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RIVERS OF REVELATION by Rabbi Kirt A. Schneider
Published by Charisma House
Charisma Media/Charisma House Book Group
600 Rinehart Road
Lake Mary, Florida 32746
www.charismahouse.com

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Schneider, K. A. (Kirt Allan), author.

Title: Rivers of revelation / by Rabbi Kirt A. Schneider.

Description: Lake Mary, Florida : Charisma House, [2019]

Identifiers: LCCN 2019029547 (print) | LCCN 2019029548 (ebook) | ISBN

9781629996516 (hardcover) | ISBN 9781629996523 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Revelation--Biblical teaching. | Revelation--Meditations. |

Messianic Judaism.

Classification: LCC BT126 .S36 2019 (print) | LCC BT126 (ebook) | DDC

231.7/4--dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019029547>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019029548>

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19 20 21 22 23 — 987654321

Printed in the United States of America

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Acknowledgments

TO A DEGREE we are all products of those around us who have invested into our lives. God often uses others to impart something of Himself to us. With this in mind, I want to thank my wife, Cynthia, and it goes without saying, Baruch HaShem; I thank the Lord.

Introduction

REVELATION RECEIVED FROM the Spirit of God always changes lives. You see, true faith is built on revelation because revelation shows us who God is, who we are in Him, and the authority we have been given as the children of God.

We see this in Matthew 16 when Jesus asked His disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” (v. 15).

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.”

—MATTHEW 16:16–19

INTRODUCTION

In this account God revealed to Peter not only who Jesus was—“the Christ, the Son of the living God”—but also who Peter himself was and the authority God was giving to the church so that we could make Him known in the earth.

Revelation is supernatural, and it is always transformational. This is why the Bible tells us in Ephesians 1:17 to pray “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to [us] a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.”

My prayer is that as you journey through the next one hundred days God will give you a spirit of Wisdom and Revelation. I wrote these devotionals in hope that the Father would use them to reveal His truth to you in a fresh way so that you can walk in the fullness of who God has called you to be and become a bold witness for Him in the earth.

I called this book *Rivers of Revelation* because I believe that as you drink of God’s Word, out of your innermost being will flow rivers of living water. You will come to know God in a deeper way, and the revelation you glean will flow from you out to others as you share the truth.

Please don’t rush through these pages. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart through these pearls

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of truth. Pray as you read each one, and write down any additional insights the Holy Spirit gives you.

Through revelation we walk in power. Through revelation we are changed.

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

—1 JOHN 3:2

DAY 1

You Too Have Been Chosen

He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.

—EPHESIANS 1:4–5

ONE OF THE most foundational truths that has anchored me in God is the realization that I have been chosen. As a new believer in 1978, I looked around and wondered why I was the only Jewish person in my whole school, which had many Jews, who believed in Jesus. Then I realized that I believed because God had revealed Himself to me in a way that He had not revealed Himself to the other Jewish people in my school. I realized He had chosen me.

In John 17 Jesus prayed for those whom the Father had given Him. And in John 6 Jesus said that no one can come to Him unless it had been granted from the Father and that all whom the Father had given Him would come to Him (vv. 65, 37).

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Beloved, it is an awesome blessing when you realize that you were personally and specifically chosen by God the Father before the foundation of the world. And because He chose you, He revealed Jesus to you, gave you faith, and brought you to Himself. Even if your coming to faith wasn't dramatic but happened slowly over time, you came to faith by the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit because the Father had chosen you even before you were born.

When you realize that the security of your relationship with the Father is based on His choice of you, you will know that you are standing on solid ground. Jesus said in John 15, "You did not choose Me but I chose you" (v. 16). Taking a hold of this truth will give you a confidence in your relationship with God that can come no other way.

Father God, in Messiah Jesus' name I ask You to open the eyes of my understanding to be able to realize that truly You chose me before the foundation of the world because You love me. Because my relationship with You is rooted in Your choice of me and Your love for me will never change, I can be secure in You. Help me to take hold of this.

DAY 2

Be Still

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted
among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

—PSALM 46:10, NKJV

THE HOLY SPIRIT is alive, and He is moving within us. But we can become so involved in our own efforts that we miss what the Holy Spirit is doing. This is why the Lord tells us in Psalm 46:10 to be still and know that He is God. Or as the New American Standard Bible puts it, we are to “cease striving” and know that He is God.

