

Message #56**Revelation 22:6-21**

What we have in these verses is the final message of God to the Apostle John and ultimately to us. We will notice that in several of these final verses John makes it very clear that this was something said to him—**22:6, 9, 10, 17, 20**.

It is also clear that this is all connected by the conjunction “and” (**22:6, 7, 8, 9, 10**).

So what we have here are 21 final messages for Revelation 22:

MESSAGE #1 – The angel tells John all the words are faithful and true. **22:6a**

Notice what is inspired, the “words.” This book is about to end and this angel wants John to write and us to read that the words in this book of Revelation are faithful words and true words.

This is important to see and this angel is stressing this. The words of the book of Revelation are to be trusted and believed because they are faithful and true. The breakdown of the book, the numbers in the book, the Great Tribulation, the re-gathering of national Israel, the Antichrist and False prophet and them being cast into everlasting fire, the 1,000 year millennium, the end of Satan, the Great White Throne Judgment and the New Heaven, New Earth and New Jerusalem are faithful and true and inspired words of God.

God’s people in the Church Age would be very wise to take those warning passages given to Church Age believers seriously because those words are true.

MESSAGE #2 – The angel tells John that the Lord, the God who is the source of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show the things that must take place. **22:6b**

God is the source of all true prophecy. Understand this about this book of Revelation: God is the One who sent His angel to reveal this prophecy to His people. The things in this book will take place and they must take place.

MESSAGE #3 – Behold Jesus Christ will come quickly. **22:7a**

This point is repeated three times in this final chapter—22:7, 12, 20. In fact, in each case the words “I am coming quickly” are the words of Jesus Christ, Himself. By adding the word “behold” Jesus is saying you better take a serious look at this.

Now the adverb “quickly” is not a word that means He is coming immediately or instantly. The word is takos (τακος) from which we get our English word “tachometer.” This word emphasizes speed, great fast speed.

What Christ is saying is when this prophetic event occurs, it will go down in rapid speed. It will move fast. We are in the Church Age and once the Rapture occurs, things will move prophetically forward in a rapid speed like never before.

MESSAGE #4 – Blessed will be the one who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book. **22:7b**

One who takes the words of Revelation seriously and guards them and makes adjustments will be blessed by God. Now “the book” may refer to the entire Bible, since the prophets were referred to in **verse 6**, or it may specifically refer to the book of Revelation. The articles “the” words, “the” prophecy and the demonstrative pronoun “this” book would certainly zero in on Revelation.

MESSAGE #5 – John heard these things and saw these things. **22:8a**

This is something John has emphasized many times in this book. This book is not some mystical, apocalyptic fairytale dreamed up by some religious dreamer and fanatic. This was an Apostle of God who heard and saw everything he wrote in this book of Revelation.

I remind us that John was a fact oriented guy. When it was reported that Jesus had been raised from the dead, John took off running to the tomb to verify whether or not it was true. He was so committed to truth and facts that he was arrested and put on a prison island of Patmos because of his defense of truth (Rev. 1:9).

So this is not some emotional or irrational religious goof looking to promote the sensational. When John says I heard these things and saw these things, you may be certain this is reality.

MESSAGE #6 – John fell down to worship at the feet of the angel. **22:8b**

John knew that what he had just seen was the end of this book and he fell down at the feet of God’s angel who had shown him all of this.

MESSAGE #7 – The angel told him not to do that. **22:9**

Angels of God do not accept worship and the angel said to John, don’t worship me, but worship God.

Fact #1 - The angel is a fellow servant of John. **22:9a**

Fact #2 - The angel is a fellow servant of your brethren the prophets. **22:9b**

Fact #3 - The angel is a fellow servant of those who heed the words of this book. **22:9c**

Don’t miss this last phrase. Those who heed the words of the book of Revelation are classified as a “fellow servant” of this very high ranking and important angel.

MESSAGE #8 – The angel said don’t worship me, but worship the God. **22:9d**

The only Being to be worshipped is God. The God of the Bible. This is the Sovereign God who God’s people are to worship.

MESSAGE #9 – The angel told John not to seal up the book because the time is near. **22:10**

Time from our perspective and God’s perspective are two different things. We learn from Psalm 90:4 and II Peter 3:8 that a day to God is like 1,000 years to us. So based on those numbers, since God gave this book of Revelation to John, it was a couple days ago.

Now when the angel says the “time is near,” the adverb “near” (*agguç*) is one that speaks of a near proximity in time and it also speaks of a near proximity of time in the sequential events of Revelation (G. Abbott-Smith, *Greek Lexicon*, p. 127).

When John wrote Revelation, the Church Age was well underway and each message given to each church was pertinent and relevant at that time. God wants the Church to realize the next matter of sequence after analyzing each church is the Rapture and Tribulation. The prophecies of this book concerning this is near.

MESSAGE #10 – The angel told John, in view of the fact the prophetic time is near, let the person continue to live according to their own continual character. **22:11**

As we near the end, two groups of people will be necessary to bring God’s final judgment. So God tells John, don’t go on a rampage trying to change people. Let them be what they are.

- 1) Let the one who does unrighteous wrong things continue to do them.
- 2) Let the one who does filthy and dirty things continue to do them.
- 3) Let the one who does righteous and just things continue to do them.
- 4) Let the one who is holy, keep himself holy.

In light of the prophesy of the book of Revelation, people will live life differently. Let them live in their condition. The righteous are destined for glory and the wicked are destined for everlasting fire.

Most people won’t change their teams or their colors. They will stay in their condition. Real repentance and response to the Holy Spirit will be very rare. It will be rare to see those who get serious about God’s word.

