

THE CONCLUSION OF THE BOOK

REVELATION 22:6-21

Text:

Introduction:

Our study of the book of the Revelation has taken us from the days of the early church in the past all the way into eternity in the future. John has been faithfully fulfilling the divine purpose he shared in the first verse of the book.

Revelation 1:1

¹The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:

John has been used of the Lord to reveal to God's people God's plan for the future.

The Lord has shown us how the church age will end. It will end with the church in apostasy, cold and dead, with Jesus on the outside. We are steadily moving in that direction today.

He has shown us what will follow after the church is removed from the world. There will be a terrible tribulation period that will engulf the world. Billions

will die from war, disease and the tragedy of divine judgment. This age will also end with the Antichrist and Satan judged and sentenced to an eternity in the Lake of Fire.

We have even been given a glimpse of our own future. We have seen a place called Heaven, where death, disease, sin and Satan will be prohibited.

In our text today, we have arrived at the end of the book. The verses we have read today serve as the Lord's conclusion to the book of Revelation.

1. A CONCLUDING WORD ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE (VS. 6-10)

A. The Scriptures Are Accurate (vs. 6)

Revelation 22:6

⁶And he said unto me, These sayings *are* faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

John is assured that everything he has seen is both "faithful and true". There has not been a single exaggeration.

B. The Scriptures Are Authoritative (vs. 7-9)

Revelation 22:7-9

⁷ Behold, I come quickly: blessed *is* he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. ⁸ And I John saw these things, and heard *them*. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. ⁹ Then saith he unto me, See *thou do it* not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

The statement, “Behold, I come quickly”, the Lord declares His authority! Man can say what he wishes about the Bible and about God’s promises and prophecies, but God will have the final say!

C. The Scriptures Are Accessible (vs. 10)

Revelation 22:10

¹⁰ And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

John is commanded to “seal not” the book he has written. The word “seal” means “to conceal, or to keep secret”.

2. A CONCLUDING WORD ABOUT THE SAVIOUR (VS. 11-16, 20-21)

A. A Word about His Return (vs. 12, 20-21)

Revelation 22:12

¹² And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Revelation 22:20-21

²⁰ He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. ²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

Again, we have the Lord's promise that He is coming again! That was His promise before He left this world.

John 14:1-3

¹ Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

B. A Word about His Reward (vs. 11-12, 14-15)

Revelation 22:11-12

¹¹ He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. ¹² And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Revelation 22:14-15

¹⁴ Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

The return of Jesus will be a mixed blessing. He is going to reward every man according to “his works”.

He will reward them for their works and bless them for their service.

Many faithful saints of God will hear Him say, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant

What a day that will be!

C. A Word about His Rights (vs. 13, 16)

Revelation 22:13

¹³ I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Revelation 22:16

¹⁶ I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

He reminds us that He was here when everything began and that He will still be here when all things end.

He reminds us that He is the King of Kings.

He is the “bright and morning star”.

He is coming and He will rule and reign in righteousness and power some day!

3. A CONCLUDING WORD ABOUT THE SPIRIT (Vs 17-19)

A. There Is an Appeal to Appear (vs. 17)

Revelation 22:17

¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

The Spirit of God longs for the Savior to return so that He might defeat His enemies and occupy His rightful place on the throne of the universe.

The Bride of Christ echoes the invitation of the Spirit. There is a longing in the heart of the redeemed for the return of the Redeemer.

B. There Is an Admonition to Avoid (vs. 18-19)

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸ For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:
¹⁹ And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of

life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

People are warned not to tamper with the words of this book. The Lord pronounces a curse on those who would add to or take away from the words of the Bible. This is not a new warning, but it is a warning that runs like a thread through the pages of Scripture.

Deuteronomy 4:2

² Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Deuteronomy 12:32

³² What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

Proverbs 30:5-6

⁵ Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him. ⁶ Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

The warning given here is two-fold.

Men are warned not to add to the Bible –

- The Bible is a complete book. When the Bible was finished, the revelation of God to man was brought to an end. There are no more new revelations being given today! Every person who stands up and claims to have a “new word from the Lord” is guilty of adding to the Word of God!

They are bringing the threat of divine judgment upon themselves.

- One of the hallmarks of the charismatic movement has been the inclusion of new revelation. Someone will stand in a service and claim to have a word from God. That is dangerous and it is heresy! We have all the words from God that we will ever have, right here in the Bible!
- These verses also let me know that every book written by man that claims to be Scripture is a lie of the devil! The book of Mormon; the writings of Mary Baker Patterson Glover Eddy, the founder of Christian Science, which is neither Christian nor scientific; the so-called “lost books of the Bible”; are all attempts by Satan to undermine our faith in the Word of God.
- Those who add the Word of God will face divine vengeance and judgment. God does not want His Word tampered with!

Men are warned not to subtract from the Bible –

- Many people are guilty of picking and choosing what they want from the Word of God. They may not add to the Bible, but they are guilty of subtracting from its words. For too many are

guilty of diluting the message of God. They deny its truth; water down its doctrines; and ignore its warnings. They too will face divine judgment!

Close:

The Lord wants us to know that he is coming again!

He is coming to put down evil and raise up His kingdom.

The Lord is coming! These are exciting days to be alive. I am glad that I know Him and that I am ready!