

THE REVELATION

NOVEMBER 17, 2024

Chapter 22:16 - 21

N. Jesus the Sender of these Words (22:16-20)

1. The Testimony of the LORD (22:16)

Rev 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

In the LORD's own testimony to John, He confirmed that John was specifically selected to transmit this message to the "Churches." When Jesus says He is the "root ... of David," it means Jesus was the Creator from which David came into the world – THE GOD NATURE. Then, Jesus was also born into this world to the line of David through two of his nineteen sons: Solomon and Nathan. His mother through the line of Nathan (Luke 3); His adoptive father through the line of Solomon (Matthew 1) – THE HUMAN NATURE. This verse is to add proof that Jesus has every right to be the *King of kings and LORD of lords*.

When Jesus says He is the "bright morning star," it means He is the *morning star* that will be given as a gift to everyone who puts their trust in Him and overcomes the dogs, sorcerers, immoral persons, murderers, idolaters, and liars in this world who are trying to lead them into filth and wrong. It was a promise He gave in chapter 2:28 to the Church of Thyatira. There, we learned that believers, untainted by the evil of the world, will also receive "the morning star." This star is the power in heaven, from the LORD, from the Father. It is no other than the LORD Jesus Christ Himself (Revelation 22:12). Just as Joseph's brothers had to learn that their 12 stars and 12 sheaves of the dream would ultimately bow down to Joseph in Egypt, so too, all people will bow down before the *Bright Morning Star*.

2. The Testimony of the Spirit and Bride (22:17)

Rev 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

The angel has said to John throughout this vision, "Come," and I will show you! All the showing of the vision is over. John has been shown all there is to see! Now, the Holy Spirit and the Church are invited to "Come." This invitation is not for John; it is for everyone worldwide. "Come," they say, to the LORD and drink of the "water of life" without charge. You need no money! You need no deal! You need no loan! You only need to "come" and accept the gift of the "bright morning star," the LORD Jesus, at His word.

3. The Testimony of the Words of Prophecy (22:18-19)

Rev 22:18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

But the LORD also gives a warning in this passage! He is saying to the people of the whole world, do not dismiss this book and this vision as fiction. Do not mix it up, do not switch it around, or delete a single thought from it. But most of all, the LORD warns everyone not to ignore it. This vision is the culmination of the work of the LORD. Its message must be beloved by all who belong to Him. For all others, this book is a curse for all eternity on their souls.

4. The Testimony of the Testifier (22:20)

Rev 22:20 He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

And so, the LORD's final words come with this testimony, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Our English should say, "*Yes, I am coming suddenly.*" To that, John said, "Amen, Come, LORD Jesus." John was ready. Are you ready? If the LORD suddenly came today, would you be ready? Can you look at your life now and say, "Amen, Come, LORD Jesus." Can you say those words with a pure heart and clean hands? If not, you need to heed the words of this vision and the testimony of all the bond-servants of the LORD that have worked for Him through the ages. Read the Word of GOD. Hide each word in your heart. Let it reach down past your persona, your will, your pride of life, your lust of the eye, and your lust of the flesh to reach your soul. Cry out to the LORD, "*Be my Savior!*" He will give you all the blessings in this book and the promises found in the rest of His Word.

VII. The Benediction of the Book (22:21)

Rev 22:21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

John says, "*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.*" We must recognize that John's last word asks for "grace." Many people do not understand that word. They think it is a gift for living a Godly life. It is not! The gift from the LORD for living a Godly and saintly life is called a *blessing*. John is using the word "grace" purposefully. "Grace" is what the LORD gives to those undeserving dogs, sorcerers, immoral persons, murderers, idolaters, and liars who turn from their evil ways and acknowledge Him and make Him Savior and LORD. We were all like that before we met this Master and King. It does not matter to what degree we were like that, just a little evil or a whole lot evil; the fact is, we were born with an evil, sinful nature. We need our souls to be saved. In God's plan, the only Savior had to be the Creator. And thus, we see John end the record of this vision with a plea to everyone who hears its message. He says, "*May all of you find the LORD and experience the forgiving gift of His grace.*" And the last word is "Amen" which means *truth*. This vision is filled with nothing but truth!

With the last "Amen" of verse 21, it is time for John to deliver the vision to the Church in Ephesus first to begin its spread to the world. Now, we wait for the fulfillment of all within its pages.