

HOW TO USE **GOD'S BIG PICTURE**

9 UNITS

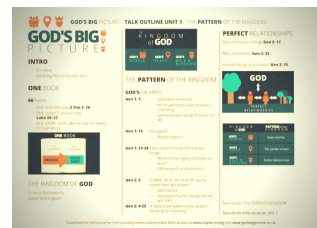
VIDEO



10 minute video with Vaughan Roberts each covering a stage in the Bible's story



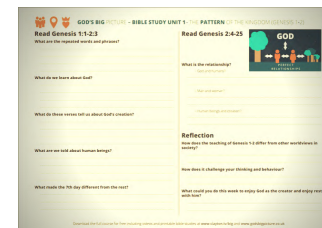
TALK OUTLINE



For scribbling extra notes as you watch Vaughan

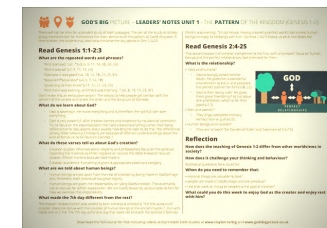
3 PRINTABLES

BIBLE STUDY



Hour long study on a Bible passage related to Vaughan's video

LEADERS' NOTES



Answers and helpful comments about the Bible study questions

(Each printable is 1 sheet of A4 and will print happily as colour or black and white)

WHAT IS THE GOD'S BIG PICTURE COURSE?

It's a totally free Bible overview course tracing the story of the whole Bible, taught by Vaughan Roberts. Each of the nine units takes 1- 1 1/2 hours to do.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Anyone who wants to see more deeply how the whole Bible fits together and understand each passage better in the light of the whole book.

HOW COULD I USE IT?

- In a mid-week group at church, such as a home group
- As an individual watching online
- In a one to one Bible study with a new Christian or someone investigating Christianity
- As an intensive training course on a weekend away

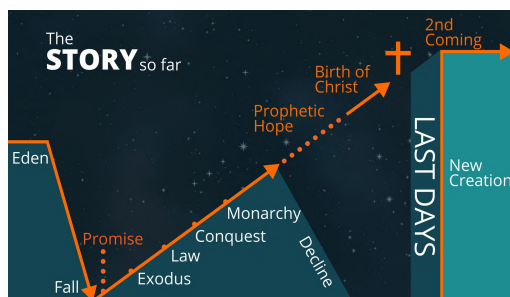
HOW TO DOWNLOAD (for the non techy)

- You can watch all the videos online at www.clayton.tv/big but if you want to play them offline (e.g. in a group setting) download by clicking on the red link under the video. It could take 30 minutes to download them all (at average download speed, 10Mbps).
- Right click to extract the zipped files (or double click on a Mac). There are 10 video files (9 units and an intro).
- Simply double click to play the video files (using the video player on your computer - or install a player e.g. VLC player from www.videolan.org).
- If you want to watch in a group - connect your computer to a TV or projector using an HDMI cable.
- All the printables download as PDF files in the same way.



GOD'S BIG PICTURE

THE STORY SO FAR



THE BOOK OF REVELATION

'APOCALYPSE'

- Written by John- symbolism to convey meaning - 'unveiling'
- To strengthen believers by looking at Christ's kingdom

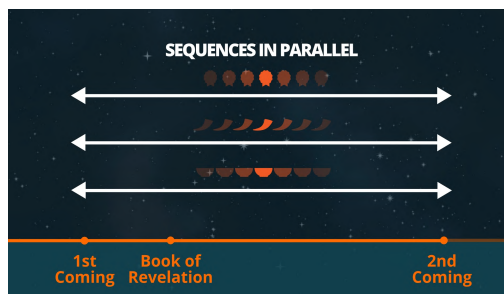
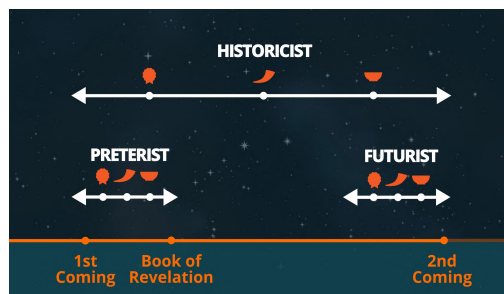
A THRONE IN HEAVEN

- God is in charge **Rev 4: 2**
- Jesus the lamb who died for us, suffered and triumphed **Rev 5:6**
- Demands worship **Rev 5: 13**

A SERIES OF VISIONS

DIVINE JUDGMENT

- Seven seals,
- Seven trumpets,
- Seven bowls



THE FINAL JUDGMENT

THE JUDGMENT OF...

