THINGS WHICH MUST SHORTLY COME TO PASS A STUDY OF REVELATION—PART 39

In this the last chapter of Revelation, I have slowed down our study so that we may not miss some last important truths.

I. THE OVERWHELMING PROPHECY OF REVELATION

- A. Was personally seen by John. (v. 8)
- B. Was personally heard by John. (v. 8)
- C. What he saw and heard takes in the entire Book of Revelation. *(Revelation 1:1-22:21)*

II. THE IMPACT OF REVELATION UPON JOHN

- A. The glory of the Revelation drove John to his knees. (v. 8)
- B. The overwhelming prophecy of Revelation drove John to worship. (v. 8)
 - 1. The initial worship of John was wrong. (v. 8)
 - 2. The directed worship of John was correct. (v. 9)
 - a. The angel refused the worship of John. (v. 9)
 - b. The angel directed John to the Only One worthy of worship. (v. 9)

III. WORSHIP HAS BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD THROUGH THE AGES

- A. Most every age has had its share of holy men and women.
- B. The most holy individuals of the ages are not worthy of worship.
 - 1. *"Fellowservants"* of the King are not to receive the King's worship. (v. 9)
 - 2. The great "prophets" are not to receive the King's worship. (v. 9)
 - 3. Angels are not to receive the King's worship. (v. 8, 9)
 - 4. Those "*which keep the sayings*" of Revelation are not to be worshiped. (v. 9)
- C. The message of history is "Worship God." (v. 9)

IV. THE SEALED AND UNSEALED BOOKS (REVELATION 22:10)

- A. Daniel was told to seal his book—"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." (Daniel 12:4)
 - 1. This command was made 600 years earlier.
 - 2. A dispensation would separate Daniel and Revelation.
- B. John was told not to seal the Revelation. "And he said unto me, seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand." (Revelation 22:10)
- C. Now we are drawn to the Faithful Word of God. (v. 10)
 - 1. The Word of God is faithful.

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- 2. The Word of God is accurate.
- 3. The Word of God is authoritative.
- 4. The Word of God is accessible.
- D. The reason for the unsealed book is given. (v. 10)
 - 1. *"The time is at hand." (v. 10)*
 - 2. The end time message is to be propagated around the world. (v. 10)

V. ETERNITY, THE GREAT REVEALER OF THE HUMAN RACE (REVELATION 22:11)

- A. There are no second chances in eternity.
- B. In eternity the lost will be:
 - 1. "Unjust" still. (v. 11)
 - 2. *"Filthy"* still. (v. 11)
- C. In eternity the saved will be:
 - 1. "Righteous still" (v. 11)
 - 2. "Holy still." (v. 11)
- D. Calvary makes the difference!
 - 1. The cross of Christ is the great divide.
 - 2. Calvary separated two common criminals by choice.
 - 3. Calvary is the line of demarcation.
 - 4. Spurgeon said, "There is no hope of change of character. Where death leaves us, judgment finds us, and eternity keeps us."

VI. THE COMING OF CHRIST AND ITS RESULTS ARE SEEN (REVELATION 22:12)

- A. The fact of His coming—"*Behold I come*" (*Revelation 22:12*)
 - 1. We have already noted this fact three times in this chapter
 - 2. His coming was set forth in the first chapter. (*Revelation 1:7*)
- B. The challenge of His coming:
 - 1. We are to be ready!
 - 2. He comes without warning. (Quickly—*Revelation 22:12*)
- C. The reward at His coming. (*Revelation 22:12*)
 - 1. The rewarding takes place at the Judgment Seat of Christ:
 - a. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." (II Corinthians 5:10)
 - b. "But why dost thou judge thy brother? Or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." (Romans 14:10)
 - 2. This is a judgment of stewardship.
 - a. Our works will be tried by fire—"Every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is." (I Corinthians 3:13)

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- b. We can be rewarded—"If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward." (I Corinthians 3:14)
- c. We can lose our reward—"If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved yet so as by fire."(I Corinthians 3:15)
- D. Because of who He is, He only is worthy to judge righteously. *(Revelation 22:13)*
 - 1. He is *"Alpha and Omega"*—There is nothing before Him or after Him.
 - 2. He is "The beginning and the end." He:
 - a. Created all things.
 - b. Controls all things.
 - c. Consummates all things.
 - 3. He is "The first and the last."
 - a. He was before creation in eternity past.
 - b. He will be present in eternity future.

VII. THOSE WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE CITY ARE SEEN (REVELATION 22:14, 15)

- A. Those who are welcome within the city. (v. 14)
 - 1. They have kept His commandments. (v. 14)
 - 2. That phrase literally means: "Washed their robes."
 - 3. This is a reference to Revelation 1:5b: "Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood."
 - 4. Those who keep His commandments are those who chose salvation.
 - 5. Heaven is assessable, but only through the blood of Jesus.
- B. The benefits of those whose sins have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus.
 - 1. *"They have right to the tree of life."* (v. 14)
 - 2. They "may enter in through the gates into the city." (v. 14)
- C. Those without the city are seen. (*Revelation 22:15*)
 - 1. "Dogs" (v. 15)
 - a. In ancient times, dogs were not the domesticated household pets of today.
 - b. Dogs were scavengers that milled about cities garbage dumps.
 - c. A person of low character was described as a dog.
 - 2. "Sorcerers": (v. 15)
 - a. Comes from the word "pharmacy".
 - b. It represents those whose lives are addicted to drugs.
 - c. Also those whose lives are taken up in occult practices.
 - 3. "Whoremongers" (sexually immoral)
 - 4. "*Murderers*" (v. 15; self-explanatory)
 - 5. "Idolaters" (v. 15; the worship of false gods.)
 - 6. *"Liars" (v. 15)*

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- a. Those who love to lie. (v. 15)
- b. Those who "maketh" or practices a lie. (v. 15)
- D. A vital important truth we must understand!
 - 1. These above-mentioned people are going to Hell by choice.
 - 2. The sins mentioned could have been forgiven.
 - 3. They loved and habitually practiced those sins and refused the salvation which Jesus Christ offered.
 - 4. These sins were the settled characteristics of their lives from which they were never delivered, although the grace of God made possible that deliverance.
- E. The word *"without"* means eternally in Hell forever. (*Revelation 22:15*)