

HIS PROMISE

Revelation 22:17-21

INTRODUCTION: The Lord's final words are in chapter 22 of Revelation. The verses 17-22 in our text are words of invitation to the lost, a word of warning to the religious, and a word of hope for the redeemed. How blessed we are to have the presence and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ with us until we reach our eternal home.

I. THE LAST WORD CONCERNING SALVATION

A. The inviters. (v. 17, Spirit and the bride say come)

B. The invited. (v. 17)

1. Those thirsty for the water of life.

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink." (John 7:37)

2. Those willing to take of the water of life.

"And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." (Revelation 22:17)

II. THE LAST WORD CONCERNING SCRIPTURE (v. 18-19)

A. Warning to the hearers of the Word of God. (v. 18a)

Jesus said in John 8:47, "He that is of God heareth God's words." What type of hearer are you? Jesus said in Luke 11:28, "blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it." In Jesus' parable concerning the sower, the seed, and the harvest, there was only one group that brought forth fruit. (Matthew 13:18-23) The saved produced spiritual fruit.

B. Warning to those who alter the Word of God. (v. 18-19)

The warning in verses 18-19 is about the book of Revelation. Still, the warning applies to all of Scripture. Moses warned the Israelites in Deuteronomy 4:2, "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you."

In verse 18, a stern warning is given not to add to the Bible. The Bible is a finished book. God is not giving new revelations today. False preachers and teachers are guilty of adding to the Word of God.

The warning is given to those who take away from the Word of God. They will face God's judgment. They shall suffer the plagues and suffering in this book. (v. 19)

III. THE LAST WORD FROM THE SAVIOR (v. 20-21)

A. PROMISE OF THE SAVIOR'S COMING. "Surely, I come"

Jesus promised that He would come quickly. It means speedily or rapidly. When everything is in place for His coming, He will return without delay. The Book of Revelation opens with these words in 1:7: "Behold, He cometh." The book of Revelation ends with Jesus saying, "Surely, I come quickly." The apostle John confirmed the words of Jesus with, "Amen!" The word amen means agreement.

B. PRAYER FOR THE SAVIOR'S COMING. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

In verses 12-14 of this chapter, Jesus' Words give us great hope and encouragement. We are reminded to live a holy life for Jesus. Jesus is coming quickly. In verse 15, we are reminded of the condition of those who are lost.

LESSONS FOR LIFE:

1. The Bible reveals Jesus as our Savior and Lord.
2. The Bible is God's final Word to us.
3. The Bible gives help for today, hope for tomorrow, and heaven as our eternal home.

