

Revelation #61**October 22, 2023****Series Title: The Revelation of Jesus Christ: Behold I Am Coming Soon****Today's Message: Responding to the Majesty of the Glory of Christ, pt 4; Revelation 22:12-21**

As we are coming to the conclusion of the book of Revelation it is important that we understand that though the Revelation is primarily a book of prophecy concerning the Last Days, it also enfolds many of the great Messianic themes and prophecies of the entire Bible, both from the Old and New Testaments. In the book we have discovered the fulfillment of the prophecies concerning the Messianic kingdom found in Isaiah, Joel, Daniel and Zechariah to name a few.

There is a gem of prophetic fulfillment that may have slipped from our notice that I want to take a moment to uncover before we look at another glimmering prophecy found in 22:16. If you look at 22:13, if you remember, you see the first word of the verse concerning a "blessing." It is the seventh blessing, or *beatitude* of Revelation. You can review a listing of the seven blessings in Revelation #59. Each of the blessings, or *beatitudes* are the highest, or most supreme blessings from God to His people through Jesus Christ.

Jesus declared, "Blessed are those who wash their robes, or as the KJV says, keep His commands. The meaning of this is that everyone who both loves Him and His people are supremely and eternally blessed. The blessing finds its origin and completion in God through Jesus Christ. But, it cannot escape our notice that this supreme blessing is exactly what God promised to the nations through Abraham! In Genesis chapter 12, we see that God chose Abraham to be the earthly progenitor of the Messianic line through whom would come the supreme blessing to the nations! He says to Abraham in Genesis 12:3, "...and all peoples on the earth will be blessed through you."

And here in Revelation 22:13 we have final assurance from Jesus Christ Himself, that He is that great, and eternal blessing to all who obey His command to love Him and His people! So, when we read this book, even nearing the end, we can arc way back to Abraham and see the fulfillment of the Abrahamic Blessing and be eternally blessed by God!

And, for our study today, we also have another glorious declaration from Jesus in Revelation 22:16 concerning His humanity and His deity in one person. And if that were not glorious enough, we have another prophecy fulfilled, which concerns the Davidic Covenant. In that covenant, found in 2 Samuel 7, God promised David that long after he had passed away, there would come a King, who would be the King of kings and Lord of lords who would sit on His throne. This throne of the coming King would be a forever throne for a forever King ruling over an invincible forever kingdom! This person is none other than the One speaking to John in Revelation 22:16, the Lord Jesus Christ. He simply identifies Himself as, "I, Jesus." Truly, the One and Only, the begotten of God who has come from the Father has come and is coming again, soon!

Let's dive into this great verse. Let's engage our minds and hearts and respond with greater faith and trust!

- I. **(22:16) Hear Jesus' testimony concerning Himself: The Root and the Offspring of David, and the Bright Morning Star**

- A. (22:16a) Remember the Revelation of Jesus Christ is given by God to the Son Who then sent it by His angel to John (1:1)
1. His angel: In contrast to Revelation 1:1
 - a) Revelation 1:1: Tells us that the book is the “revealing” of future events.
 - b) Revelation 22:16: Tells us that the “revealing” of the book is complete.
 - (1) And, we must notice that it is Jesus Christ Himself who puts His authoritative stamp on the authenticity of the book of revelation.
 - (a) It is Jesus speaking to John.
 - (i) “I, Jesus, have sent my angel...”
 - (a) The angel has finished his work and only Jesus and His voice remains!
 2. “You” is plural. This is a direct reminder that this Revelation is sent to the churches, yes, but especially to “He who has an ear let him hear.”
 - a) So, the revealing is for the 7 churches addressed in Revelation 2-3.
 - b) It is for the enlightenment of the Church all down through History, including us in our day!
 - (1) By the way, this is the first mention of the Church since Revelation chapter 3.
 - c) And, I would think this would include anyone reading this revelation during the Tribulation period who has an ear to hear, and believes the words of the revelation and trusts in Jesus Christ as God’s Savior and Sovereign!
 - (1) NOTE: Although Tribulation saints are not part of The Church, they certainly will be included with the great assembly of saints in heaven!
- B. (22:16b) The Root and Offspring of David
1. Root and Offspring of David refers both to Jesus’ Deity and His humanity– the God-man: Hypostatic union:
 - a) Root of David (**Before David**)
 - (1) Isaiah 11:10; cf. Romans 15:12 refers to the “root of Jesse”
 - (a) Jesse was David’s father.
 - (b) The source out of which David came, for Jesus is the origin of creation as we studied earlier.
 - (2) The God of David
 - (a) This speaks of Jesus’ eternal nature!
 - b) The Offspring (seed) of David (**descendent**):
 - (1) This speaks of His human nature
 - c) Jesus posed a riddle to the Pharisees in Matthew 22:41-46 concerning His relationship as both the Root and Offspring of David: (see Psalm 110:1)
 - (1) Look up Matthew 22:41-46
 - (a) The answer to the riddle is found in both Jesus’ eternity and incarnation.
 - (i) In His deity, Jesus is the God of David (my Lord)

