All Creation Joins in Giving Praise to God and the Lamb

*A study of Revelation with focus on Earthcare*

This six week Bible study is intended for an adult group, meeting during an education hour. Generally, 25-30 persons attend these sessions.

This Bible study is offered as an overview of the book of Revelation with attention to the message it brings to environmental concerns.

Session objectives:

**Session 1:** This first session will introduce this pairing of the concepts of apocalypse and earthcare, providing a format for applying this study to daily life. In this first session, the “way” we will read Revelation will be introduced.

**Session 2:** We will look at Revelation 1-3, identifying the aspects that make this a letter and exploring the message of this letter to the seven churches. We will review how the challenges for the churches are similar and different to the challenges humanity has with the care of the earth.

**Session 3:** In this review of Revelation 4-11, we will focus on the questions: Who is our God and where does our security come from? How does our search for security play into our destruction of the earth? How can the words from Revelation 5:11-14 frame our every day existence?

**Session 4:** Focus around chapters 12 and 13 (in this study of chapters 12-16) will identify the traits of evil and how faithfulness is promoted by these visions. How does despair play into our treatment of the earth? How does the rhythm of Revelation give hope for the earth today?

**Session 5:** As we meet the harlot and the beast in Revelation 17-19, we see again the structure of evil. We hear again the question, who is our God? We wonder together what does this mean for our part in earthcare?

**Session 6:** God’s promises reach fulfillment in Revelation 19-22. We see a vision of wholeness for the earth as all witness to God and the Lamb. We discuss and experience concrete examples of earthcare.

This study is based on Professor C. Koester’s seminary Revelation course, and his book, *Revelation and the End of All Things* (Eerdmans 2001).