

## **Behold I am Coming Quickly Revelation 22:6-21**

### **Intro: Today we come to our final study in the book of Revelation: 22:6-21**

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.

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

8 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.

9 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." 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."

12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13 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.

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."

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.

18 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;

19 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.

20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. Pray

**I want you to notice that the Lord tells us three times in this Closing chapter that He is coming quickly**

**A) Know this: The Lord repeats things in his Word for Emphasis**

**B) Here the emphasis is on his soon return!**

C) Now in hearing that you might be thinking - it has been 2,000 yrs since John penned these words

That doesn't sound soon to me!

A) Remember what Peter said: The Lord's time table is different than ours. 2 Peter 3:8

<sup>8</sup> But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a 1,000 years, and a 1000 years as one day

B) To us it seems like it has been forever - over 2,000 yrs have gone by

1) But from God's perspective, it has only been a little over 2 days

C) Recall why he waits: <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:8, 9

D) Waiting for sinners to repent: One way of living - Self - earn salvation

1) To surrender - dependence on God - please God

But I also want to draw your attention to the words Shortly in V. 6 and quickly in V.7, 12, 20

A) Note: V. 6 And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.

B) The word shortly - is an interesting Greek word - Tachos -

1) We get our English word Tachometer from this word

C) What does a Tachometer do? - It registers accelerations and rpms

D) The word quickly is connected - Tac-hoo

1) Both are describing an acceleration

So Jesus is saying: When these things start to happen that you have been reading and studying in the book of Revelation

A) Know this - Things are ramping up - it is going to come quickly

B) Now The Bible says that no man knows the day or the Hour.....

1)but we should know the times and the Seasons

C)In Matthew 24 Jesus likened it to birth pangs -

D)What happens when you get closer to the time of delivery ?

E)The contractions become more Frequent there is an acceleration in the contractions

1)and they become more intense

As we pay attention to the Times and Seasons

A)We can see that there has been an acceleration happening in our world

**B)The Signs that we are getting Closer:**

**C)Consider Some signs:**

**1)Big ONE: Rebirth of the nation of Israel 1948 - Ezekiel 37 Dry bones coming to life**

D)Isaiah 66:8 Can a nation be born in a day? - Israel was - May 14<sup>th</sup> 1948

**Globalism - Revelation 13 - A one world Government under Anti-Christ leadership**

A)Recent article in the Harvard Law Review – We are facing a global leadership vacuum

B)The World at Large is looking for Leadership -

C)Interest in Globalism and Globalization is growing because of technology

1)Proponents says - Make Travel easier / Trade better/ Technology and communication more stream lined.

D)After the Rapture when almost every nation on the earth is missing millions of Christians -

1)The World at large will be looking for a Leadership - Anti-Christ will provide it

**Jesus said Matthew 24 in the last days - Lawlessness would abound**

A)Increase in Violent Crime!

B)Did you see that the FBI just quietly released a study - noting that Pres Trump was right debate

C)Violent Crime is indeed on the increase: Up 4.5%

D)California has the highest Violent Crime rate in the nation and highest rate in aggravated assault

1)Cries to defund the Police - don't help

**Jesus also said: The love of many growing cold, Love for God - Love for others**

A)More self-centered and self-focused

B)Less interested in God -Paul said in 1 Timothy 4:1 - The last days people would depart from the faith

C)How many of you know someone who at one time was walking strong with the Lord -

1)Not walking or barely walking at all now?

D)Seen the rise in the Deconstruction movement in America, UK, Canada

**The Prophet Amos said that in the last days there would be - a Famine for the Word of God**

A)Not that the Word would not be available - but a famine for the hearing of the Word

B)People less interested in the study of God's Word.

1)Result the Church is becoming more and more Biblically illiterate

C)During the Jesus people movement: Didn't arrive early to church - wouldn't get a seat.

D)Even Mid-week Services were packed - CCCM - arrive 20 minutes early

1)Today most Churches don't even have mid-week Bible studies

Even Secular culture recognized the priority that people put on church in those days.

A)High School 1982 - High School sports never on Sunday - not even on Wednesdays - Church night

B)Now it is the norm to have sports every night of the week - including on Sunday -

C)People in general pushing the Word of God out of society

1)Don't tell us what the Bible says about Marriage - about Gender - about Sexuality -

D)The Bible is outdated and archaic

E)MILES M. Did you hear about the Trans man - who wants to have Uterus surgery

1)not so he can be the first Trans man to have a baby – but have an Abortion - Crazy our world is getting

## **Another sign - Moving in the direction of a Cashless Society**

A)The IRS is also pushing for a Cashless Society because the Govt. loses an estimated One Trillion dollars a year in taxes

B)Lastly Hatred toward Israel gets more intense around the world -

1)Antisemitism is growing around the world

C)All signs that the Tachometer taking us toward the last days and the coming again of Jesus is accelerating

## **D)The rapture happens and then world goes into full blown labor - Tribulation time**

E)So Jesus ends this book by reminding us three times - Behold I am coming quickly. - Urgency!!!