I believe peace precedes power and authority. When we are still, we are able to enter into the peace of God, and the peace of God produces the fruit of God’s Spirit. Many times in Scripture the Lord is referred to as the God of peace. And Romans 16:20 tells us that “the God of peace will soon crush Satan under [our] feet.” The God of peace is a mighty warrior, and by resting in His peace, by ceasing our striving, we obtain victory.

I want to encourage you, beloved one, with a very practical suggestion: take time to be still before God.

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You can do this anytime—sitting on your couch at home or even while you’re driving in your car. Silence your phone, turn off the radio, and just be still before God. You may feel that nothing is happening. You may even feel empty when you’re practicing stillness. But I promise you, if you will give yourself to this discipline and just do it—don’t just try it, but build it into your lifestyle—over time you will experience a greater sense of God’s peace and power, and you will come to know Him in a deeper way.

God says it for a reason: “Be still, and know that I am God.”

Father God, I choose to be still before You, to cease my striving so I can experience Your movement in my life. I want to know You in a deeper way and be a vessel through which You can manifest Your power and goodness. Be magnified in my life.

DAY 3

Nothing Is Wasted

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

—ROMANS 8:28, NKJV

YOU'RE PROBABLY FAMILIAR with Romans 8:28, where the Lord says He causes all things to work together for good to those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. Oftentimes we interpret that verse to mean that no matter what happens in life, God is going to use it for good. And that is absolutely true. But I want to draw your attention to the very next verse, Romans 8:29, because it reveals what God's purpose is—that we would be “conformed to the image of His Son” (NKJV).

Everything that you and I go through in life is going to be used by Father God to conform us to the image of His Son. What does that look like in our everyday lives? Let's say I am seventy-five years old, and because I'm old, I lose a tooth. Should I think, “This is going to

work together for my good; I may even grow a brand-new tooth”?

Some people apply that verse that way. They think that no matter what happens, they’re going to experience something better or somehow their circumstance will supernaturally improve. But that isn’t exactly what Paul is saying. Paul is saying that God is going to use everything you go through in life for good by using everything to conform you to the image of Jesus and fulfill His purpose in your life.

Please keep in mind that God’s ways are above our ways, even “as the heavens are higher than the earth” (Isa. 55:9, NKJV). And not only are His ways higher; His purpose for you and me is greater than the purpose we have for ourselves. His purpose is to conform us to the image of Jesus, which is why nothing we go through in life will ever be wasted.

Father God, I thank You that all things work together for my good and that You are using everything I go through to bring about Your purpose for my life, which is to conform me to the image of Your Son. Have Your way in my life today.

DAY 4

God's Spirit Is in You

However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

—ROMANS 8:9

SOMETIMES WHEN WE hear certain words, they bring up preconceived notions that cause us to miss what is being communicated to us. *Born again* is that kind of term. The minute some people hear the phrase *born-again Christian*, they think of people who are extreme in their thinking, judgmental, or on the Far Right. But that is not what the term *born again* means. In fact from my perspective it is a scientific term.

Jesus said, “Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). He went on to say, “Truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit” (John 3:5–6). So when Jesus used the term *born again*, He wasn’t just talking about

a change of lifestyle or a new beginning. He was talking about literally being born of God's Spirit.

You see, there is a first birth and a second birth. The first birth is when you were born from your mother's womb. But when you receive Jesus, God's Spirit literally comes inside you. And when that happens, you receive another nature—God's own nature—because His Spirit comes and inhabits you. This is what the term *born again* actually means.

This is our reality as believers in Yeshua: those who belong to Christ—those who have been born again—have the Spirit of God living within them. We need to become less focused on what is going on outside of us and be more conscious of God's Spirit that dwells inside of us. This is how the early believers were able to do supernatural things—because they understood that God's Spirit literally lived inside them.

Let us not allow the world's concept of being born again keep us from understanding what Jesus truly meant. God's Spirit is in you. Begin to focus on that truth and ask the Father to bring that reality alive in your heart.

Father God, I believe and declare that Your Spirit is alive in me. Deepen my awareness of this reality, and move powerfully through me. Raise my expectation of what You can and will do in my life.

DAY 5

The Greatest Victory

Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

—COLOSSIANS 3:14

THROUGHOUT HIS LETTERS Paul tells us that love is above all else. Yet for many years as a young believer I didn't think much about love. I just thought about conquering. You know how men can be; we like to conquer, and as believers in Yeshua we are given power to conquer in life—to overcome trials, temptations, and the powers of darkness. But that is not our greatest strength. The greatest gift we have been given is the ability to love.

