

Blessed Endurance

The message of Revelation

Lesson Ten: Endure

The Epilogue (22:6-21)

A Liturgical Conclusion

We'll close our time in Revelation by placing ourselves in the world of the first readers (see attached "Amen, Come: A Liturgy of Revelation 22:6-21" on page 3).

Discussion Questions

What has been one major take-away from Revelation for you? How has reading this book together changed your viewpoint of the world, your faith, and God?

Why is it important that both the beginning and the end of Revelation have calls to endurance and holiness? What does faithful endurance and witness to Christ look like in our world?

A major purpose of Revelation is to "refurbish the Christian imagination." How has Revelation taught you to imagine the present world, your circumstances the future, and your life with God?

The book of Revelation teaches us (1) that judgment will come on the world; (2) persecution will come as Satan uses the state and cultural pressure to thwart God's victory; (3) the current world system will be destroyed, including all idols and

things that lure people into complacency; and (4) believers are already victorious in Christ and will achieve ultimate victory at his coming. Why do we need these reminders in our current situation? What happens when we forget these truths?

How has your hope for Christ's coming changed during this study? What does it mean now for you to say "Come, Lord Jesus"?

Thoughts/notes:

Amen, Come.

A Liturgy of Revelation 22:6-21

The First Scene

JOHN: And he said to me,

ANGEL: 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.

CHRIST: And behold, I am coming soon.

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

JOHN: 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, but he said to me,

ANGEL: 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.”

JOHN: And he said to me,

ANGEL: Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.

Refrain

ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Second Scene

CHRIST: Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

ANGEL: 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. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

CHRST: 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.

Refrain

ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Third Scene

JOHN: The Spirit and the Bride say,

THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE: Come.

JOHN: And let the one who hears say,

HEARERS: Come.

JOHN: And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. 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, 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. He who testifies to these things says,

CHRIST: Surely, I am coming soon.

HEARERS: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

JOHN: The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.