

66-Revelation – 06-Transcript

you

[Music]

welcome back to Bible study and here we are on Sunday evening apologize for this normally we do this on Wednesday nights but hopefully many of you are able to join us tonight on Sunday evening and just to remind you again of our schedule in the upcoming weeks so this week we're doing it on Sunday evening next week it's going to be Thursday evening we'll be back to our regular Wednesday evenings for the next couple of weeks and I apologize it says November 16th there it should be actually November 15th and then on November 26 we're gonna have to go to Sunday again for that week and then I think after that we'll be back to our regular Wednesday evening Bible study so really do appreciate your flexibility with me as I said last time I'd rather keep the momentum rather than cancel the study and then we just lose lose the momentum and hopefully for those who are not able to make Sunday evening they're able to catch up with the archive so you remember when we met last week we were looking at Revelation chapter 21 and today we'll look at chapter 22 we we we skipped for those of you who are just joining us we skipped all the chapters from 16 to 20 from 6 to 20 sorry and you know I put it out there to see what people thought and the majority of people thought that it's good to get the whole picture by going to the end of the book also as I spoke with master pastor Marie he thought it's good to keep the context so that when we do go through the difficult chapters we will have the the big picture in mind and we'll understand how this all

finishes and that ultimately it is all good news despite the fact that we are going to be treading through some very very difficult waters in those in-between chapters so let's get into Revelation chapter 22 we'll open with the word of Prayer and they get right into the study for this evening Heavenly Father we come before you we praise You Lord we praise Jesus Christ we thank you we thank Jesus Christ and father were just so grateful that we can study these precious words there's this ancient text thousands of years old here we are at 2017 studying this word and and we know father that it is going to bolster us and strengthen us for the years ahead so we thank you we pray God that you would give us understanding and that you would deepen our conviction and and just help us to have patience and faith so that when Jesus Christ comes he finds a people who are prepared for him we thank you Father we ask this blessing now in Jesus Holy Name Amen so let us get right into the study and last time when we met we looked at chapter 21 and I just want to just go back to how that chapter began where John saw a new heaven and a new earth for the first heaven and the first Earth were passed away and there was no more sea and then we went through the chapter and also saw the new temple and God bringing his throne I've started the New Jerusalem and God bringing his throne down from heaven but just before we get into that last week I saw him across a post of the Pope speaking to astronauts from from as they were in the space station out in space and I thought some of their comments were interesting as we go through this chapter 22 so I just

want to play that and ask you to to take
a listen Laden clear very good thank you
I now hand over to Pope Francis Collins
who opens hero sulu posted aluminum
universo
Santo Padre cuesta another mannequin
plays Vince okay
pin so Jael nostro in Ostrava TiVo qua
equal OD cannoli la nostra la nostra
nostro yesterday equal opera R Imperial
Akana Shane Sacopee ravallo Gucci stat
Oh No Ethel altro Monica Centuri Santa
become puke oh no Shamu
compute Randy amo canto di Kenosha a
poco que cosa module meant a Vedado en
el tempo que pasa Tay nella estación
especially in my personal opinion what
gives me the greatest joy every day is
to be able to look outside and see God's
creation
maybe a little bit from from his birth
his perspective as we see that the peace
and serenity of our planet as it goes
around at ten kilometers a second and
there's no borders there is no conflict
it's just peaceful and you see the
thinness of the atmosphere it makes you
realize how fragile our existence here
is so very fascinating I thought it was
quite interesting those comments first
of all I think what really struck me was
you know looking at the Earth from God's
perspective and and actually from the
space station is not God's perspective
God's perspective is what we're gonna
see here in Revelation chapter 22 and
what we saw last week in Revelation 21
so as we look through these two final
chapters we get God's perspective and we
don't have to be out of a space station
to get God's perspective also I think
the deception that you know he's looking
at earth and he sees just how peaceful
it is this is going 36,000 kilometers an

