

# Revelation

**Unlocking the Future** 



Lesson 24

# Inside the Glorious City

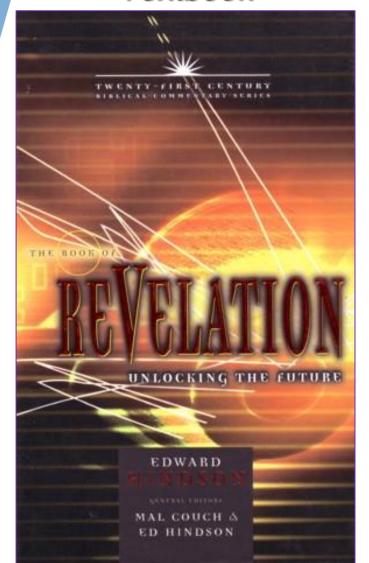
**Revelation 22** 

Philip Giorgio

Sojourners Sunday School Class



# **Textbook**

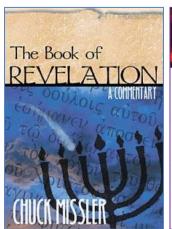




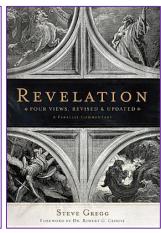


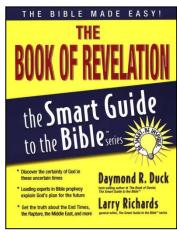
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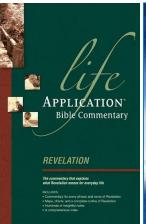


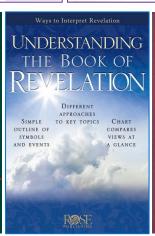


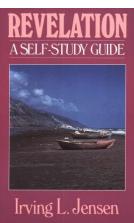








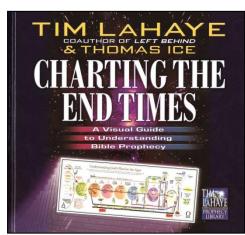


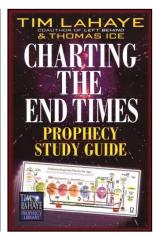


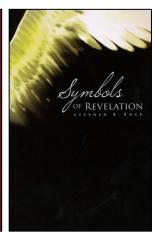


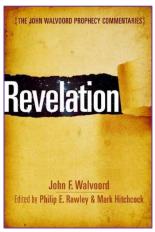
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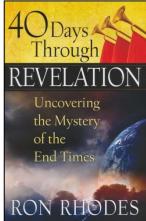


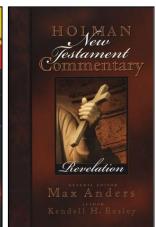


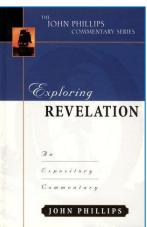




























# **Course Outline**

## Course Outline - Lessons



# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

- Lesson 01: Book Survey ... [REVELATION]
- Lesson 02: Major Themes ... [REVELATION]
- Lesson 03: What in the World is Happening? ... [REVELATION 1:1-20]
- Lesson 04: Judgment Begins at the House of God ... [REVELATION 2:1-29]
- Lesson 05: Who's that Knocking at my Door? ... [REVELATION 3:1-22]
- Lesson 06: God is Still on the Throne ... [REVELATION 4:1-11]
- Lesson 07: Worthy is the Lamb ... [REVELATION 5:1-14]
- Lesson 08: The Wrath of the Lamb ... [REVELATION 6:1-17]
- Lesson 09: From Tribulation to Jubilation ... [REVELATION 7:1-17]
- Lesson 10: The World at War ... [REVELATION 8:1-13]
- Lesson 11: Demons Unleashed ... [REVELATION 9:1-21]
- Lesson 12: Can It Get Any Worse? ... [REVELATION 10:1-11]