## **The 2<sup>nd</sup> thing I want you to notice is that with each pronouncement of His coming**

**A)there is a Commission about the word of God.**

B)Jesus is telling us in the last days - we need to become more Bible Focused not less!

C)Revelation 22 we are given 4 Commissions concerning being people of the Word

1)As we realize we are living in the last days.

D)Finish our time today as we close out our study in the Book of Revelation by looking at these four commissions

## **Four Commissions concerning the Word of God.**

**#1 Cherish the Word of God:** V.7 Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

A)The word keeps = to guard or protect - You guard and protect things that you Cherish.

B)We Cherish it because we realize it is the Word of God. 2 Timothy 3:16,

<sup>16</sup>All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, (God breathed)

C)God instructed those who wrote the Bible on what to write - His Word His heart

We cherish it because it connects us to Jesus - Salvation found in Jesus ALONE

A)In the Volume of the book it is written of me

B)Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God - Romans 10:17

C)We cherish it because it is profitable

<sup>16</sup>All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 2 Timothy 3:16

➤ Profitable for Doctrine: What is Right

➤ Profitable for Reproof: What is not Right

➤ Profitable for Correction: How to get Right

➤ Profitable for Instruction: How to stay Right

D)This book will keep you from Sin - but sin will keep you from this book

**We Cherish it because it has the power to transform our lives** <sup>17</sup>that the man or woman of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

A)Complete = Mature

B)God wants his kids to be forever growing maturing in our walk with God - our faith in God

C)Equipped for every good work - Called to partner with God in the work of his Kingdom

Notice the correction John receives in V.8-9

8 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.

9 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.”

We all can have this tendency to worship the wrong things

A)We can put people and leaders on Pedestals

B)When John falls down and tries to worship this Angel - He is quickly corrected -

1)DO NOT DO THAT. - I am a servant just like you

C)When the Bible is being taught correctly - Jesus is the Hero -

1)Jesus is the focal point - not any leader.

D)When we Cherish the Word - we don't go astray.

E) People go astray and start worshipping the wrong things - when they put down this Bible

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

A) More than ever - we need to be people who Cherish the Word of God!

B) Big reason why we have always given Preeminence to teaching the Bible here at CV in all our gatherings

C) Priority in Teaching - Chapter by Chapter book by book -

D) We believe that teaching the Whole Bible is the best way to make Whole Christians - who can in turn reach the Whole World.

#1 Cherish the Word of God - Priority in your lives - Priority in this Church

**#2 Do the Word of God** - 12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13 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.

A) The Apostle James admonishes Christians to be doers of the Word

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. <sup>25</sup> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

Teachable people have: A Responsive heart:

A) They don't just hear God's word - they put it into practice.

B) Hear = comes from the word Auditor -

C) College class - You can audit - not going to get a grade - don't have to do any of the work.

1) James is saying - don't be a spiritual auditor -

See it is one thing to listen to Bible studies - to study the word - gain information

A) But it is a whole different thing to put it into practice. Impact your life - way of living

B) See Hearing is not a means to itself - it is a means to an end -

1) The end the goal is to become more like Jesus - Romans 8:29

C) Many people only hear! - They mark their Bibles but their Bibles NEVER mark them.

James says - when we only hear and don't do - we are Deceiving ourselves!

A) Deceive = to reason with one's self but to make a major miscalculation.

B) James gives us a graphic illustration - we can all relate to - Like a man who looks in the Mirror - then forgets what he looks like

C) Beginning of each day: Our Morning routine.

1) Somewhere in the morning we come face to face with the mirror and for most of us it is not a good thing.

D) Eyes are puffy, hair is all messed up - others look in the mirror and wonder - where did the hair go.

E) When we look in the mirror in the morning it is often not a pretty picture right?

Why is that? - Mirrors are honest.

A) They don't gloss over the defects - every wart, wrinkle and zit IS EXPOSED

B) Mirrors don't tell us that we are better than we really are.

C) Accept at certain stores - mirrors that make you look skinnier -

1) buy something and get it home. - try it on again.

