

Revelation: The Time is Near

Faithful and True (*The Time is at Hand*)

Revelation 22:6-11

Psalm 42:1-2

As the deer pants after the water brooks,
so my soul pants after You, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When will I come and appear before God?

Our cry as believers should be desiring to appear before God.
The evil of the people in Revelation would rather the mountains fall on them.

Christmas is coming, and that was God's name appearing.
Revelation is upon us and that is God's revealing.

Are we ready? Would we rather the rocks fall on us?

Revelation Review:

- John on Patmos, **revealed** Jesus in glory, in heaven
- Letters to 7 Churches
- **The end of the world (as we know it) - The Great Tribulation** most of earth, cities, climate, oceans, peoples destroyed - great earthquake at end levels everything
- **Judgment on the nations and those who follow satan (it's clear)**
- **A last ditch effort to get the world to repent**
- **Judgment for the sins of everyone without Jesus and destruction of the universe corrupted by sin**

Remember: *"Bible says more about the End Times than any other time in history."* Missler

Not just Revelation. Jesus' words in the gospels. The prophets, especially Ezekiel and Daniel. Many more places.

Previously:

- Great White Throne Judgment
- Creation destroyed - the real big bang
- The former things have passed away
- New creation, new Jerusalem
- God with people

Heaven is when we're home with God and he's home with us.

[Pray]

Re-read 22:6-7

What must soon take place.

These things are all being set up. The stage has been manipulated for thousands of years and they're just waiting for the curtain to be lifted.

Another veil will be taken back.

Instead of the veil torn in the holy of holies revealing God, God will be stepping back, revealing all evil, all the spiritual powers behind the scenes.

But people will be so deceived they'll miss it. They'll fall for it.

Magic tricks. How easy it is to be deceived. Mesmerized. Amazed. Just by some sleight of hand or misdirection.

The birth pangs (Matthew 24, Romans 8) are getting close

[Matthew 24:3-14 NKJV] Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what [will be] the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all [these things] must come to pass, but the end is not yet. "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. "All these [are] the beginning of sorrows. "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. "And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. "But he who endures to the end shall be saved. "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

[Romans 8:22 NKJV] For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

Again, based on the scripture and what seems evident about the heart of God...the tribulation is not meant for current believers.

Believers in name only, sure. Look at the letters to the seven churches...

But things are being set up.

This book describes everything we are experiencing and going through, especially in our day and age.

- One world government
- Russia, Iran, China - BRECS
- The restructuring of the west, borderless, economic transfer
China, a developing nation still? Benefits from the push
- WEF, guidestones - there already is a king of the world. They will allow the AC to rise up and be exalted - remember Obama's rise out of nowhere?
- Cashless society - push towards centralized currency, digital
- Population control
- AI
- Fake news, deception
- The state of the church- Letters, laodicea
- UFOs - Ezekiel
[2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 NKJV] The coming of the [lawless one] is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.
- Abhorrent sexuality (Romans 1)
- Genetic manipulation - Nephilim
- The AC will fly the flag and be it himself - Daniel 11:37
- The rise of the belief in the theory of evolution (Romans 1, worship creature rather than creator)
- Nuclear weapons
- Pandemics
- Increasing and odd weather and natural disasters
- Mass shootings (love of many grow cold)
- Abortion
- Feminism (Genesis)
- Race wars
- Antisemitism and the Middle East
- Removal of traditions, even basic facts to live in a world of confusion (God is not author of confusion) - how simple it is to not have to think about the basics
- Persecution of christians on the rise
- Cults, movements, personalities, etc.

The list goes on! It's all explainable. Easily by the scripture.

Not that I get it all right or have achieved some level, but I wonder why people don't vote the way I do. Or think the way I do. Or want the same things I do. Are content in other things. Especially amongst the church.

Hosea 4:6a**My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.****The world is headed towards destruction anyway. But the church?****Why are God's people destroyed?****Why do we suffer lack?**

Not that we should be healthy, wealthy, wise and have our best life now...but I mean spiritually lack?

We don't know. We don't pray. We aren't interested in the truth.

And it's all right here.

When we are interested in those things. Everything becomes clear.

So clear you can't ignore it. You can't unsee it.

[Romans 10:17-18 NKJV] So then faith [comes] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: "Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."

Jesus says, LOOK I AM COMING SOON**Our responsibility is to look!**

So many people caught up in trying to figure out who the AC is. We'll never know. He doesn't get revealed until the Holy Spirit steps back with the church.

Besides, who should we be really excited to see? JESUS.

Revelation, the end times, should excite us.**It doesn't need to consume us.****But if we're not looking, are we not really excited about heaven?****Are we too caught up in here?****Blessed is he who keeps the words of this prophecy**

Do we not want all of God's blessings?

Why does the church skip out on all of this?

Does it not, perhaps, remind us that this kingdom is not ours. That the church is a temporary and ultimately failing (in some sense) influence on the earth. And our goal shouldn't be seeker-friendly clubs where the head count matters but truth-exposing, loving, worshipful places where the wheat is separated from the chaff?

Plus, it's the finale!

Playoff hockey growing up

The end of a movie

The end of a season or show
The very end of the show Hoarders with Ashlee

Preaching to the choir here, but:

**We've read the Bible, we know the other stories. Why do we care less how it ends?
 Especially when the end is just the beginning for us!**

Especially when it reminds us we'll be seeing God face to face! Our beloved savior, no longer hidden from our physical eyes, but revealed!

To me that's more exciting than anything else in the Bible.

All of that happened, is past. This is what's to come. What's been set aside for us!

:8-9

Wrong worship

Even John got caught up here. The amazing quality of the message. The truth of it. He got overwhelmed in his flesh. Began to worship the angel.

Fellow servant (angels are servants, just as we are, although we're children)

We're a little lower than them in physical ability

They're lower than us in spiritual authority and ability

Brothers the prophets

There's something special about us individually but we're also all brothers and sisters
 Same family. John was a prophet.

All those who keep the words - every believer.

Worship God! - not them

Cult of personality, even in the church

I get natural exaltation of a good leader. Nothing wrong. Nothing to be envious of.

But when people show up to just sit in a pew and only when that one person is teaching. There's a lack of depth and maturity there. This isn't a tv show. It's not entertainment. It's life.

Worship God

That should be our aim

Him. In life. In church. In work.

:10-11

Do not seal

Revelation shouldn't be hidden in some Library
Gandalf looking to the old scrolls when the ring shows up

**It shouldn't be skipped. Untaught. Unloved. Unencouraged.
 It needs to be kept. Close. At hand. On top of mind.
 Revisited. Talked about.**

THE TIME IS AT HAND

Started the series out with "The Time is Near"
 Well, it's nearer today than then.

If something's at hand. You're ready. It's here.
*Tickets to get into a movie or event while you're in line
 License and registration when the cop pulls you over
 Rings on the stage during the wedding ceremony*

*Imagine if those things were not available? It'd be a huge scene
 So too should we have Revelation in our pocket, on our mind, because it's here.*

V11 - tough verse

Doesn't God want everyone to repent?
 Yes, but the connotation is that it's so close, you may not have time or the time you think you have

i. "It is the hopelessness of the final state of the wicked which is here pictured. The states of both the evil and the good are now fixed forever. There is no word here about a 'second chance' hereafter." (Robertson)

ii. "If the warnings of this book are not sufficient, there is no more that God has to say."
 (Walvoord)

[2 Corinthians 6:2 NKJV] For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now [is] the accepted time; behold, now [is] the day of salvation.

**Are you ready? Are you safe from the outcome of your sin?
 Do you have your ticket to heaven ready?**