## Course Outline - Lessons



# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

- Lesson 13: Hell on Earth! ... [REVELATION 11:1-19]
- Lesson 14: War in Heaven ... [REVELATION 12:1-17]
- Lesson 15: Rise of the Antichrist ... [REVELATION 13:1-18]
- Lesson 16: Wine Press of the Wrath of God ... [REVELATION 14:1-20]
- Lesson 17: The Seven Last Plagues ... [REVELATION 15:1-8]
- Lesson 18: Battle of Armageddon ... [REVELATION 16:1-21]
- Lesson 19: Riding the Beast... [REVELATION 17:1-18]
- Lesson 20: Fall of Babylon ... [REVELATION 18:1-24]
- Lesson 21: Triumphal Return of Christ ... [REVELATION 19:1-21]
- Lesson 22: The Millennial Kingdom ... [REVELATION 20:1-15]
- Lesson 23: New Jerusalem ... [REVELATION 21:1-27]
- Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City ... [REVELATION 22:1-21]





# **Lesson Outline**

#### Lesson 24 - Outline



# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City

#### **✓** STRUCTURE

» Chapter Preview ...... Introduction

» The River of Life ...... Revelation 22:1-5

» The Time is Near ...... Revelation 22:6-17











# Inside the Glorious City

Structure

#### Lesson 24 - Outline



# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City

**✓ STRUCTURE** 



Introduction







# Chapter Preview - Introduction



• Preview ... God's Final Words - Last Chapter of the Last Book of the Bible The book of Revelation ends with a beautiful picture of paradise "restored." The tree of life is once again accessible to mankind. When the entire unveiling of future events was completed, John was told not to seal the prophecy, but to leave it open for all to read. In the meantime, the Revelation closes with an invitation to come to Christ before it is too late.







#### Lesson 24 - Outline



# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City

## **✓** STRUCTURE

>> The River of Life ...... Revelation 22:1-5







#### The River of Life - Revelation 22:1 - OBSERVATIONS



- River of Life Proceeding from the Throne of God
  - The angel shows John ...
    - The river of the water of life, clear as crystal
    - Proceeding from the throne of God and the Lamb
    - Down the middle of the street of the city
  - Water of life = Symbol of eternal life
    - Jesus uses the same image with the Samaritan woman at the well .. John 4:7-14
    - In OT and NT water pictures salvation, healing and refreshment of the Holy Spirit
      - Ezekiel 47:1-12 ... Water from the temple
      - John 7:37-39 ... Jesus the water of life "the source"

<sup>37</sup> On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup> He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified. --- John 7:37-39 ... NKJV

22 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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.

--- Revelation 22:1-3 ... NKJV

#### The River of Life - Revelation 22:2 - OBSERVATIONS



#### Tree of Life - With Fruits and Leaves

First seen in the Garden of Eden ... Genesis 2:9

<sup>8</sup> The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. <sup>9</sup> And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. --- Genesis 2:8-9 ... NKJV

Also seen by Ezekiel in his vision ... Ezekiel 47:12

12 Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all *kinds* of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine."
--- Ezekiel 47:12 ... NKJV

 After Adam and Even sinned, they were forbidden to eat from the tree of life ... Genesis 3:22-24

<sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"— <sup>23</sup> therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup> So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. -- Genesis 3:22-24 ... NKJV

22 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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.

--- Revelation 22:1-3 ... NKJV

#### The River of Life - Revelation 22:3 - OBSERVATIONS



- No More Curse His Servants Shall Serve Him
  - The curse(s) from Genesis 3:16-19 will be lifted
  - Throne of God and of the Lamb
    - Indicates the oneness of God and the Lamb
    - Jesus the Lamb of God is God Trinity Member
  - His servants shall serve Him
    - We will serve Jesus our Lord and Savior!
    - Heaven will be a place of ceaseless activity.
    - We will never tire with our new bodies





22 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 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. <sup>3</sup> 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 Hìm.

--- Revelation 22:1-3 ... NKJV

#### The River of Life - Revelation 22:4 - OBSERVATIONS



- Servants Shall See His Face
  - God's people will see His face
    - The face of God had not been seen by anyone since Adam and Eve sinned.
    - Even Moses was only allowed to see God's back

<sup>20</sup> But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live." <sup>21</sup> And the LORD said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. <sup>22</sup> So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen." --- Exodus 33: 20-23 ... NKJV

- Here is heaven we shall see His face ... Matthew 5:8
   Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.
   Matthew 5:8 ... NKJV
- To see God's face suggests an intimate personal relationship - God will be among us!

<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 God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

--- Revelation 22:4-5 ... NKJV

Whose name do you have on your forehead?

