

THE REVELATION

LESSON 31: THE INVITATIONS (22:6-21)

Intro:

Lost in Space

BIG IDEA: Impending judgment gives _____ to those who seek _____ thru & for Christ.

⁶ And he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.”

⁷ “And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

- The messenger reminds John that he was sent by _____, the One who _____ the prophets.
- As given by God, this testimony is _____ and true or _____.
- It is for all God’s _____ servants, so they will be _____.
- Jesus is coming soon- using ερχομαι not παρουσια. This may be a reference to the judgment coming of AD 70.
- As in Deuteronomy, there is a _____ for those who, in faith, _____ or obey the words of this book.
- Like Deuteronomy, it functions as a _____. All prophecy in the OT was an exposition of the covenant in light of the circumstances of the people.
- God’s authentic people- sealed- will respond in _____ and receive _____ when Christ returns.

“Therefore, Christ’s coming is a series of coming in blessing and judgment and will be consummated by a climatic coming in final blessing and condemnation.” **Greg Beale**¹⁵³

⁸ I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, ⁹ but he said to me, “You must

¹⁵³ Beale, pp. 1127.

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not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”

¹⁰ And he said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.

¹¹ Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.”

- John again testifies that he is the one who saw and hear all this. It is not something he _____ up.
- John again _____ himself by revealing his _____ to sin by worshipping the angel.
- We, too, face the temptation to idolatry. Witness the _____ of both Rome and the Eastern Church.
- This prophecy is designed to lead us to worship the _____ and _____ God.
- Unlike the scrolls in Daniel, this is not to be _____ because it was to be fulfilled soon, not in the _____ future.
- It is not sealed up because the people need to _____ to the message with _____ and _____.
- Hypocrites will be _____ by their sin. The righteous will continue to do right.

“The working out of history polarizes good and evil. If people do not repent when they hear the word of God, it increases their hardness.” **Vern Poythress**¹⁵⁴

Jesus Speaks!

¹² “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. ¹⁵ Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

- Those who are persecuting His people will receive their just due.
- It is also a promise of _____ for those who did listen and obey (Is. 40:10)
- He refers back to the beginning of the revelation: _____ is the Alpha and Omega, in whom all history exists.
- All of it is by _____ and for _____.
- The blessing is pronounced on all who _____ their robes in His _____. Only it can remove the stain of sin (Jeremiah 2:22).

¹⁵⁴ Poythress, pp. 196.

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- _____ are those who pursue their sin and lies. They have no place near Jesus.
- Jesus testifies Himself that He sent the angel. He is an _____ messenger!
- These things are primarily for the _____, referring back to chapters 2-3.
- Jesus' mysterious identity is repeated here, alluding to _____ 11. He is both the _____ and the _____ of David.

“The reward that Jesus brings imparts blessing to those who trust in his cleansing blood, as well as retribution for those who persist in evil.” **Dennis Johnson**¹⁵⁵

“They say that they are believers, but their sinful actions betray their confession. They may each deny their faith verbally when confronted with persecution.” **Greg Beale**¹⁵⁶

The Spirit and the Church Speak

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 desires take the water of life without price.

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

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

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

- Both speak together. The Spirit _____ in the Church so she _____ with Him.
- They echo the _____ of Jesus, longing for Him to _____ it.
- They are also _____ sinners who long for the new order to come, to freely receive _____ in Christ.
- The Spirit won't, and the Church must not, try to alter these covenant documents.
- Such people will receive the _____ described in this book whether they add or subtract from it.
- This is a stern _____ to those who claim messages from angels that are binding on all.
- Jesus re-affirms His promise, and John essentially _____ for this to take place.
- The grace of Christ will be with all who _____ the words of this book, and receive the gospel.

Conclusion:

¹⁵⁵ Johnson, pp. 326.

¹⁵⁶ Beale, pp. 1141.

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“Jesus Christ is the safest place in the universe.” **John Owen**

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