MESSAGE #11 – Jesus makes specific reference concerning rewards. **22:12**

The word “reward” (*misqoc*) is one that refers to rewards that are given to those who have earned them (G. Abbott-Smith, *Greek Lexicon*, p. 294). William Mounce said this refers to a reward compensation for those who have merited it or earned it (*Complete Expository of Old & New Testament Words*, p. 589).

Statement #1 - Jesus states He is coming quickly.

Statement #2 - Jesus says His reward is with Him - Jesus Christ Himself will give this.

Statement #3 - Jesus says He will give every man a reward based on what he has done.

Salvation is not based on works, but rewards are. Every one will face Him to give an account.

MESSAGE #12 – Jesus identifies Himself to John. **22:13**

As John is bringing his letter to a conclusion, Jesus Christ interjects specific things he saw and heard:

Statement #1 - Jesus is the Alpha and Omega - God's program in writing.

Statement #2 - Jesus is the first and the last - God's program in chronology.

Statement #3 - Jesus is the beginning and the end - God's program in time.

Jesus Christ is the entire program of God as it relates to everything.

MESSAGE #13 – Those who have washed robes are blessed. **20:14**

The washing referred to here is the washing in the blood of the Lamb which gives a white righteousness to everyone who believes in Jesus Christ (Rev. 3:5; 7:14). Those who have believed on Jesus Christ have wonderful promises in store:

Blessing #1 - They have the right to continually eat of the tree of life. **22:14a**

Blessing #2 - They have the right to continually enter by the gates of the city. **22:14b**

MESSAGE #14 – Outside of all of the eternal blessings of God are godless people. **22:15**

Robert Thomas accurately observed: "To be outside the Holy city means a final destiny in the Lake of Fire (20:15; 21:8)." (*An Exegetical Commentary of Revelation 8-22*, Vol. 2, p. 507)

- 1) Outside are the dogs.
- 2) Outside are the sorcerers.
- 3) Outside are the immoral.
- 4) Outside are the murderers.
- 5) Outside are the idolaters.
- 6) Outside are all who continually love lying.
- 7) Outside are all who continually practice lying.

All of these unbelievers are burning forever and ever outside these eternal blessings of God.

MESSAGE #15 – Jesus informs John why He sent His angel. **22:16a**

Jesus sent His angel to testify of what is going to happen so John could inform the churches. Do not miss this. This book of Revelation was given by God and was to be read and taught in churches. The pronoun “you” is plural. So this is a reference not just to John, but all believers in the churches.

MESSAGE #16 – Jesus informs John of more of His Divine titles. **22:16b**

1) Jesus is the root of David. Jesus is the root from which David came.

2) Jesus is the descendant of David. Jesus is the descendant of David.

Jesus Christ has legal right to the Davidic Throne and He will reign forever and ever on that Throne.

3) Jesus is the bright morning star.

The emphasis of this title is that He is the brightest Heavenly being in existence and He will appear when things are very dark in this world and will shine forth the blessings of God on a new dawning day in history.

MESSAGE #17 – The Holy Spirit gives an invitation for people to come to Christ. **22:17a**

MESSAGE #18 – The Bride, the Church, gives an invitation for people to come to Christ.
22:17b

In a true Spirit-led church of God, people will be invited to believe in Jesus Christ and come to Him and be saved.

One may come to Christ when they hear the truth. One may come to Christ who is thirsty for life. One may come to Christ without cost or commitment. This statement refutes Lordship salvation.

If you are thirsty for a relationship with God, or if you wish to have a relationship with God that will guarantee you all of these blessings, then come to Christ and call on Him to take over your life.

MESSAGE #19 – John gives a solemn testimony concerning God’s prophecy. **22:18-19**

Statement #1 - Anyone who hears truth and adds to it will receive added plague judgments.

Deuteronomy 4:2 - “You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it...”

Proverbs 30:5-6 - "Every word of God is tested; he is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words lest He reprove you, and you be proved a liar."

When Moses was given God's word, which told him to speak to the rock once to get water for Israel, he decided to add "I'll hit it twice" (Ex. 17:5-6). God said because you added that to My word, you will not lead Israel into the Promised Land (Num. 20:8-12). It is serious business to tamper with God's word.

Statement #2 - Anyone who hears truth and subtracts from it will never have eternal life.

It is just as serious to subtract from God's word. In Jeremiah, there was a wicked king named Jehoiakim who didn't like the prophecies of God so he cut them out and threw them in the fire (Jer. 36:23). God not only punished him but also his descendants.

You tamper with God's word and it is serious business. Notice the emphasis is on the "words."

MESSAGE #20 – Jesus' final message is "Yes, I am coming quickly." **22:20a**

Things will happen fast. Jesus is coming and it may be morning, may be noon, may be evening and may be soon.

MESSAGE #21 – John's final messages. **22:20b-21**

- 1) Amen - Truly Jesus is coming quickly. Truly, this is what we want when we are right with Him.
- 2) Come, Lord Jesus - We want Jesus Christ to Personally return. We are not looking for some religious experience, we are looking for Him.
- 3) Grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all - here is a major theme of the whole Bible.

The emphasis of the Greek text is the grace of the Lord Jesus is with all.

The Bible opened with the story of creation, it develops into a story of rebellion and it ends with a story of glorification all due to grace.

- 4) Amen - Truly the events will happen and Jesus Christ will come.

Do you have a thirst for Him? You are invited to come to Christ. Believe on Him and you will be saved and you are guaranteed all of the amazing benefits in Revelation.