3 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. --- 1 John 3:1-3 ... NKJV

#### The River of Life - Revelation 22:5 - OBSERVATIONS



- No Darkness In the City Forever
  - There shall be no night there
    - There are no external light sources
    - God is the source of light
    - This light source shall never be extinguished
  - And they shall reign forever and ever
    - The summation of the entire Book of Revelation is in this phase
    - God's people who have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus will reign forever and ever!!!

<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 God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

--- Revelation 22:4-5 ... NKJV

11 This is a faithful saying:

For if we died with *Him,* We shall also live with *Him.* 

<sup>12</sup> If we endure, We shall also reign with *Him*.

If we deny *Him,* He also will deny us. <sup>13</sup> If we are faithless, He remains faithful;

He cannot deny Himself.

--- 2 Timothy 2:11-13 ... NKJV

# ARE YOU WILLING TO ENDURE TO THE END?

<sup>22</sup> And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.

-- Matthew 10:22 ... NKJV

#### Lesson 24 - Outline



# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City

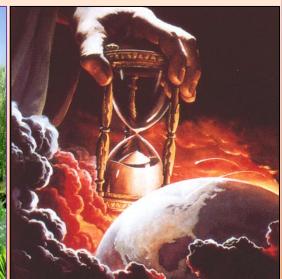
## **✓** STRUCTURE

» Chapter Preview ...... Introduction

» The Time is Near ...... Revelation 22:6-17







#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:6 - OBSERVATIONS



- Epilogue These Words are Faithful and True
  - The rest of the verses of the book are an epilogue
    - Angel expressed the authenticity of the prophecy
    - Jesus warned that the end would indeed come soon
  - Angel testifies, these words are faithful and true
    - These words are the book of Revelation
  - Angel reiterates the transmission of the book
    - The Lord God of the holy prophets
    - Sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place ... Revelation 1:1-3

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified *it* by His angel to His servant John, <sup>2</sup> who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. <sup>3</sup> Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near. --- Revelation 1: 1-3 ... NKJV

ARE YOU READY FOR THE IMMINENT RETURN OF CHRIST?

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. The Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

--- Revelation 22:6-7 ... NKJV

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:7 - OBSERVATIONS



- Last Beatitude Keep the Words of the Book
  - From Jesus Himself come the words of assurance
    - Behold, I am coming quickly!
      - Quick, without delay .. According to God's timepiece
      - It's been >2000 years.
      - His coming is Certain! We need to be ready!

<sup>42</sup> Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

--- Matthew 24:42-44 ... NKJV

How does the imminent return of Christ affect you?

WILL YOU KEEP THE WORDS OF THE PROPHECY OF THIS BOOK?

IF SO, THEN YOU ARE BLESSED!

<sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

--- Revelation 22:6-7 ... NKJV

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:8-9 - OBSERVATIONS



- John Reacts Worships Angel
  - Next John signs his name
  - John testifies to what he has seen and heard
  - John is overwhelmed and reacts by falling down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed him these things
  - John is rebuked by the angel .. (Again Revelation 19:10)
    - See that you do not do that.
    - For I am a fellow servant
    - Worship God!

God alone is worthy of worship!

ANGELS ARE NOT TO BE WORSHIPPED.

ONE ANGEL TRIED THAT ... DID NOT WORK OUT FOR HIM!

10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve." --- Matthew 4:10 ... NKJV [SATAN TEMPTS JESUS]

<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."

--- Revelation 22:8-9 ... NKJV

WHAT DO YOU WORSHIP?

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:10-11 - OBSERVATIONS



- Angels Final Instructions Do Not Seal the Book
  - Angel instructs John ...
    - Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book
    - Why? .... For the time is at hand
      - John's prophecy was to be left open so that all could read and understand.
      - Contrast with Daniel ... Daniel 12:4-12
      - Daniel's prophecy was sealed because it was not a message for Daniel's time ... It is today however!
    - 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.

This is a call to readers to make up their minds now and live for God.

People will reap the consequences for the kinds of lives they have led.

