

JESUS: THE COMING KING

Sermon Outline

TEXT: REVELATION 22:7,12,20

INTRODUCTION

The Book of Revelation is a mystery to many. This last book of the Bible leaves many in a prophetic quandary. I believe this is because they miss the point. The point is explained in the title given the book in most Bibles: The Revelation of Jesus Christ.

Note the "I am" statements in chapter 1.

- Verse 8: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End ... who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."
- Verse 11: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last."
- Verse 17: "I am the First and the Last."
- Verse 18: "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore."

In each of the messages to the seven churches in chapters 2–3, Jesus identifies himself.

- As the One "who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lamp stands" (Revelation 2:1).
- As the One who is "the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life" (verse 8).
- As the One "who has the sharp two-edged sword" (verse 12).
- As the "Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass" (verse 18).
- As "He who has the seven Spirit of God and the seven stars" (Revelation 3:1).
- As "He who is holy, He who is true, He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens" (verse 7).
- As the "Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God" (verse 14).

The point is this. In the Book of Revelation, Jesus discloses what He believes we will need to know about Him as we approach the end of time. He views, with His prophetic eye, all the events leading up to the "noises, thunderings, and lightnings," earthquakes, such as humankind has never seen that will certainly be a sign of the end of the world as we know it (Revelation 16:18). And with His superior knowledge, He determines what we need to know about Him and His plan to get us through to the place where "there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying" (Revelation 21:4). Jesus' emphasis is clear: "I am coming" (Revelation 22:7,12,20).

MESSAGE

- 1. He is coming with a blessing (Revelation 22:7).
 - a. He will bless those who pay attention to His prophecies and those who proclaim them (Revelation 1:3).
 - b. He will bless those who go to their death while contending for the faith (Revelation 14:13).
 - c. He will bless those who are accounted as "overcomers" when they stand before Him (Revelation 20:6).
 - To the overcomer He will give the tree of life (Revelation 2:7).

- To the overcomer He will give hidden manna and a new name (Revelation 2:17).
- To the overcomer He will give power over the nations (Revelation 2:26).
- To the overcomer He will give a new set of white clothing signifying his purity (Revelation 3:5).
- To the overcomer He will give enduring power. He will make the overcomer like a pillar in the temple. The overcomer will have a new name showing God's ownership (Revelation 3:12).
- To the overcomer He will give the privilege of sitting with Christ on His throne (Revelation 3:21).
- d. He will bless those who are obedient to do His commandments by restoring to them all of the privileges lost in the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Revelation 22:14).
- 2. He is coming with judgment (Revelation 22:12).
 - a. The Book of Life will be open (Revelation 20:12). Everyone will be judged as to whether his name is found in the Book of Life.
 - b. Every believer will give an account of the works done after coming to faith in Christ (1 Corinthians 3:13; 2 Corinthians 5:10).
 - The trial of believers' works will be by fire.
 - The key question in the judgment of believers' works will be for whose glory the works were done (1 Corinthians 1:29–31).
 - c. Every person who has rejected faith in Christ will be judged "according to his works" (Revelation 20:12,13).
- 3. He is certainly coming soon (Revelation 22:20).

This promise of His sure and soon return can be understood in four ways.

- a. It is a promise to believers.
 - Death soon shall pass.
 - The enemy of our souls shall soon be eternally defeated.
 - Our victory is sure confirmed by the risen Lord and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- b. It is a warning to unbelievers.
 - Judgment is sure.
 - Eternity is long.
- c. It is an alert to the lukewarm believer.
 - Stop playing games with God's truth.
 - Set your spiritual house in order.
- d. It is a prayer for the church to continually pray.
 - It brings from us a rousing amen.
 - It causes us to pray, Now is the time, Lord Jesus.

ENDNOTE:

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