

Faith Christian Fellowship
December 3, 2017

Surely: Things You Can Count on in Turbulent Times
6: Surely Jesus is Coming

TEXT: Revelation 22:14-21 ...(20) He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! Acts 1:9-11... This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

The world is being shaken.. Fear is the theme of the day. **It is a great time to build our faith in the things we have which cannot be shaken**, things that are sure for us. We rejoice that we are living in a day when God's voice is shaking the heavens and the earth. We know that goodness and mercy are following us, that deliverance is near, and we are protected in the midst of calamity. We can also live above the "health care scare," and leave the legacy of an unshakeable life: Today, Jesus is surely coming.

The book ends with a forceful, terrifying, and joyous declaration by Jesus Himself: "Surely I am coming quickly." It was so moving to John that he immediately responded, "Amen! Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" Laying aside all the debates and questions, you know it's so – if that is a surely, what did Jesus advise us to do?

- 1) (17) And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.
 - a) Get the message straight: Come!
 - i) The Spirit says it
 - ii) The Church is supposed to say it
 - b) It is to all who thirst and all who want the water. Drink freely!
- 2) (18) For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; (19) and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.
 - a) He is talking about the book of Revelation, but we can safely extrapolate to all Scripture: Dt 4:2 / 12:32 / Pr 30:5-6
 - b) It is time to get serious about fidelity to the Book: 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5

- 3) Revelation 22:20 He who testifies to **these things** says, "Surely I am coming quickly."
 - a) Revelation 22:14-15 whoever loves and practices a lie will be left outside
 - i) 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 NLT ... God will cause them to be greatly deceived, and they will believe these lies. (12) Then they will be condemned for enjoying evil rather than believing the truth.
 - ii) John 3:18-19 NLT "... people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil."
 - iii) 2 Peter 3:3 NLT Most importantly, I want to remind you that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires.
 - b) Revelation 22:18-19
 - i) Adding to the Word: brings plagues
 - ii) Subtracting from the Word cuts us off from His life and Presence.
 - c) Surely He is coming. Which do you want to be?
 - i) 1 John 2:28 KJV ... **ashamed before him at his coming.**
 - ii) 2 Timothy 4:8 KJV ... **love his appearing.**
 - d) Our commission and command:
 - i) **Love the truth** enough to study
 - ii) **Love the lost** enough to invite them to "come."
 - iii) **Love the Bride** enough to be connected
 - iv) **Love the Spirit** enough to listen
 - v) **Love His appearing** enough to be ready when "This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner."

"Hereafter," said our Lord himself (by those words inviting crucifixion), "shall ye see the Son of Man . . . coming in the clouds of heaven." If this is not an integral part of the faith once given to the saints, I do not know what is.

C.S. Lewis