hour he said ten kilometers a second
36,000 kilometers per hour it's it's
hurtling through the through the
universe through the Atmos through the
solar system and to him it's just so
peaceful well it's not it's completely
chaotic the universe is at peace but the
earth is in chaos and then we meet God's
perspective to see how peace will
eventually come to the earth and in fact
God himself is going to come through the
earth and I think was quite humble of
one of the astronauts there to say you
know while the more we know the more we
realize how little we know and that is
so true that what's going on here on
earth we through the scriptures we have
a glimpse as to what God is doing but
mankind in general has no idea and it's
funny in you know he's talking to the
Pope Pope Francis when it was you know
the the Catholic Church that persecuted
Galileo and persecuted Copernicus as
they started to study the solar system
and realize that the earth is not in the
center of the solar system and it's
certainly not in the center of the
universe and yet we know the earth has
this central role and and Moses said
that from the
in the beginning God created the heaven
and the earth indicating to us that
there's something very central about the
role of the earth and we get to
understand it now understanding God's
perspective as we look through the
scripture so here John sees a complete
reconfiguration of the universe it's a
new heaven and a new earth and the earth
will be the center of the universe it's
not now but the intention is that it
will be the center of the universe and
God Himself will be here on this planet
he says the first heaven in the first

earth had passed away so that was chapter 21 which we did last week we'll come now to chapter 22 verse 1 he showed me a pure river of water of life so there was there was life in this water this pure river of water of life clear as crystal proceeding out of the throne of God and of the lamb in the midst of the street of it and on either side of the river was there the Tree of Life so low on both sides and it sounds like there are actually multiple trees lots of trees on both sides of the river which bare twelve manner of fruits and yielded her fruit every month so this this tree of life was just very fruitful and every month it had different fruit and the leaves of the tree were the healing of the nation's so not only did this tree give life it also brought healing now let's compare that to the beginning of the Bible when we go to Genesis what we see here is out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food The Tree of Life also in the midst of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil so here we have these two trees or multiple trees but the two trees that are in focus are the Tree of Life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil when we come to the end of the we will see when we get to Revelation 20 but Satan the deceiver is gonna be released it's necessary for him to be released but once his work is over he's destroyed he's removed and now the Tree of Life is all that's here in the garden there is no more this tree of deception no more this tree of the knowledge of good and evil so it has it's all done now whoever wants to choose and eat from that tree has done that and those of us

who want to choose and eat through the Tree of Life we've done that and so now all that remains are those who want to be true those who want to be faithful and those who want to eat from the tree of life now notice also that in the Garden of Eden with Adam not only was there the tree of life but in verse 10 we also see this river of life and a river went out of Eden to water the garden so in the same way we see in Revelation there's a river feeding the garden or supporting the Tree of Life here in the original Garden of Eden I shouldn't say original because there was one before that's in heaven but here in the Garden of Eden in for Adam there is this water of life feeding the Tree of Life and from there it was pardoned became and we came in two foreheads now notice in verse 16 of chapter two in Genesis the Lord God commanded the man saying of every tree of the garden you may freely eat so again as we look at revelation 22 and the tree of life is there and and for those of us that are there we will freely eat from this tree of life this has always been God's intention to bless mankind with his bounty freely generously here he told Adam the one tree he must not eat from is this tree of the knowledge of good and evil and and all of us have to make this choice that we will we will obey God and we will we will shun evil we will not eat from the tree of evil now notice now he he could freely eat from the tree of life until he chose from the tree of deception and the Lord God said Behold the man is become as one of us to know good and evil and now lest he forth his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat and live forever and so now these Caribbean were put to

guard the entrance to the Garden of Eden and by all means by any means necessary ensure that Adam did not eat from the tree of life after he had defied God and eaten from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil so this tree of life truly is the source of eternal life and God wants us to eat from this freely he wanted Adam to eat from it freely he wanted to fellowship with Adam forever but Adam chose to defy God and therefore he had no more access to this tree of life but now we fast forward to go through all the pain sorrow and heartache and tears we come to the end and mankind is now eating freely from the tree of life mankind is living forever eternally with God on earth as it was intended from the very beginning and now notice Ezekiel also saw this tree of life that in the vision that he had he could also see this river and the tree of life that was available to man in Ezekiel 47 verse 12

