FINISH STRONG The Great Tribulation

Four **PATTERNS** to look for:

 God's complete CONTROL 	Rev. 5:1-3, 11-14, 6:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12
 God's <u>JUSTICE</u> 	2 Thessalonians 1:6-8
 God's <u>MERCY</u> 	Witnesses, interludes and warnings
 Mankind's STONE HEART 	Rev. 9:20-21, 16:10-11

Three **SERIES** of judgments

Seven <u>SEALS</u> broken	Revelation 6-8
Seals 1-6 broken	Four horsemen, martyrs, natural disasters
<u>INTERLUDE</u>	144K witnesses and harvest of souls
Seal 7 broken	Seven Angels with Trumpets introduced

Revelation 8-15

Seven <u>TRUMPETS</u> blown

Trumpets 1-4 blown	1/3 of the earth is destroyed
<u>WARNING</u> - 'Woe, woe, woe'	Last three trumpets are the bad ones
Trumpets 5-6 blown	Demonic Creatures from bottomless pit
Interlude – 2 WITNESSES	Calling people to God
Trumpet 7 blown	The announcement and the reckoning

Seven BOWLS poured out	Revelation 16
Bowls 1-6 poured out	Punishment on world of the Beast
Gathering at ARMAGEDDON	One last attempt to defeat God
Bowl 7 poured out	Judgments are completed

Life Group Discussion Questions – November 8, 2020

Revelation 5:5 And one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to be able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

DISCOVER

 Read Revelation 5 and 6:1. In v.2, what question does the mighty angel ask? What answer does he receive? What is John's reaction to this situation?
 Read 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8. God will repay for those who have been afflicted. Who are the afflicted? Who was/is doing the afflicting? What happens to those who have been afflicted?

3. Read Revelation 9:20-21. Who brought the plagues on mankind? Why did this happen?

EXPLORE

1. In Revelation 5:1, John the Apostle sees a scroll in the right hand of God. It has writing on the inside and the back. What is the significance of this? (see Ephesians 1:20-21) Why do you think that only Jesus is capable of opening the scroll and its seven seals?

2. Regarding 2 Thess. 1:6-8: Where do we find that God will act justly against our oppressors and that we can stop worrying that they are getting away with their sins? When will this happen? Paul says, in v.6,"...it is only right for God..." What did Paul consider to be "right for God"?

3. Regarding Revelation 6-8, in the midst of The Great Tribulation, where do you see God's mercy still being offered to the hard-of-heart? Who does He send to do the warning?

4. In Revelation 9:20-21, there have been three great plagues and many people have died. What was God's purpose in this? Compare and contrast to Pharaoh's plagues in Exodus 7-11.

EXPERIENCE

 It is not easy for us to give-up control in many aspects of our lives. We may think we have great power to influence others, especially if we have roles or titles with responsibilities. What can we do to once-and-for-all relinquish our "power" to the Lordship of Christ? How can your Life Group assist you in these areas?
 How does the knowledge that there is relief/rest coming help you in the midst of affliction?

PRAY

Thank God for sending His Son to come to earth as the sinless Lamb of God. Thank Him that He was good enough to pay the price for our sins and the sins of the world. Thank Jesus that He paid the price and endured the wrath that we deserve. Praise Him that He alone is worthy to open the seven-sealed scroll, so that His righteous judgement against sin can be poured out on a Christ-rejecting world. Praise God that a day is coming when all enemies will be placed under His feet.

Auburn Grace Community Church – November 8th, 2020