

**Revelation 2** To the angel of the church in Ephesus write... <sup>4</sup> But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. <sup>5</sup> Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, **I will come to you and remove your lampstand** from its place, unless you repent.

**1 Corinthians 10** <sup>11</sup> Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom **the end of the ages has come**.

**2 Peter 3** <sup>8</sup> But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

**Isaiah 55**

<sup>1</sup> **“Come, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and he who has no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.**

<sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me;  
hear, that your soul may live;  
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,  
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup> **“Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;**

<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

# THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST



## REVELATION 22:6-21

APRIL 16, 2023

Winter/Spring 2023

Revelation is the last book of the Bible and is often treated as “mysterious” and “futuristic.” However, we contend that it only *seems* mysterious because it is full of images rooted in the Old Testament and first century Roman culture—from which we are far removed. A patient and careful reading yields an understanding that is neither bizarre nor exclusively future. Rather, we find the book of Revelation to be presently encouraging and empowering for the people of God. This is because it reveals heaven’s view of events that transpire on earth throughout history—including our history and the history of its original audience.

## Revelation 22

<sup>6</sup>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.”

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

<sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “You must 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.”

<sup>10</sup>And he said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. <sup>11</sup>Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.”

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

<sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

<sup>16</sup>“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.”

<sup>17</sup>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.

<sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>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.

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

<sup>21</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

# Behold, I am Coming Soon

April 21, 2023 | Revelation 22:6-21 | Pastor Roger Williams

## Jesus calls us to orient life to his coming.

Because Jesus is coming soon, we must:

### 1. Hold Fast <sup>(6-11)</sup>

*Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.*

The words are amazing <sup>8-9</sup>

The time is now <sup>10</sup>

The world is unchanging <sup>11</sup>

### 2. Lift Up <sup>(12-18)</sup>

*The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.”*

The blessing is full <sup>14-15</sup>

The hero is clear <sup>16</sup>

The doors are open <sup>17</sup>

The warning is real <sup>18-19</sup>

### 3. Lean Forward <sup>(20-21)</sup>

*Come, Lord Jesus!*

You don't have to know a lot of things for your life to make a lasting difference in the world. But you do have to know the few great things that matter, perhaps just one, and then be willing to live for them and die for them. The people that make a durable difference in the world are not the people who have mastered many things, but who have been mastered by one great thing. If you want your life to count, if you want the ripple effect of the pebbles you drop to become waves that reach the ends of the earth and roll on into eternity, you don't need to have a high IQ. You don't have to have good looks or riches or come from a fine family or a fine school. Instead you have to know a few great, majestic, unchanging, obvious, simple, glorious things—or one great all-embracing thing—and be set on fire by them.

– John Piper, *Don't Waste Your Life*, 42.