



Cuyahoga
Valley Church

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 10.25.26

Revelation 6 // Rick Duncan

Please take the opportunity to revisit the CVC Equip

Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup on a regular basis

CONNECT (10 MIN)

- ① On Sunday, we got to hear from Melissa Erikson, a missionary that CVC supports who serves in Germany (you can find out more about Melissa and her work and ministry at <https://www.relentlessforwardprogress.org/>).
- What is something that stood out to you in what Melissa shared about her ministry and missions work in East Berlin? What encouraged you, challenged you, or confused you?
- Have you ever engaged in shortterm or longterm missions activity, close to home or around the world? If so, what has that looked like? If not, what has held you back from participating in missions work?

EXPLORE (30 MIN)

Create Context (5 min):

HERE is the Sermon Recap video playlist on Vimeo.

Study & Discussion (25 min)

Read Revelation 6.

- ① Read Rick Duncan's article on the blog this week, "Why Wrath is Right: Why a Loving God Must Judge Evil." In the article, Rick writes that "God's wrath doesn't exist because He's emotionally unstable. His wrath is a settled and enduring opposition to evil. God loves His people and opposes the evil that destroys them."
- How is this different from or similar to the way you've grown up understanding or hearing about the wrath of God?
- Where else in Scripture, outside of Revelation, do we encounter God's wrath? What does God typically turn His wrath against?
- How do you think our culture today typically understands the wrath of God? In what ways do you think our culture frames or understands the grace of God? Are these two ideas about God, as understood by wider secular culture, thought to be congruent or at odds with each other? Explain your reasoning with your LifeGroup.



② As Rick mentioned in the sermon on Sunday, there are three questions to ask when we are seeking to rightly interpret and understand the Bible:

1. What did it mean then and there?
2. What has it meant from age to age?
3. What does it mean here and now?

- When you first started reading Scripture, which of these questions were you taught to consider most carefully? Which of these do you think you are most tempted to overlook, and why? Where can you grow in considering all 3 of these questions as you read and interpret the Word of God?

③ In his sermon on Sunday, Rick's three main points were:

- a. CHRIST IS IN CONTROL AND THE JUDGMENTS ARE COMING
- b. CHRIST IS IN CONTROL AND THE MARTYRS ARE QUESTIONING
- c. CHRIST IS IN CONTROL AND THE COSMOS IS COLLAPSING

- Which one of these main points intrigued you the most on Sunday, and why? Which was the most eye-opening, interesting, or challenging to you, and why?

④ Review Revelation 6 and read Romans 1:18-2:5.

- What does Romans 1:18-2:5 tell us about God's judgment and wrath that might help us as we seek to understand, interpret, and apply Revelation 6?
- Revisit Romans 2:3-4. What is God's kindness meant to lead us to, and how have you seen God's kindness in your life as He has sought to draw you to repent from your sin and trust in and follow Him?



- ⑤ Revisit Revelation 6:9-11. Without impugning God's character, the martyrs are questioning His timing. God tells them that justice will come, but not yet.
- Where else do we see this same kind of question asked in other places in Scripture, as Biblical characters struggle to hold to God's goodness in the midst of suffering?
 - When have you had to wrestle with this same answer from God, to "wait a little while longer," in your own life with a particular circumstance or struggle?
 - How can the example of the martyrs encourage and challenge us as we consider our own lives and their lives and reflect on the statement, "the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church?"
 - Rick said that in response to all that we see in this section of the book of Revelation we should "Pray. Surrender. Go." What does a clear next step look like for you in one of these steps in this season of your life?
- ⑥ What (or who) are you tempted to fully trust in other than God? How can you seek to turn away from trusting in these things or people (that won't last forever) and turn toward the Lord in seeking to trust Him more fully?
- ⑦ Read Psalm 23. How does the plan and the presence of God as revealed in this passage bring you comfort as you consider Revelation 6, the rest of the book of Revelation, and the events of your own life right now?



RESOURCES

A Tale of Two Kingdoms Recommended Resources: https://cvconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/TaleOfTwo_Resources_CVC.pdf

CVC Blog: <https://cvconline.org/category/articles/>

PRAY AND APPLY

- Pray that God would give us confidence and hope as we study Revelation 6, trusting that Jesus is sovereign over history, even when the world seems to be falling apart.
- Pray that God would anoint the worship and preaching of His Word, empowering every song, Scripture reading, prayer, sermon, and the Lord's Supper to exalt Christ and accomplish His purposes.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would soften all our hearts like good soil, ready to receive the Word implanted in us, and that we would respond with repentance, faith, obedience, and joy.
- Pray that we would see Jesus as the Lamb who is in control, trusting Him when we face conflict, unrest, scarcity, sickness, loss, and uncertainty.
- Pray that Christians facing persecution around the world would experience Christ's presence, courage, and sustaining grace, and that God would protect those in danger and strengthen those who suffer for their witness.
- Pray that those who long for justice would trust the righteous Judge, knowing that God sees every wrong, hears every cry, and will ultimately make all things right.
- Pray that the reality of coming judgment would awaken spiritually complacent people, lead unbelievers to repentance and faith in Jesus, and deepen the assurance of those who belong to Him.
- Pray that when our world feels shaken and the things we depend on begin to collapse, we would stand firm in Christ, not trusting our own goodness or strength, but resting in the saving work of the Lamb.
- Pray that we would leave worship surrendered to Jesus and ready to go, carrying the hope of the gospel to our families, neighbors, workplaces, and the nations, so that people from every tribe, language, and nation might stand before the throne and the Lamb.
- Pray that non-believers would put their trust in Jesus: "Dear Lord. I worship You as the righteous Judge. I have sinned. I have rebelled against You. I deserve Your wrath. But You are also the Lamb of God who suffered wrath in my place so I could be forgiven. And You rose again. Wash me now. Cloth me in Your white robe of righteousness. Help me to stand before You. I repent. I believe. Amen."



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WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 10.25.26

Please take a moment to share
these announcements with your group.

INVITE

Night of Prayer and Worship - November 4

Join us for a night of corporate prayer and worship to close our season of prayer and fasting at 6:30pm in the Worship Center. Childcare will be available.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Explore CVC - November 8

Explore CVC is our regularly-offered class that helps you explore the foundations of who we are as a church, including our history, what we believe, and our mission. It is also your next step toward membership. To become a member of our church, attendance at two classes is required. The first class is called Explore CVC, and the second is Join CVC. Completion of both is necessary for membership. [Register here!](#)

Baptisms - November 15

Click [here](#) to learn more about baptism and apply for upcoming opportunities. Baptism dates will be available for registration until two weeks before the scheduled baptism. At that point, the date will be removed from the registration form. Please submit your baptism registration no later than two weeks before the baptism date so we have enough time to prepare and make the necessary arrangements.

CVC YOUTH

High School Fall Retreat - November 20-22

Join us for CVCYouth's High School Retreat as we invite students to put down the things competing for their attention, spend intentional time with Jesus, and consider what it looks like to trust Him when life feels anything but still. Register [here](#).