10 And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. 11 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."

--- Revelation 22:10-11 ... NKJV

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

--- Titus 2:11-12 ... NKJV

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:12 - OBSERVATIONS



- Jesus Testifies To the Churches and To Us
  - I am coming quickly
    - Christ reiterates that he would be coming soon
  - My reward is with Me, to give according to his work
    - He brings a reward that would be given to His people
    - Although all God's people will be saved and will enjoy the reward of eternity with Him,
    - A number of rewards seems to be given to individuals, according to what they have done.
  - I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last
    - Christ now repeats the words spoken at the beginning of the book ... Revelation 1:8, 17.
    - The Creator began and will end time itself.
    - Alpha and Omega are the 1<sup>st</sup> and last Greek letters in the Greek alphabet
      - A to Z in English
      - Aleph to Tau in Hebrew

12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last." 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. 15 But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

--- Revelation 22:12-15 ... NKJV

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:14 - OBSERVATIONS



- Final Beatitude Do His Commandments
  - This verse includes the 7<sup>th</sup> and final beatitude Revelation 1:3; 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7; 22:14
  - Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they my have the right to the tree of life and may enter though the gates into the city.
    - Those who are Christ's will do His commandments
    - They will inherit eternal life (tree of life)
    - They will live eternally in heaven (enter gates of the city)

<sup>15</sup> "If you love Me, keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

--- John 14:15-18 ... NKJV

## Do You Love Jesus?

12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last." <sup>14</sup> 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. 15 But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

--- Revelation 22:12-15 ... NKJV

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:15 - OBSERVATIONS



# Outside the City Gates - A List

- Those who will live in the kingdom of God eternity are described in the last verse (14)
- Those who will not be there are described in this verse (15) - this is not an exhaustive list
  - Dogs ... Impure or unclean
  - Sorcerers ... pharmakos
  - Sexually immoral ... pornos
  - Murderers
  - Idolaters
  - Whoever loves a lie
  - Whoever practices a lie

Representative
List of Seven
Heaven
Disqualifying
Sins

- Those excluded will be sent to the lake of fire
  - Which is outside the city

<sup>41</sup> "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." --- Matthew 25:41,46 ... NKJV

12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last." 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. <sup>15</sup> But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

--- Revelation 22:12-15 ... NKJV

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:16 - OBSERVATIONS



- Jesus Signs the Book
  - Jesus describes Himself as the ultimate fulfillment of everything that had been promised.
    - Christ had sent His angel to show John all that would come to pass (1:1)
    - So that the **testimony** could be given to the **churches**.
  - Jesus is both David's Root and Offspring
    - As creator of all Jesus existed before David
    - As a human Jesus was one of David's direct descendants ... Isaiah 11:1-5; Matthew 1:1-17
  - Jesus is the Messiah the Christ
    - As the Messiah Jesus is the Bright and Morning Star
    - The light of salvation to all ... 2 Peter 1:19
      - The morning star is the 1<sup>st</sup> star to be seen in the darkness before the dawn.
      - Christ, the morning star, promises that the night of tribulation will soon be over and the new kingdom is about to dawn.

angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

<sup>17</sup> 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.

--- Revelation 22:16-17 ... NKJV

19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

--- 2 Peter 1:19 ... NKJV

#### The Time is Near - Revelation 22:17 - OBSERVATIONS



- The Spirit and Bride Say Come
  - Both the Holy Spirit and the Bride (Church) extend the invitation to all the world to come to Jesus and experience the joys of salvation in Christ.
  - Those who hear the invitation say Come, also
  - "Come" is repeated twice
    - The thing is established and will shortly come to pass ... Genesis 41:32
  - Everyone who is thirsty is invited to come and take the water of life freely ... Isaiah 55:1
    - Jesus is the living water
    - Only Jesus can satisfy the thirsting of your soul
    - Only Jesus can offer everlasting life (John 7:37)
    - The offer is open to all.

Will you accept Christ's Offer of the Water of Life?

angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

<sup>17</sup> 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.

--- Revelation 22:16-17 ... NKJV

#### Lesson 24 - Outline



# Revelation: Unlocking the Future

Lesson 24: Inside the Glorious City

#### **✓** STRUCTURE

» Chapter Preview ...... Introduction

» A Warning ...... Revelation 22:18-21







## A Warning - Revelation 22:18-19 - OBSERVATIONS



- A Final Warning Do Not Add or Take Away
  - The Final Warning
    - This warning is given to anyone who might purposefully distort the message in this book
      - Add to the book
      - Take away from the book
    - Moses gave a similar warning ... Deuteronomy 4:1-2

**4** "Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to observe, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers is giving you. <sup>2</sup> You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

--- Deuteronomy 4:1-2 ... NKJV

- It is a serious matter to tamper with God's Word
- Carrying a punishment with eternal consequences

<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.