Ezekiel writes and by the river upon the bank thereof on this side and on this side shall grow all trees from meat so he's seen this Garden of Eden image that John now sees and that we're now reading Ezekiel saw it as well on this side and on that shall grow all trees for meat whose leaf shall not fade neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed it shall bring forth new fruit according to its month so every month as John saw every month it's bringing forth different fruit and the fruit is the source of eternal life because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary and the fruit thereof shall be from meat and the leaf thereof for medicine so John said that yea this tree it has fruit every month but it's also the healing of the nation's

and Ezekiel saying the same
I saw this river I saw the trees of Tree
of Life on both sides of the river it
had different fruit every month and it
had healing it was medicine the leaf
thereof was for medicine go back to
John's vision in revelation 22 and there
shall be no more curse but the throne of
God and of the lamb shall be in it and
his servants shall serve Him and notice
this and they shall see his face and his
name shall be in their foreheads so
we're going to Mary Christ's amis we're
gonna carry his name but notice his name
shall be in our foreheads now this is
just as we saw last week there was the
beautiful bride prepared for her husband
but there was also and in the same
language the angel he was come and see
and I'll show you the bride he also used
that same language come and see and i'll
show you the harlot that sits that rides
the beast and so there's this contrast
between the faithful bride and the
harlot while here he says that his name
will be in our foreheads but notice in
Revelation 13 and we'll get to
Revelation 13 as we go through the book
methodically and sequentially but here
he says he causes all this is the beast
both small and great rich and poor free
and bond to receive a mark in their
right hand or in their forehead so when
Satan says I will be like the Most High
he really is counterfeiting as much as
he knows of what God is doing in God's
plan and he wants to control man and in
our will our will is really in our
forehead you know this is this is really
the seat of where we we focus how we
formulate the prefrontal cortex this is
where we formulate our will this is
where we decide what we're going to do
and to have God's name written here is

to say we are in full compliance with
God's God's will is our will we have we
have chosen his will of our free will we
have chosen to do his will whereas if
for those who accept the mark of the
beast in their forehead
and in their right hand what they're
saying is they have formulated their
will to be in conformance or in
compliance with the satan and and the
works of their hands will be in
compliance with the devil so this this
issue around the the name that's written
in our forehead really demonstrates who
we are serving and who we have set our
will to serve and to do the work of now
it said here in revelation 22 verse 4
that they shall see his face
now Adam and Eve they saw God's face
they they were there in the garden and
they talked with God face to face and
they heard the voice of the Lord God
walking in the garden in the cool of the
day so the fact that God is on earth
this is not new this sort of Greco plate
platonian concept of God being this sort
of nebulous being who's who's just in
the heavens and and has nothing to do
with material the material world
complete nonsense
complete nonsense God has everything to
do with the material world so much so
that he was on earth he created the
earth he formed man out of the dust of
the earth that means he was here and he
formulated man with his own hands and he
landscaped the Garden of Eden with his
own hands and and here he talked with
Adam and Eve face to face but after they
saw Adam and he and his wife hid
themselves from the presence of the Lord
God amongst the trees of the garden now
as a result of that we see here in
Exodus 33 he said you cannot see my face

