

Sunday, April 26, 2026

## Journey with Jesus to the End

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**Revelation 22:12-13 (14-20) ESV 12 “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”**

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Here’s the **BIG TRUTH** of this text - **JESUS is coming back soon! And in light of that reality, we must live our lives ready for His return.**

- Most scholars date the book of Revelation to A.D. 95-96, meaning the apostle John would have been 80-90 years old when he received this revelation on the prison island of Patmos, present-day Turkey.
- This book is filled with prophetic insight and apocalyptic imagery. It is also framed by clear instructions from our Lord and Savior.
- In the final chapter of this messianic missive, Jesus is sharp and repetitive concerning His final instructions to John for The Church.
- The “**recompense**” that Jesus will bring represents both reward and wrath that He will bring with Him upon His return.
- When He declares Himself “Alpha and omega, first and last, the beginning and the end... He wants this truth to be inescapably clear; He started everything, and He will finish everything.
- The washing of the robes in verse 14 refers to the process of sanctification. It is the believer consciously and consistently washing themselves in the realities of Christ.
- In verse 15, He identifies those who have no entrance into the Gates or access to the tree of life;
  - Dogs - those who consume filth.
  - Sorcerers - those who practice manipulation
  - Sexually immoral - those who use sex for gain and gratification outside of the covenant of marriage.

- Murderers - those who caused death unjustly.
  - Idolaters - those who worship or pay homage to anything else besides Yahweh.
  - Those who love and practice falsehood - Those who indulge in delusions and demand that those around them do the same.
- The statement Jesus made in verse 16 is a divine call to unity among Jews and Gentiles. Jesus is declaring that he is the savior of all humanity, and by his grace, he has brought us all into one holy family.
  - Verse 17 issues a clarion call to all who desire salvation through Jesus Christ.
  - The warnings in verses 18 and 19 clearly emphasize the importance of fidelity to scripture as originally written. We do not have the right to contort scripture to make it fit our aims or justify our proclivities.
  - Finally, in verse 20, our Savior reiterates that He is coming soon.
  - Now I know for many of you who can do math, you may ask yourself with the 2000 years that have passed since this time, what qualifies as soon, and why has Jesus not returned yet?
    - **2 Peter 3:8-10 ESV** 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.
  - With all that has been said, let us be encouraged and reminded in this moment to live our lives in light of the reality that Jesus is coming back soon.