



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE REVELATION 22:12-21

LESSON: ALPHA AND OMEGA — November 27, 2016

INTRODUCTION:

22:8 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:— In other words, John is trying to testify that he had actually witnessed the things he wrote down. The message of Revelation stirs worship. When John heard these things revealed to him and seen with his own eyes, he fell down and worshipped (the angel) who was delivering the message for the Lord. God alone is worthy of our worship and adoration. He alone is above all creation, even the angels.

22:9 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:— John's reaction to worship the angel was prevented. This is not a new problem with John. He's forgotten that he's already done this to the angel back in Chapter 19:10, and was quickly rebuked by the angel. The angel instructs John that he is a fellow servant as his brethren the prophets are, and as well as those that heed the truth stated in the Book. God's first commandment teaches him that he is not to worship any other god. Worship God alone!

22:10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. The angel tells John what to do after the vision is over. Instead of sealing up what he has written as Daniel was commanded to do (Dan.12:4), the scroll is left open to let others see it, so that all can read and understand. Daniel's message was sealed because it was not a message for Daniel's time. But the book of Revelation was a message for John's time, and it is equally relevant today. As Christ's return gets closer, there is a greater polarization (separation) between God's followers and Satan's followers. We must read the book of Revelation, hear its message and be prepared for Christ's imminent return.

22:11 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. God sees our hearts. The person who does wrong things will continue to do wrong things. The evil person will still be evil. The person who does the right things should continue to do the right things. And the holy person should remain holy. So, now is the time to get it right!

LESSON: I. A DECLARATION OF SOVEREIGNTY REVELATION 22:12-16

22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. The message of Revelation focuses upon the Lord's return and judgment to come. As in verse 7, He says, "And, behold, I come quickly." His return is speedily coming, and it is imminent. The thrust is for us to prepare. Why? - Because it means judgment. His reward or recompense is with Him, repaying everyone for what they have done—positive or negative. The judgment will be based on:

- The works of man—what they have done.
 - a. Good (those having humility) receiving a reward for being faithful servants.
 - b. Bad (those being prideful) receiving punishment for being an evil doer.

For the saints, the rewards will come at the "*Judgment Seat of Christ.*" For the wicked, judgment will come at the "*Great White Throne Judgment.*"

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22:13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Jesus Christ is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end of all things, the first and the last, both Creator and Finisher of the universe. There is nothing that came before Him and nothing comes after Him. He spans all of time, and all of the universe. He began all things, and He finishes all things. Therefore, He will finish earth and the heavens above, and judge them all!

22:14 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. ¹God will bless those who obey Him. They are like people who wash their clothes clean. So, the 'clean clothes' really means that we need to live holy lives. But we cannot make ourselves holy by our own efforts. Only Jesus' death makes us holy. It is as if the blood of Jesus has washed our clothes clean. But only those who have accepted Christ into their lives will receive the benefits in this Book. The point is:

- We are blessed doing His Commandments, therefore, having the right to eat fruit from the tree that gives life.
- We are blessed doing His Commandments, therefore, having the right to enter the gates, into the city to live eternally.

22:15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. There are some people who will not be allowed to enter the heavenly city of God.

- The dogs of society. The wild dog was a symbol of roaming about; of being mean and savage dirty and immoral, and therefore will never be allowed to enter God's heavenly city.
- The sorcerers, whoremongers (immoral), murderers, idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie as listed in Revelation 21:8a.

All of these will be outside of the city gates in eternal torment because they did not accept Jesus Christ.

22:16 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. Jesus Christ Himself personally sends His angel to testify unto John these things in the churches. The very angel speaking to John comes from Jesus' presence—the One who gives life to man—the offspring of David—the Bright and Morning Star. He comes to deliver the message for the churches. There is no greater honor for this angel.

- Jesus, the Promised Messiah came from the seed and line of David. He is both David's Root and his Descendant! Jesus is the Promised Savior and King who came to save man and rule over the world.
- Jesus, the Bright and Morning Star means that He was the first star to arise and the first star is the brightest star—the very Son of God Himself. Jesus Christ is the Promised Messiah, the Star among all the stars of man.

II. A DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY REVELATION 22:17-19

22:17 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 "bride" is the "church", that is, a host of true believers scattered all over the earth. The invitation is from both the Spirit and the Bride of God crying out "**Come.**" Three invitations go out:

1. Those that hear are invited to "Come."
2. Those that thirst are to "Come."
3. And whosoever will "Come" take the water of life freely.

The Spirit and the Bride say Come. Once we hear the invitation and come, we must begin to cry out for others to come. The one who listens and hears this cry will become thirsty; you will desire the gospel, for you want to be changed and filled. Then all you have to do is "Come." Then the thirsty need to Come—those parched, scorched, empty, craving, burning, laboring, and sweating. If you're thirsty, leave what's not working behind, and take of the water of life

¹ <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/revelation-lbw.htm>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>

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freely. It's a free gift. All those who need this refreshment, satisfaction, and renewal of the water of life, **"Come."**

22:18 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:— There is a warning here, and the warning is solemn (grave) and definite. A person must not add to the Words of this Book. If he adds to the Words in this Book, God will add the plagues written in this Book to him.

22:19 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. A person must not take away from the Words of this Book. If he takes away from the Words in this Book of prophecy, God will take away his part out of the Book of Life; his part out of the Holy City, and from the things written in this Book for him.

III. A FINAL BENEDICTION REVELATION 22:20-21

22:20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The conclusion is that Jesus Christ is the One who reveals and testifies to the things written in Revelation. These are not the words of men, but are the Words of the Living Lord, the Son of God Himself. He says again *"He will come quickly"* concluding with a final benediction *"Amen"*, meaning *"So Be It"*, signature with *"Even so, come, Lord Jesus."*

22:21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. John uses the very words of Paul in his closing benediction and Amen; again closing the Book of Revelation.

SUMMARY:

The message of Revelation focuses upon the Lord's return and judgment to come. As in verse 7, He says, *"And, behold, I come quickly."* His return is speedily coming, and it is imminent. Man's works shall be judged; the good and the bad. Jesus is Alpha and Omega. He created all things and He will finish all things. Blessed are they that do His commandments, for they will have the right to the tree of life, and will enter in through the gates into the city. They have obeyed the invitation to accept Christ as Lord and Savior. However, all of those who did not accept Christ will be outside of the city gates in eternal torment. Jesus Christ personally sends His angel to testify unto John these things in the churches. Jesus is the root and the offspring of David, and the Bright and Morning Star (22:12-16).

The last invitation to Christ in this Book goes out and they are to take of the water of life freely. The gospel of Christ is a free gift. Just Come! We must receive the prophecy of this Book as it is written. If you hear the Words of the prophecy of the Book, don't add to it, or God shall add unto that person the plagues that are written in this book. 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 (22:17-19).

The conclusion is that Jesus Christ is the One who reveals and testifies to the things written in Revelation and closes with a final benediction (22:20-21).