Table Host Discussion Guide

Week 6: The Kingdom and the Dragon

This week, Revelation reaches one of its great climactic moments. Before the seventh trumpet sounds, John is shown God's measured temple, reminding us that God knows and preserves those who belong to Him. The two witnesses continue the prophetic mission of God's people, faithfully proclaiming God's Word despite opposition, following the same pattern as Christ Himself—faithful witness, suffering, vindication, and glory. Then the seventh trumpet announces that the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Messiah. Chapter 12 pulls back the curtain on the spiritual battle behind that announcement, revealing Christ's victory over Satan through His death, resurrection, and ascension. Unable to destroy the Messiah, the dragon now turns his rage toward Christ's followers. Revelation reminds us that while opposition continues, Christ already reigns, Satan has already been defeated, and the Church is called to remain faithful until the King returns.

Discussion Questions

1. What does the measuring of the temple teach us about God's people?

Answer: Throughout Scripture, measuring is not primarily about determining size but about identifying what belongs to God. In Revelation, John measures the temple, the altar, and the worshipers, showing that God's true temple is His redeemed people rather than a physical building. Just as God's servants were sealed in chapter 7, they are now measured and distinguished as those who belong to Him. Even when judgment falls, Christ knows His people and never loses those who are His.

Application: Where do you tend to place your confidence—in visible religious structures or in your identity as someone who belongs to Christ? How does knowing Jesus knows His people personally encourage you?

2. What do the two witnesses teach us about the mission of the Church?

Answer: The two witnesses represent God's people faithfully proclaiming His Word through the power of His Spirit. Drawing on the imagery of Joshua, Zerubbabel, Moses, Elijah, and the lampstands, John shows that the Church continues God's work of bearing witness to Christ. Like Jesus, faithful witnesses may experience rejection and suffering, but God ultimately vindicates those who remain faithful.

Application: What does faithful witness look like in your everyday life? Are there places where fear has kept you from speaking about Christ?

3. Why is the seventh trumpet one of Revelation's greatest turning points?

Answer: The seventh trumpet announces that "the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Messiah." Rather than postponing Christ's reign to the distant future, heaven celebrates His present kingship following His death, resurrection, and ascension. The risen Jesus now possesses all authority and reigns until every enemy is placed beneath His feet.

Application: How would your perspective change if you intentionally lived this week as someone whose King is already reigning?

4. What does Revelation 12 teach us about Satan's defeat?

Answer: Revelation 12 shows that Satan's decisive defeat came through Christ's victory at the cross. Once the accuser of God's people, Satan has been cast down because Jesus has accomplished redemption and now intercedes for His people. Though Satan continues to oppose the Church, he no longer holds the ultimate authority. Christ's victory has become the victory of everyone who belongs to Him.

Application: When you struggle with guilt, accusation, or discouragement, how does knowing that Christ now intercedes for you strengthen your faith?

5. What have we learned about Jesus in Revelation 11–12?

Answer: This week Revelation answers another important question about Jesus: **What has Jesus accomplished?** He has established His kingdom. The Lamb who was found worthy to open the scroll now reigns as King. He preserves His people, defeats Satan, intercedes for His Church, and sends His followers into the world as faithful witnesses. Revelation continues to remind us that its central message is not the rise of evil, but the reign of Jesus Christ.

Application: Looking back over the first six weeks, what truth about Jesus has most changed or strengthened your faith? How does seeing Revelation as a Christ-centered book affect the way you read the rest of it?

Prayer Prompts

1. **For confidence in Christ's reign:**
   Lord Jesus, thank You that You already reign as King over heaven and earth. Help us live with confidence, hope, and courage, knowing that Your kingdom cannot be shaken. (Revelation 11:15–18; Matthew 28:18)

2. **For faithfulness in witness:**
   Jesus, thank You that Satan's accusations have been answered by Your blood. Help us overcome by trusting Your finished work, holding firmly to our testimony, and following You faithfully until the end. (Revelation 12:10–17; Romans 8:33–34)

3. **For victory through Christ:**
   Jesus, thank You that Satan's accusations have been answered by Your blood. Help us overcome by trusting Your finished work, holding firmly to our testimony, and following You faithfully until the end. (Revelation 12:10–17; Romans 8:33–34)