



Building Wholehearted Disciples of Jesus

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**Behold, I am Coming Quickly**

**Revelation 22**

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**Series:** Apocalypse, The Book of Revelation

## **Behold, I am Coming Quickly!**

Prayer: O God fire us up with anticipation of your soon coming!

- Last week we had a tour of the holy city.
- We saw the transparent and translucent light and the splendor of this city.
- 6 times the word “come or coming” is used. 3 times Jesus says “I am coming quickly” and the meaning is “suddenly,” “unexpectedly.”

### **Revelation 22:1**

***And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.***

- Is this real water or a river of the Spirit? I think it is a Spirit River.
- It is life itself. In other words, it is not a river that contains life, but it is life! It is in fact life!
- Because it is flowing from the Throne of God.
- This is the **River of Life** in the center of the celestial city.
- Glistening like a diamond, translucent and sparkling.
- This is the lesson: Life flows from the Throne of God.
  - o God has dominion!
  - o God has authority!
  - o In Matthew 8, the Centurion understood this with Jesus, “all you have to do is speak the word and my servant will be healed.” He understood that all of life flowed from Jesus. He was under authority!

- o The life you are searching for comes from Jesus.
- o This is what Jesus meant: that He is looking for a new kind of people that will worship Him in “Spirit and truth.”

**John 4:23-24**

***But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup> God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”***

**John 7:38**

***He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”***

- o Life for your marriage, your family, for your finances all flows from the throne of God.
- o That is when life becomes an adventure!

**Revelation 22: 2**

***In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.***

- Tree of Life is very interesting. What is it exactly?
- There is food in the tree of life. We will eat in the new heaven and new earth.
  - o For example, Abraham fed the 3 angels that came to him and Jesus ate fish with his disciples after his resurrection.
- We will not need food for sustenance because we will have Spirit driven bodies. So it must be for fellowship or pleasure.

- Do you realize just how often Jesus taught and healed during and after meals?
- 12 kinds of fruit, a fruit for every month?
- **“for the healing of the nations”**? What does that mean? I really do not know.
- The word, healing, is only used four times in the New Testament and the Greek word is therapeian, where we get the word “therapeutic.”
  - Health giving - the word has the meaning of ministering or serving.
  - The enjoyment of life - these lives bring us joy in the New Jerusalem.
  - The idea of the meaning is of service or beautification and used for those in the Old Testament who served in the Temple.
- It is not healing, but a therapy of beauty for our souls.
  - **Revelation 21:4**  
***And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.*** NKJV
  - **Proverbs 3:18**  
***“She (wisdom) is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy are all who retain her.”***
  - So, is it speaking of wisdom? Wisdom is good to your soul.
  - **Proverbs 15:4** ***“A wholesome tongue is a tree of life.”***
  - An encouraging tongue is a tree of life.

o **Proverbs 11:30**  
***“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life.”***

o So righteousness in our lives is a tree of life.

### **Revelation 22:3**

***And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.***

- No flies or mosquitos, no bees that sting, no snakes that bite, no spiders! YES!
- But, it says we will serve Him! We will be serving Him in heaven.
- We will continue to serve Him, but not marred by our motivations.

**Matthew 25: 21** speaks of the reward of faithful stewardship of our lives on earth: ***“Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.”***

### **Revelation 22:4-5**

***<sup>4</sup>They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.***

- In Genesis God said, “Let there be light” and it no longer needs to be sustained.
- God is our light and He will be all of the light we need.
- We will see his face: when you spend time with the Lord and see His face.
- And we shall reign forever and ever! He saw us created in our glory as Adam and Eve, and now it is all being restored.

## **Revelation 22:6**

***Then he said to me, “These words are faithful and true.” And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.***

- One translator says they are “faithful and without fiction.” I like that!

## **Revelation 22:7**

***“Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”***

- Joke: A Pastor who had learned in seminary to use a powerful opening in his sermons, began his sermon with “Behold I come quickly!!” Not much response, so he rears back and says it even louder, “Behold I come quickly!” and again, and this time the whole pulpit falls off along with the minister, crashing into this old guy on the first row, and the pastor is apologizing profusely, “I’m so sorry...” and the old man says, “Its OK, you warned me three times!”
- 3 times Jesus says “I am coming quickly!”
- This word “quickly” has the meaning of things suddenly happening, a snowballing effect.
- Jesus said, “When you see these things beginning to happen, lift up your heads for your redemption draws near.”
- And folks, things are happening quickly in our world today!
  - o China is exploding with the Gospel. 20,000 people are getting saved every day in China.
  - o Latin America is seeing between 20-30,000 people getting saved everyday
  - o Africa, 20,000 a day!
  - o Most experts believe that Christianity is growing at the twice the birth rate!!

- A blessing if you keep this book! In the first chapter it was “blessed those who read” but now it says “blessed are those who keep it.”
- The reading and hearing is over. 46 times you have heard the prophecy of this book.
- Now the challenge is to ‘keep’ this book. This is a military term, means to “guard this book” or to “preserve this book.”
  - o We have learned about the Anti-Christ.
  - o Armageddon.
  - o 7 year tribulation.
  - o The 2 resurrections.
  - o The new Heavens and the New Earth.
  - o This has been the revelation of Jesus Christ.
- Now, will we cherish these things? Will you keep these words in your life?