I want to encourage you today to think about this: if we are not walking in love, we are not abiding in Yeshua, because He is love. One of our missions as followers of Christ is to overcome evil with good, and the greatest good of all is love. In life there's so much division, so much criticism, so much accusation. But criticism and accusation are not from the Lord. They are from the enemy. Love brings people together.

If you can walk in love, you'll walk in victory. But walking in love is a choice. Love isn't a feeling; love is a choice. Jesus asked, What credit is it to us if we only love our friends? (See Luke 6:32–36.) It feels good to love our friends, but Jesus is calling us to overcome and conquer. He's calling us to love our enemies. He's calling us to choose to walk in love.

Often that means doing what we don't feel like doing. Jesus modeled that kind of love when He was about to go to the cross. He said, "Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will" (Matt. 26:39). Jesus didn't want to die on the cross, but because of His love for the Father He did what He didn't feel like doing and gave His life for us.

In the same way, beloved, we need to choose love, even when it doesn't feel good. We need to overcome evil with good. We need to learn to overlook offense. We need to bring people together in unity. Unity brings life; division causes death. We need to walk in love. If you can do this, you'll have achieved the greatest victory of all.

Father God, thank You for humbling Yourself and dying on the cross for my sins. As You chose love, even when it hurt, I now choose to love those around me. I choose to cover them in prayer and bring people together in unity. I choose to walk in love.

DAY 6

Keep Trusting God

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.

—TITUS 3:5

SO MANY PEOPLE never feel secure in their walk with God. They think that somehow their salvation depends on their works, but Paul wrote in Titus 3 that God saved us not on the basis of our deeds but according to His mercy through the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. Many times we think we realize this, but our actions tell a different story.

I have seen so many people start off right. They hear the gospel message and accept Jesus as their Savior. But once they start going to church, they are told they should do this and they shouldn't do that. Soon what was begun in the mercy of God as they yielded to the Lord, they now try to perfect by good works.

Galatians 3:3 says that what was begun in the Spirit, we should not try to perfect with the flesh. We need to

keep trusting God, to keep clinging to Him and abiding in Jesus by depending on Him. In this way we're being transformed from glory to glory.

Please don't misunderstand what I'm saying. It's very important to know right from wrong and to choose what is right. But we need to be dependent on the Holy Spirit, step by step and day by day, and not try to accomplish good things for Him in our flesh.

So I want to encourage you today to trust in God. Trust in the One who saved you to complete what He began. Open your heart to Him, and share your deepest secrets with Him. Ask Him for help as often as you need to. He who began a good work in you will complete it because He did not save you on the basis of your righteous deeds but by His mercy and by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. Trust in the Lord, my friend, and you will be blessed because God continuously blesses everyone who looks to Him.

Father God, I know it is not by my works that I am saved or made righteous but according to Your mercy and the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. I trust You to complete the work You began in me. Help me not to seek to please and serve You in my own strength. Help me to always look to You to provide all I need and to empower me to impact Your kingdom.

DAY 7

God Will Provide

I have heard the grumbings of the sons of Israel; speak to them, saying, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God.”

—EXODUS 16:12

AFTER GOD DELIVERED the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, He led them to the Promised Land through the wilderness. Along the way, the people began to grumble about not having enough to eat, and God responded to their complaints by supernaturally meeting their needs.

You may know the story. God provided quail in the evening, and supernatural manna appeared on the ground each morning. This happened six days a week for forty years. God provided for the Israelites in this way the entire time they wandered in the wilderness. When they entered the Promised Land, the supernatural manna stopped. But while they were in the wilderness

and had no other means of support, God fed them with heavenly manna and divinely supplied meat.

This happened thousands of years ago. But I want you to know that God will do the same for you. You may not receive manna and quail, but when you face wilderness experiences, God will meet your needs. Remember, Jesus said not to worry about what you will eat or what you will drink because your Father knows you need these things; if you just seek Him first, He will supply all your needs (Matt. 6:25–33).

The apostle Paul wrote that the Old Testament, the Tanakh, was “written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come” (1 Cor. 10:11). One of the things we learn from the Old Testament is that God supernaturally provides for His people. God provided for the children of Israel when they were wandering in the wilderness, and He will provide for you. Beloved, you can trust Him.

Father God, thank You for being my provider. As I seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness, I trust that everything I need will be added to me. Even during wilderness seasons when You seem far away, I know I can trust You. You said You will never leave me nor forsake me. Thank You, Father, for supplying all my needs according to Your riches in glory.