of Revelation, I would **not** wait to cry out, on my knees, and plead for God’s grace and mercy while there was still time.

**Revelation 22:12-14** [NIV] *“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.”*

The final warning in this book of Revelation.

**Revelation 22:15** [NIV] *“Outside are the dogs, those who practise magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practises falsehood.”*

Outside of the presence of God in His dwelling place on earth are those who have ignored all what has been revealed to them.

**1 John 1:5-7** [NIV] *“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”***

If you claim to be a Christian, that is a disciple of Jesus Christ, and reject these warnings given by God through the apostle John, who will be to blame?

Certainly **not** God who is the source of all this light.

Certainly **not** the Lamb, Jesus Christ, who stands before the throne of God. He died for our sins and rose again from the dead for our justification.

**Romans 5:9-10** [NIV] *“Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to*

him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!”

We are made right with God by the blood of Jesus Christ, but we will be saved from eternal death by His living role as our High Priest.

Certainly **not** the Holy Spirit.

**John 16:7-13** [NIV] *“But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. **But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.**”*

The Holy Spirit works in three ways:-

- a) Convicts us of our sin, and our need for the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus Christ.
- b) Convicts us of the only way we can be right with God.

**Isaiah 64:6** [NIV] *“All of us have become like one who is unclean, **and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.**”*

Our efforts of righteousness are seen by God as a filthy, smelly rag.

**Romans 4:16, 21-25** [NIV] *“Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring, not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.” ... “being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness, for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.”*

It is only through faith in what God has done for us through Jesus Christ that we can be credited with the righteousness of Jesus Christ which is acceptable to God the Father.

**Ephesians 2:8-10** [NIV] *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no-one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

**Not** saved [made right with God] by works but by faith, receiving then the ability to do good works by the Holy Spirit working in and through us.

**John 7:37-39** [NIV] *“On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. **Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.**” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.”*

It is the love of God in us, generated by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, that will flow out to other human beings.

- c) Convicts us of a coming judgement that all humans will have to face.

**2 Corinthians 5:10** [NIV] *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due to him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”*

This is an appointment that none of us can avoid.

What can we do to make this appointment less fearful?

**Matthew 7:1-2** [NIV] *“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way as you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”*

Show the mercy to others we hope to receive from Jesus Christ.

**1 Corinthians 11:31-32** [NIV] *“But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.”*

This is one way we can avoid being part of God’s wrathful judgement, only receiving corrective discipline which is for our benefit in the end.

If you miss the love and the grace of God in this life, only you can be blamed.

**Revelation 22:17** [NIV] *“The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.”*

The Holy Spirit and the bride, give an invitation to all humanity to receive cleansing and eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Who is this “bride”?

**Revelation 19:6-9** [NIV] *“Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”*

The bride is the congregation resurrected and glorified Christians who rose to meet Jesus Christ in the clouds at His return to earth.

If I miss God’s great salvation, when it has been offered to me, has this life and all the struggle and pain been worthwhile?

Personally, I think not!

**John 6:44** [NIV] *“No-one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

This tells me that **not** every human being will have the opportunity for salvation in their life at this time.

Doesn’t this make God a cruel God, not a loving God!

**Romans 9:14-18** [NIV] *“What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” It does not, therefore, depend on man’s desire or effort, but on God’s mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: “I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in*

*you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.”*

God is sovereign over all that He has created including all human beings.

**2 Chronicles 19:7** [NIV] *“Now let the fear of the LORD be upon you. Judge carefully, for with the LORD our God there is no injustice or partiality or bribery.”*

We are warned **not** to judge God before the facts on this subject are revealed, as they will be in a future article in this series on the book of Revelation.