- Babylon **Rev 17:5; 18:2**
- The beast and the false prophet **Rev 19:20-21**
- Those whose names are not in the book of life **Rev 20: 5**

THE NEW CREATION

'A new heaven and a new earth' **Rev 21: 1-4**



PERFECT RELATIONSHIPS

- Human beings and creation
Rev 22: 1-2
- Human beings
The new Jerusalem
Rev 21: 9-10
- God and human beings
Rev 21: 3

KINGDOM of GOD		PROMISED KINGDOM
GOD'S PEOPLE		All nations
GOD'S PLACE		New creation
GOD'S RULE & BLESSING		Eternal blessing

'Come, Lord Jesus' **Rev 22: 20**

'The grace of the Lord be with God's people. Amen.'
Rev 22: 21

Now do the bible study for Unit 9



Read Revelation 21:1-8

What images are used to describe the perfected kingdom?

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How do they build on previous passages in the Bible?

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What will life be like in the perfected kingdom?

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Read Revelation 21:22-22:5

What features of the perfected kingdom are described here?

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Kingdom of God Perfected Kingdom

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God's people

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God's place

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God's rule and blessing

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Close with praise and intercession in the light of what you have learnt



Read Revelation 21:1-8

What images are used to describe the perfected kingdom?

How do they build on previous passages in the Bible?

- New Creation (v1)
 - v1 echoes the first verse of the Bible. Having “created the heavens and the earth” (Gen 1:1). God is determined to restore them after everything has been spoilt by the Fall (as prophesied in Isaiah 65:17). ‘The sea symbolises the forces of chaos and evil, which will be banished from the new creation.
- New Jerusalem (v2)
 - Jerusalem symbolises the kingdom of God, where he is worshipped and justice reigns. Jerusalem enjoyed a brief golden age at the time of Solomon, when the temple was built, but it was soon corrupted by the people’s sin and destroyed. The prophets pointed forward to the restoration of Jerusalem in the future (Is 40:1-2; 52:1-3; Lk 2:38).
- Bride
 - The Old Testament likens the relationship between God and his people to a marriage (e.g. Hosea 1-3). This marriage will be perfected in the new creation. Eden had been God’s ‘dwelling place’ (v3). The tabernacle and the temple were partial restorations of that blessing, but access to them was severely limited. But in the future Christ’s bride will enjoy unrestricted intimacy with him. They will enjoy the complete fulfilment of God’s covenant promise. ‘They shall be my people and I will be their God’ (v36, 7; Gen 17:7-8; Ex 6:7)

What will life be like in the perfected kingdom?

Much will already have been said in the previous discussion. Key points include:

- It is a physical place. We will not be disembodied souls!
- Its focus is a perfectly restored relationship with God (e.g. Ps42:1) and ‘those who are victorious’ (v7), because they persevere in following Christ.
- The ungodly are excluded (v8)

Read Revelation 21:22-22:5

What features of the perfected kingdom are described here?

Kingdom of God

God’s people

Perfected Kingdom

- People from all nations (21:24)
- Those in the lamb’s book of life (21:27)

God’s place

- No temple (21:22)
There is no need for one, as God is everywhere
- A new Eden (22:1-2)
As in Eden, there is a river flowing through it and the tree of life

God’s rule and blessing

- ‘The throne of the lamb’
God’s people reign with Christ (22:5) God’s creation purposes for humanity are fully restored (Gen 1:28)
- Perfect blessing
No Curse (22:3)
No night (21:23.25; 22:5)

Close with praise and intercession in the light of what you have learnt

This could be extended to include sharing about what the group has learnt from the course as a whole before a time of prayer.