

## Preparing for The End – Part 2

Revelation 22:6-21; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 7-2-23

### The Need for Corrected Vision

The book of Revelation is a book of visions that are intended to help us see the reality behind what we see! This week we celebrate our freedom in this country in light of what happened many years ago. It is the truth ('reality') that truly sets us free. – John 8:31-32

### The Epilogue

Theme of Revelation 22:6-21: The Return of Jesus Christ

1. Be prepared for the return of Jesus. (6-11)
2. Be prepared for a just judgment to come. (12-16)
3. Be prepared by taking the water of life. (17-21)

These are the 'last words' of the book of Revelation and of the Bible which are meant to shape our last words!

### The Return

<sup>12</sup>“**Behold, I am coming quickly**, and My reward *is* with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. <sup>13</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” (12-13)

- “I am coming quickly” (7, 12, 20) = suddenly, unexpectedly in terms of day and hour – Matthew 24:42-44; 1 Thessalonians 5:2; Revelation 16:15

As a result, our living should be like waiting! – John 14:8; 1 Peter 1:13-16; Titus 2:11-14

### The Judgment

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- “reward” = literally, payment for work done; pay, wages; reward or punishment

*Returning to Judge* – Acts 10:42; 17:31; Romans 2:16; 2 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Timothy 4:8; 1 Peter 4:5; Revelation 19:11; Revelation 20:13

### *Movements toward The Judgment*

In one sense, all of history is linear: moving toward the Judgment. This appears to be reflected in the book of Revelation. – Revelation 6:12-17; 11:15-19; 16:17-21. In one sense, history is cyclical: cycles of judgment until The Judgment. This appears to be reflected in the book of Revelation. – Revelation 8:7; 16:3; Judges 3:7-11.

### *Parables of The Judgment*

- Parable of the 10 Virgins – Matthew 25:1-13*
- Parable of the Talents – Matthew 25:14-30*
- Parable of the Sheep and Goats – Matthew 25:31-46*
- Parable of the 10 Minas - Luke 19:11-27*

### **The Washed**

Blessed are **those who wash their robes**, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city. (14)

- “those who wash their robes” speaks of pardon and pursuit of holiness which goes together (or “those who persevere in resting in Jesus for pardon and perfection and perfect love and do not give in to the beasts or the beauty of the world”) – John 13:5-11; Isaiah 61:10; Romans 5:8-9, 17
- “tree of life” speaks of paradise or eternal life in fellowship with God.

### **The Outsiders**

**Outside** are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying. (15)

- “outside” the city were the ‘unclean’ and the ‘trash pile’
- “dog” = a literal dog or figuratively, an impure person (therefore, to be rejected)

*The Judgment of Being Outside of the Blessing – Luke 13:22-30; Matthew 8:11-12*

### **The Persecuted Church**

“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.” (16)

- “for the churches” = for their encouragement to trust and love to the End! No matter what!
- “the bright morning star” = the Davidic Messiah King who would usher in the age to come

*The Promise of Relief and Rejoicing – 2 Thessalonians 1:4-10; Revelation 21:7*

### **Conclusion**

Jesus suffered ‘outside’ so we wouldn’t have to! – Hebrews 13:12

Repent and believe! Rest and rejoice!