



Revelation 22—part 2 (Verses 6-12)
From Sermon 6.16.19

Read *Revelation 22:6-12*

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: just as the Bible has great beginning and Revelation a great Prologue, the book ends with a powerful epilogue. Jesus comes back in the text and interjects the final warnings and the closing of Scripture. We know His return is imminent, but some things had to take place first. It appears, to us, those things are now in place. Because of Christ's Words, we should faithful and ready in our daily lives, walk, and Christian maturity.

On Sunday, it was pointed out that Revelation's prologue and epilogue are strikingly similar. Check out both passages. Note terms, words, and themes they have in common. Point out any differences. [someone first read this passage aloud]

Prologue: *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, who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. 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

Epilogue: [assigned reader can read again, if group needs]

Similarities: the main character is Jesus Christ. A holy angel and the Apostle John are both witnesses to the truthfulness of the Words. Both magnify the urgency and swiftness of Jesus' return. Both identify this book as prophecy (not yet fulfilled). Both admonish to keep the Words the Revelation and to preach them. There is a blessing in store for the true saints.

Differences: not very many! Verse 11 does point out God's sovereign election and the evidence of genuine salvation. The bad will stay bad and get worse. The holy will remain holy and increase in sanctification.

Although Christ's return is the next event on heaven's calendar, we also know, from other scriptures, specific precursors have to be in place. What were those? Discuss each.

Matthew 24:14—Gospel Preached to all the world

2 Peter 3:9—All God's Elect Called and Saved

Romans 11:29—Israel Prepared

2 Timothy 3:1-7—Culture and Church Decline in morals, love, and conduct

2 Thessalonians 2:3—The Antichrist comes onto the world stage

Which of these has already happened? Which have just begun? Which still needs to happen? What does that tell you about the days we live in?

Revelation 22 certainly demands a response from the reader. In what 4 areas of our faith does the Scripture call for action? Discuss each and what that response looks like.

- Obedience to the Word/Commands of Christ. See *2 Peter 3:11-14*
- Worship = Praising/thanking Christ for saving us from what we just read.
- Proclamation of the warnings and bad news followed up by the Good News of the Gospel.
- Serving wholeheartedly and without complaining or quitting, because the time is short.

Part of the Obedience this book calls for is growing and maturing in our faith. How is your faith stronger and healthier than it was a year ago? 5 years ago?

In what areas do you need to make changes to be more obedient?