

How to LIVE After Revelation (Rev. 22:6-12)

(6) 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." (7) "And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." (8) 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, (9) 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." (10) And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. (11) Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy." (12) "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.

1. God speaks to His people through His Word and by His Spirit. He wants us to listen to Him carefully, obey Him fully, and love Him supremely.
2. God's Word's are all trustworthy and true. God cannot lie and He is always faithful. We can trust Him fully and without reservation. People may have failed us in the past, and may fail us in the future, but God will not. People may have lied to us in the past and may lie to us in the future, but God will not.
3. We are called to surrender to the Lord. He is our Master, King, our Leader. We should submit and surrender our bodies, soul/spirit, and all we are to our heavenly Father.
4. God has spoken through people in the past. He has spoken through chosen prophets. All of the prophets have shared a unified message that exalts God and His Son Jesus. God's message through His prophets is recorded for us in the Bible. 66 books, Old and New Testament, from Genesis to Revelation. The last book, Revelation, tells us more about God and His Son Jesus, and also tells us about what will happen in the future. God's future plans and purposes will be fulfilled in His perfect timing. We are to live each day as though Christ could return that day. From God's perspective the return of Christ is imminent. To the Lord a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years is like a day. So from His perspective it has only been about two days since this statement in Revelation was made.
5. Since Jesus Christ is coming soon we should live obediently. When we obey, do, apply, or live out the truths we see in Revelation we will experience the fullness of God's blessing. Do you want to experience the fullness of God's blessing as a Christian? Then keep the words of Revelation. Live daily in light of Christ's future coming and in light of eternity. Live daily for God to the fullest with your time, money, and gifts. Maximize your time, money, and gifts. Don't waste your life. When we read, listen to, and study God's Word we should want to not just know it, but to live it out. Think through application every time you encounter God's Word.
6. God wants us to experience Him now and forever. Do you experience God? John was so impacted by His experience of God that it took Him into greater levels of worship and devotion. The angel that he heard this message from was so overwhelming that John fell down before him, but the angel had to remind John that only God is the proper object of our worship. When we encounter God's greatest expressions of revelation and goodness in this life we too might be tempted to worship those things rather than God. We must guard against this. We must worship God and Him alone. We must worship God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.
7. Humans, angels, and all creation is designed to worship God and serve God and His plans and purposes. You and I will find the greatest joy, pleasure, and delight when we are serving God with all He has given us to the fullest. True servants of God obey Him and tell others about how great He is. We can't be silent. We will not do this perfectly, but we will be growing in this over our lifetime. God wants us to pass on what we learn from Him in His Word, particularly what we have been learning in Revelation because His coming is near. We don't know the time, but we should make the best use of time, knowing that Christ's return is imminent.
8. The evil who do not repent will continue in evil, and we should not be surprised by this. The sinfully filthy who do not repent will continue in filth, and this should not surprise us. People's true character will not be drastically changed apart from the grace of God in Christ. The righteous, holy, obedient, Christ-like, and the godly will continue in that and will grow more and more in that.
9. When Christ returns, or we die and stand before Him, we will be judged. Those who are truly Christians will have eternal life and will be rewarded based on how faithfully they lived here on earth. Those who have rejected the One true God and His Son Jesus will spend eternity in the the Lake of Fire and will be punished to varying degrees dependent on how sinful, evil, rebellious, and wicked they were. This judgement will also be according to the amount of revelation we have received. Those who have received more revelation will be judged with greater strictness. More revelation should result in more worship, more obedience, and more love if our hearts respond rightly to it. Our actions in this life, in time, have eternal consequences. This is not a game. Do you live in light of these truths each day?

The Book of Revelation Overview

- Chapter 1: Introduction, greeting of the 7 churches, and the vision of Jesus Christ (the Son of Man)...
- Chapter 2: Letter to the church at Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, and Thyatira...
- Chapter 3: Letter to the church at Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea...
- Chapter 4: The vision of the throne of God in heaven...
- Chapter 5: The vision of the scroll with 7 seals and of Christ...
- Chapter 6: The opening of 6 of the 7 seal judgements...
- Chapter 7: The 144,000 of Israel and the multitude from every nation worshipping God...
- Chapter 8-9: The opening of the 7th seal judgement and the blowing of 6 of the 7 trumpet judgements...
- Chapter 10: The mighty angel and the little scroll...
- Chapter 11: The 2 witnesses and the 7th trumpet judgement blown...
- Chapter 12: The woman, the dragon, and the dragon thrown down to earth...
- Chapter 13: The 1st and 2nd beast (the anti-Christ and the false prophet)...
- Chapter 14: The Lamb and the 144,000, the messages of the 3 angels, and the harvest of the earth...
- Chapter 15: The 7 angels and the 7 plagues...
- Chapter 16: The 7 bowl plague judgements of God's wrath poured out...
- Chapter 17: The great prostitute and the beast...

Chapter 18: The fall of Babylon...

Chapter 19: Rejoicing in heaven, the marriage supper of the Lamb (Christ), and Jesus's coming on a white horse...

Chapter 20: The 1,000 year reign of Christ (Millennium), the defeat of satan, and the great white throne judgement...

Chapter 21: The New Heaven, New Earth, and the New Jerusalem...

Chapter 22: The River of Life and the final promise of Jesus's future coming...

(1) The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, (2) who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

(3) Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near. (Rev 1:1-3)

(9) remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, (10) declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,' (11) calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it. (Isa 46:9-11)

(2) But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. (Mic 5:2)

(14) Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isa 7:14)

(6) And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. (Deut 6:6)

(47) ...by this word you shall live..." (Deut 32:47)

(6) The words of the LORD are pure words,... (Psa 12:6)

(35) Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. (Matt 24:35)

(25) ...the word of the Lord remains forever."... (1Pet 1:25)

(47) ...that servant who knew his master's will but did not get ready or act according to his will, will receive a severe beating. (48) But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating. Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more. (Luke 12:47-48)

(12) So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. (Rom 14:12)

(13) each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. (14) If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. (1Cor 3:13-14)

(36) I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, (Matt 12:36)

(10) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. (2Cor 5:10)

(1) This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. (2) Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. (3) But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. (4) For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. (5) Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God. (1Cor 4:1-5)

(4) I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. (Jhn 17:4)

(12) ...teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. (Psa 90:12)

(15) Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, (16) making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. (Eph 5:15-16)

(14) ...you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. (James 4:14)

(4) We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. (Jhn 9:4)

(1) ...I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, (2) that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, (3) knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. (4) They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation." (5) For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, (6) and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. (7) But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. (8) 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. (9) 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. (10) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. (11) Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, (12) waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! (13) But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. (14) Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. (15) And count the patience of our Lord as salvation,... (17) You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. (18) But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. (2Pet 3:1-15, 17-18)