- (ii) In His humanity, Jesus is in the line of David (the Son of David).
- 2. Isaiah 11 is important for our understanding of Jesus' words in 22:16
 - a) Isaiah 11:1: Speaks of **David's** "seed" or "**offspring**": "A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit."
 - (1) In short, Isaiah is looking at his nation, Israel, and the nations around him as having been cut down with only stumps remaining.
 - (2) But, miraculously, from among all the nations, the most improbable event will occur: out of the "stump of Jesse" will come Messiah, a Branch that will bear fruit.
 - (a) What Isaiah is prophesying is the fulfillment of the 2 Samuel 7 promise to David that a "son of David" will come and rule the people of Israel and the world!
 - (i) This offspring will be a **male** descendent of David (Romans 1:3) as well as divine in origin.
 - (3) This Branch is also a reference to His deity.
 - (a) Isaiah 4:2: "Branch of the Lord will be beautiful and glorious"
 - (b) Jeremiah 23:5-6: "'The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will raise up to David a Righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely... This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord our Righteousness.'"
 - (c) Jeremiah 33:15-16: "In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; He will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord our Righteousness."
 - (d) See also, Ezekiel 17:22; Zechariah 3:8-10; 6:12
 - b) Isaiah 11:10: speaks of David's root. (If the "root" is divine then it follows that the "Branch" is divine.): "In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples (Jews and Gentiles); the nations will rally to Him, and His *place of rest* (millennial kingdom) will be glorious.
 - (1) Jesus is both the eternal ancestor and human descendent of David.
 - (a) Both the "Root" and "Shoot" of Jesse in Isaiah.
 - (b) Both the "Root" and "Offspring" of David in Revelation.
- C. (22:16c) The Bright and Morning Star is He who has come producing the eternal hope Bright and Glorious Day when the Glory of God shines brightly forever!
 - 1. He is the *Shekinah Glory of God* shining into the hearts of people who trust Him by faith even before the dawning of the Millennial Kingdom.
 - a) Though He is the Star of Jacob, Israel has not known Him. He has not yet shined upon them.

(1) Numbers 24:17, "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel."

(a) Surely our hearts must break for the people of Israel.

b) The world does not know Him or recognize Him, (John 17:25; John 1:10)

c) But the Church of God does!

(1) "Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed on His name, He gave the right to become children of God..." (John 1:12)

(a) To the Church alone, knows Him as the One has come as promised, and hopes in Him and longs for His appearing and the ushering in of His Heavenly, eternal reign!

(2) To the Church His is the Bright Morning Star that shines just before the Dawning of the Millennial Kingdom!

2. But, He is the Bright Morning Star to all who receive Him!

a) After the 70th week of Daniel (after the Tribulation), then He will be fully seen in His full glory, as the "Sun of Righteousness!" In that day, the day of the Millennial Kingdom Malachi 4:1-2 declares,

(1) "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the Lord Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. **But for you who revere my name**, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in His wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall."

(a) Salvation will finally come

(i) To all who long for His appearing

(ii) And for the elect of Israel (See Romans 10-11)

D. Application:

1. The Second Coming of Jesus will mark the end of darkness of the reign of the world, the flesh and the devil and will bring the dawning of His glorious Millennial Kingdom.

2.

a) Right now, the message of the Gospel is a proclamation that the Savior of the world has come the first time. Now, He shines into the hearts of His people; now His light shines as the Word is preached; Now His light shines giving hope to all who believe in Him that He is coming soon.

(1) Do you know Him?

(2) He is the Light of the World (John 8:12) who calls sinners to come and receive His Light and Life!

3. If you are a Christian your inner life, your thoughts, your approach to life should be marked with hope— hope that no matter how dark the darkness around you seems to be, the Bright Morning Star assures us that a Glorious and Bright Day is about to arise! If you do not have this hope, would you ask for God to help you

find joy in the New Life He has given you and the Fellowship you have with Him and His people?

- a) It is almost certain, that if you do not have at least some bright rays of hope, that you are slothful in your Bible Reading. The Word of God is lamp unto our feet and light unto our paths in this dark world.
- b) It is also likely that you are lacking good Christian fellowship as well.