--- Revelation 22:18-19 ... NKJV

## A Warning - Revelation 22:20-21 - OBSERVATIONS



- Jesus' Final Words And a Final Blessing
  - Christ's final message is ...
    - Surely I am coming quickly
    - Jesus is coming soon!
    - · Jesus could come at any moment!
  - No one knows the day or the hour ...
    - · Jesus is coming unexpectedly.
    - · This is Good News for those who trust in Him
    - This is Terrible News for those who have rejected Him
  - John adds a postscript
    - Amen (So be it!) ... Twice -- certain and soon
    - All believers echo the words ..
      - · Even so, come Lord Jesus!
  - John then gives a benediction
    - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
    - Amen.

<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.

--- Revelation 22:20-21 ... NKJV

In the end, Jesus' grace and nothing else brings His people to be with Him forever!





# What is the Gospel? - Good News

**15** Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. ⁶ After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. ⁵ After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. ⁵ Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

--- 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 ... NKJV



 Why couldn't I convince you that JFK was killed by a bow and arrow? - Too MANY EYE WITNESSES PRESENT ...

<sup>20</sup> But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each one in his own order: Christ the first fruits, afterward those *who are* Christ's at His coming. <sup>24</sup> Then *comes* the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death.

--- 1 Corinthians 15:20-26 ... NKJV



Death has lost it's sting! - Victory through our Lord Jesus Christ...

54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 55 "O Death, where *is* your sting? O Hades, where *is* your victory?" 56 The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law. 57 But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

--- 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 ... NKJV



- The Plan of Redemption What do the Scriptures say...
  - The First Act of "Religion": Genesis 3:7

<sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

- --- Genesis 3:7 ... NKJV
  - God's Plan of Redemption: Genesis 3:21

<sup>21</sup> Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

--- Genesis 3:21 ... NKJV

Teaching them that only by the shedding of innocent blood they would be covered (on another tree in another garden).



- The Basis of Your Fate What do the Scriptures say...
  - "I'm as good as the next guy" ...... Strike 1
  - "I'm doing the best I can" ...... Strike 2
  - "I try to live by the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount" ...... Strike 3

<sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. <sup>11</sup> For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, <sup>13</sup> each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. <sup>14</sup> If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire..

--- 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 ... NKJV

# Salvation Message - A-B-C of Salvation



- Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people
- Are you prepared to go? Bible says you can know for certain
- What do I need to do in order to know for certain I am prepared?
- The answer is easy as A-B-C. ... A-Accept, B-Believe, C-Confess

#### CONFESS:

- That you are a sinner, in need of God's forgiveness.
- Romans 3:23 ... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

#### BELIEVE:

- That Jesus is God's son, sent to die for (take away) your sins.
- Romans 6:23 ... For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Romans 5:8 ... But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

#### ACCEPT:

- Jesus' death and resurrection as the sacrifice for your sins, and relinquish control
  of your life.
- Romans 10:9 ... that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has
  raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

## Salvation Message - SINNERS PRAYER



- Sinner's Prayer .. {Close our eyes, bow our heads and hearts}
  - Father I thank-you for who you are, and for what you've done
  - I thank you for sending Jesus to seek and to save us
  - I thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to keep and seal us.
  - I pray now for those who do not know you as Savior and Lord
  - I pray that they would repeat the words of the following prayer in their hearts
  - "Father God, I confess that I am a sinner in need of a Savior
  - I believe that You sent Jesus, Your son, to die for me on the cross
  - I believe that You raised Him from the dead
  - I accept Your offer of pardon for my sins Your offer of salvation
  - I accept You as the Lord of my life I relinquish control to the Holy Spirit
  - I pray that You will challenge me and change me to be more like Your Son and my Savior - Jesus the Christ ... In whose name I pray" --- AMEN
  - IF you've prayed that prayer for the 1st time THEN welcome to the Family of God
  - Heaven is now prepared for you ... Your Eternity is fixed ... Sealed for all time.