D) Doesn't look as good - why? Your mirror at home is honest. -

1) We are getting the Skinny Mirrors for our house

Now have you ever had this happen?

A) You wake up look in the mirror - Discover - Giant zit on the end of your nose - Grew there overnight - huge

B)Or you have this super long nose hair – coming out of your nose.

C)There is some flaw Maybe Mascara....- you say I need to take care of that before I leave today. But then something happens -Phone rings –

Distracted get caught up in this conversation

A)Now you are running late - You rush out the door – completely forgetting what you saw in the morning – Zit / Nose hair - / Mascara not right

B)All day long – you are wondering why pp are starring at you!

That is the picture that James paints for us of the person who hears the word and doesn't do it!

A)They sees what they looks like in the mirror – they see the problem –

B)But then they get distracted – go out forgetting what they loos like – what the problem is.

C)Very important truth – God's word is like a mirror

D)Examines us – See ourselves in light of Jesus – See ourselves in light of God's standards.

The mirror – shows areas where we have grown – we are encouraged

A)But the mirror of God's word also exposes us – Shows the areas that need to be dealt with.

B)In fact One of the reasons that people don't read their Bibles is they don't like the way it exposes their sin/ THE FLAWS – OUR HEARTS

Missionary and the witch doctor – Mirror to shave  
The local witch doctor happened by and curiously looked into the strange glass—and seeing her hideously painted features she jumped back! -

Immediately she began to bargain with the missionary for the mirror.

The missionary didn't really want to part with his mirror but, realizing that the witch doctor would not be put off, he let her have the mirror—

She immediately threw it to the ground, breaking it to pieces, shouting, “There ... it won't be making ugly faces at me anymore!”

That is what people do with the Bible - I don't want to

read that - exposes me

A)Makes me feel ugly about myself

B)True we don't always like it when the mirror of God's word exposes our flaws

1)but it is necessary and helpful if we respond to it rightly

Here is the point of the analogy: When you see the Spiritual Flaw - Deal with it RIGHT AWAY! –

A)Don't wait – Don't put it off - Don't allow yourself to get distracted.

B)Response times - RESPOND IMMEDIATELY! – Don't wait –

1)Chances are you will get distracted and forget what it was that God was saying

C)Response times: Pray it in – Deal with it – get prayer! – Immediately

The teachable person doesn't just hear the word – they respond to it!

A)They put it into practice.....

B)when we respond to God's word rather than resisting God's word it has the power to transform our lives.

C)Awesome promise: <sup>25</sup> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

#1 Cherish the Word of God - Priority in your lives - Priority in this Church

#2 Do the Word of God

**#3 Share the Word** - 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.”

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.

The Spirit and the Bride say Come -No man comes to the father unless the Spirit draws him

A)How does that happen - the Holy Spirit uses the Bride to say Come

B)Thirsty - unsatisfied - Come drink of the water of life Freely

C)The Message of the Gospel is not Do - that is what religion says - Do this do that

The Message of the Gospel is Done! - Finished

A)The Invitation of the gospel is COME

<sup>28</sup> Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” Matthew 11:28

B)Come - Not Do - come to me - Refreshed - Jesus seeks to draw us to himself - He is the focal point

C)Our Job is to put out the invitation!

1)9-10 Christians have never led another person to Jesus

D)But note this: There will always be those who will reject the Word . 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.”

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

Listen there is always going to be those who reject and want to stay in their sin -

A)Don't let that discourage you

B)Keep sharing - Rock into a pack of dogs .....loudest

Now the 4<sup>th</sup> commission regarding the Word actually comes before the Final Pronouncement of his Coming in V.20 - 20 He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.”- We say Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Commissions is seen in V.18-19 Keep the Word pure:**

18 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; 19 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.

A)Keep the Word pure: Don't add to it or subtract from it- Context here is the Book of Revelation

B)Strong Warning about adding - Plagues that are written

C)Strong warning against subtracting 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.

D)Reason in our study taken it literally - where the book speaks literally

1)Serious Business

But that should be our attitude about the Word of God in general

A)Keep it pure - see there are those today who will put their own ideas above the Word of God

B)Their words and ideas have more authority.

C)They twist scripture and take it out of Context

D)Others who want to ignore the OT- NO -

**2 Final thoughts-**

21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you who all. Not an elect few -all - Available to all

Grace = Getting what we don't deserve: - Hell - Heaven -

Death - Life

Available to all who but their faith in Jesus

2<sup>nd</sup> - Jesus is Coming!!!

A)Jesus movement - Many were excited about the coming of the Lord

B)But not the Lord who was coming