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Valley Church

April 18 & 21, 2024
Week 22 – The Table is Set (Revelation 15:1-8)

Introduction:

Revelation 1:3

Blessed is the one who reads aloud 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.

Notes/Application of Revelation 15:1-8

Matthew 5:20 "...unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven."

Romans 8:3-4 "...For what the law was powerless to do, God did by sending his own Son...in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us..."

Two Appropriate Responses:

1. _____ for God's promise of protection
2. _____ for those who don't yet know Jesus

"We talk of God much and loudly, but we secretly think of Him as being absent, and we think of ourselves as inhabiting a parenthetic interval between the God who was and the God who will be." (Tozer, *The Divine Conquest*, p. 50)

The Big Idea:

Let's not settle for allowing our lives to be a parenthesis in God's plan to do great things. Until He returns, let's make the "dash" on our tombstone count!

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION

Personal Life:

1. When you reflect on the imminent return of Jesus Christ, how does such a focus impact the way we invest our lives? Discuss...
2. In your opinion, do believers think enough about the return of Jesus? Why or why not? Discuss...

Ponderings:

3. As Revelation 15 sets the stage for the final judgment of God, what is the significance of John's glimpse of the law in the holy place of the Heavenly Temple? Discuss...
4. Jesus said that He came not to abolish God's law, but to fulfill it (Matthew 5:17). Why is it so critical for our growth to understand that the law has been fulfilled so that we can live by grace? Discuss...
5. In the weekend message, what was said about the significance of the song which combined themes from the songs of Moses and themes about the Lamb of God? How does this contribute to our understanding of the Deity of Jesus?

Promptings:

6. In the week ahead, supposed a family member or co-worker raises questions about God's character by saying, *"I have a hard time believing in a God who talks so much about forgiveness, but then judges the world when He returns."* How might you assist this person to understand this issue more clearly? Discuss...
7. Share with your group the first name of someone in your life that you desire to lead to Jesus, and then pray for each of those people around the circle...