What does Thanksgiving, Christmas and the Book of Revelation have to do with each other? Good

question, glad you asked. More than you realize.

God pressed hard upon my heart that now was the time to do a deep dive into the book of Revelation.

With everything going on in the world currently and people asking so many questions where does one

turn for the answers? Definitely not the major news networks or Facebook. The Bible, God’s Holy

word that is chalk full of answers if we are willing to go and find them.

You might be one that has said I would like to read Revelation, but I just won’t understand it, or it is

scary, or all just a mystery. Actually, you would be wrong on all accounts. Most of everything that is

penned in this last book of the Bible is referenced throughout all of the Old Testament, spoken through

God’s prophets, apostles and talked about by Christ himself. This book is a lot more black and white

than one might think, and a lot more literal than just figurative.

That being said, I can only imagine what John saw as he gazed upon the throne room of God! There are

just some things that cannot be put into words. You have experienced that. A sunset or mountain view

that is so breath taking that no picture can capture, no words can describe the sense of awe and wonder

that you are experiencing at the moment.

So, what does this have to do with Thanksgiving? When you step back and look at the horrible judgments

one might be tempted to say, “what kind of a loving God would do that?” One that after sending

his people throughout the world to share the wonderful Gospel news of his son Jesus Christ Promises to

take us up to him. And then instead of calling it quits allows those judgments to be drawn out and

lengthened so that no one SHOULD perish. But there will still be those whose hearts will be hardened.

Why did God send 10 plagues to Pharoah? Because he refused to bend and yield. If he had of after the

first plague the story would have been done. But he could not and so suffer from his own doing. If you

take a deep look at these judgements God keeps putting the pressure on, and yet in the end there will be

those who still CHOOSE to run and hide from him instead of running towards, kneeling and bowing.

As I said with the Story of the flood, it didn’t need to be that way and it still doesn’t. We come with

complete thanksgiving to the loving, merciful Almighty God (El- Shadi) who wants us so much that he

made a way for us to one day see him in all of his glory just as John experienced.

We come at Christmas time knowing that the Word, Emmanuel God with us left that throne room and came to Earth to make a way. To become that sacrificial, slain lamb, the only one who owns the deed to this earth and can open the scroll. He is not just the lamb, but also the Lion of Judah, the mighty King and Bridegroom who has promised to return for His bride.

This year we focus on the Lion and the Lamb and anxiously await his return. While we do not know the day or hour, Jesus said you will know the season. The words in Revelation and throughout scripture give us the answers of what will happen not for fear, but for Hope, for Assurance, For an ultimate total Peace in and through him and a Final Victory.

Jesus said, “In my Father’s house are many rooms, I go to prepare a place for you.” He did and He is coming back at the appointed time when God says, “Okay now go get your bride!”. What unbelievable love! What excitement knowing the time is getting near, but it is not just a present to keep. We are called to go and tell everyone we know and meet about the saving blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, lest no man, woman should perish.

God is working even in the midst of the Chaos. This past week hundreds of Palestinian men had dreams where Jesus visited them and they all accepted his free gift of salvation. We serve a God that is definite-ly NOT DEAD, but Alive and coming back!

What better gift to give someone than those precious words? Everything of this world will be de-stroyed, it is and will become worthless. This year give the gift that is Eternal! And who knows maybe this time when you read through the only book that promises a blessing just for reading it, you will also experience a Revelation!

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas And God’s Abundant Blessings

Shalom