### **Revelation 22:8-9**

***<sup>8</sup>Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”***

- You see, angels guard the treasures of God.
- They are servants that watch over the scriptures and prophecies of God.
- The angel tells him to “Worship God” not me!! In some branches of the church, angels are worshipped! This angel says “No!”
- Do not worship angels or saints!! They are and were only servants of God.

- Worship and pray to God only!

### **Revelation 22:10-11**

***<sup>10</sup>And he said to me, “Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. <sup>11</sup>He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”***

- In this final exhortation, the word “book” is mentioned 7 times.
- Specifically speaking of the book in your lap.
- God’s final exhortation to us is that we would keep this book!
- In Vs.16 and 18: Jesus says this book is a testimony of His prophecy!
- This a warning to us that we are being challenged to heed!
- For example, The weather station: When I hear that snow is coming, I prepare...and they are hardly ever right, but Jesus is trustworthy.
- Robert Murray McCheyne (a great preacher of the last century): had engraved on his watch, “The Night Cometh” from the passage, “the night cometh where no man can work.” It was a constant reminder to do the work of God. He died when he was 31 years old.
- Live with urgency! The night cometh!

### **Revelation 22:12-13**

***<sup>12</sup>”And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give everyone according to his work. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”***

- Jesus says, “Behold, I come quickly” to the earth! It will happen very suddenly. It seems that even the church will be asleep (12 virgins...all were asleep.)

- So, it will surprise us all.
- Are you living with this urgency? God's calling is for The Road to be place of revival and equipping. Building wholehearted, all in, burn the boats disciples who love Jesus!
- I have a sense of urgency about it...do you?
- I think Jesus Christ could come very quickly! I really believe it.
- I have some intelligence reports that indicate that the whole earth is centering on the Middle East! It is happening all around this "Oil Corridor" around Kuwait, Iraq, and Iran. Come hear Victor on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> for the men, breakfast at 8am. Sunday Sept 10<sup>th</sup> our main service.
- But He also says that you will be rewarded for you labor! Your service is remembered.
- Be busy about His business: "Occupy (Do business) till I come."
  - All of you who are loving on and blessing our kids.
  - All of you who are working in Teleios youth ministry.
  - All of you who are praying, seeking God.
  - All of you who are giving of your resources to fund this work.

### **Revelation 22:14**

***Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.***

- Blessed are those who DO His commandments! God is noticing those who are keeping His commandments!
- Don't you want to be under His blessing?
- Don't you want to eat of God's fruit?

- Man, I want to get in through those gates.
- “Oh, when the saints come marchin’ in...”

### **Revelation 22:15**

***But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.***

- This is the last thing God says to those who do not know Him.
- Dogs-The unclean.
- Sorcery.
- Sexually immoral-fornication-sex outside of marriage or a single having sex.
- Repent of that stuff!! Don’t you want in?
- Lying was the first sin in the Bible and the last one!  
Psychologists say that the average American lies 200 times a day...but we’re not average are we?
- Don’t lie to yourselves!

### **Revelation 22:16**

***“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”***

- This is not Mohammed, Buddha, Krishna or some metaphysical experience.
- This is the Jewish Messiah, Jesus! Who came to this earth, born of a virgin, who died on a Roman cross.
- Crucified, risen on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day for your sins!
- He is the Root of David. The Jews came from Jesus and it is because of Him that the House of David exists.

- Jesus' last description of Himself: The Bright and morning star! The only time it is used in the New Testament.
- If you are up early and you see that bright morning star, Venus, the North Star, bright, reminding us that the day is coming soon.
- The Morning Star is reminding us that the promises of God are coming!

### **Revelation 22:17**

***And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.***

- It is the Spirit and the Bride that make the invitation. The primary purpose of the church is to invite them into a personal relationship with Jesus.
- The Spirit makes the invitation through the church, the Bride.
- Whoever hears! Come.
- Whoever thirsts! Come.
- You are hearing! You are thirsty or you wouldn't be here.
- Whoever desires! Everyone! Come!
- That means every sexually immoral, drug abuser, liars, unclean.
- No conditions...just come...tired of the emptiness?

### **Revelation 22:18-19**

***<sup>18</sup>For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; <sup>19</sup>and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall***

***take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.***

- Which book is it talking about? The book of Revelation or the Bible?
- Well look at some interesting phraseology. Let's read vs.18: "words of the prophecy of this book" but then it changes in vs. 19: "words of the book of this prophecy."
- Is there a difference? I think vs 19 is speaking of the entire Bible!
- We are warned! Do not add to God's Word and do not take away from.
- 7 times "this book" is said.

### **Revelation 22:20-21**

***<sup>20</sup>He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! <sup>21</sup>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.***

- The very last words of God to man.
- The very last words of man to God.
- Come Lord Jesus!
- The first words of God to man in Eden are "Where art thou?" and giving us the chance to say this!
- These are the last words of man to God: Come Lord Jesus! There is now a plan of redemption.
- Now we occupy till He comes!! Go for it
- I sign all my letters with "Carpe Diem Gloriam Dei." Seize the day for the glory of God!