for this Sean no man see me and live so
prior to to sin man could actually
engage with God face to face when when
sin is all over when it's all complete
and destroyed we will again engage with
God face to face but as a result of out
of sin man cannot live and see God but
notice the prophecy in Psalm 17
fifteen where King David said as for me
I will behold your face in righteousness
so David understood that he will see God
I will behold your face in righteousness
I shall be satisfied when I awake with
your likeness Wow
these prophets these these ancient
prophets they understood and David
understood as Joel understood as as
zekiel as Isaiah Zachariah as Micah Amos
all of these men understood the plan of
God and the plan of God for Israel and
ultimately all mankind but here David is
saying I'm gonna I'm gonna awake I'm
gonna be resurrected and I'm gonna be in
your likeness so man was created in
God's image but we're also going to be
in his likeness and when we are we're
going to see him face to face and we're
going to be like him and that's what
David is saying back to John's vision
nan adds there will be no night so right
now we have that that you know when when
God created the heavens and the earth
and it says that the evening and the
morning were the first day so so every
day we plunge into darkness and then the
light eliminates the darkness and that
itself is a prophecy that mankind will
be plunged into darkness but the light
will come and replace that darkness
eliminate that darkness and here it is
this is the elimination of the darkness
now when God comes they'll no longer be
night and they need no candle
so all these lights that we have to turn

things off so we can see there's gonna be no night we'll have no need for lights neither light of the Sun even the light of the Sun we will not need and we know just how dependent we are upon the Sun so we really highly depend on the light of the Sun the heat of the Sun it really the whole ecosystem depends upon the Sun or our planet you know when they were looking at the Earth's atmosphere from space they just saw how fragile life is on earth and and it's just so dependent has to be the perfect distance from the Sun to get the heat and the nutrition that the of the photosynthesis from the Sun is not necessary anymore that's all gone that's that's the old that's the old configuration of the planet in the universe neither light of the Sun for the Lord God will give them light and they shall reign forever and ever so we had as our theme at the festival of Tabernacles this year a celebration of kings and priests and we often think about this notion of being a king and being a priest we think about this in in terms of the Feast of Tabernacles the Millennium that we're gonna reign with Christ for a thousand years but the scripture is telling us here that it's not just a thousand years that the idea was that we when God created Adam he created him as a king and he created him to have eternal life therefore he was created to reign as a king with his wife Eve forever and unfortunately that whole thing went sideways and he failed and the second Adam has come to rescue the woman and to give us eternal life but our kingship what it is that we were celebrating at the feast this year this focus on being kings and priests it is not just a

temporary state it is something that God wants us to have forever we're going to reign with him forever there so he says here the Lord God will give us light and we shall reign for ever and ever so that there's a great design a great plan that God has that's going to emanate from the earth the earth is gonna be central in this new world this new universe and it's all go it's all going to be focused and headquartered here on earth and we will reign with him forever and ever now this vision that John has of no need no need for any kind of light because God will give us light as I uh saw this listen to what Isaiah says the son speaking to Israel the son shall be no more your light by day neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto you but the Lord shall be unto you an everlasting light and your God your glory this is you know all these prophets who pronounce great judgment on Israel they come back immediately and and they foresee this time in Israel's future when they're going to be the glory of God your son shall no more go down neither shall your moon withdraw itself for the Lord shall be your everlasting light and the days of your mourning shall be ended as I said there's always these prophecies of condemnation on Israel but immediately following these prophecies of condemnation we have these prophecies of great glory for Israel so we have to understand this plan and that's what again when we gather at the Feast of Tabernacles and we we look at the holy day plan of God we get to understand what God is doing that there's a beginning and that there's an end and at the end of this whole process is actually the beginning of something

brand-new something that God had in mind from the very beginning so here this is what what Isaiah saw Zechariah same thing but it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord not day nor night but it shall come to pass that at evening time it shall be light so all these prophets could see this in John a lot of people think Revelation is just sort of this brand-new vision this apocalyptic vision that John had and it's not rooted in anything it is absolutely rooted in the previous prophecies it is absolutely rooted in the story the narrative of Israel and so we cannot understand this book if we don't understand the previous prophets because it's the same God that has been informing all these prophets all the way along and now what John is doing is just sort of seeing in in chronological order how everything that all these prophets have spoken all comes together back to his vision in verse six and he said to me these sayings are faithful and true as let's just let's just if you repeat that these sayings are faithful and true God is faithful and true these sayings are faithful and true so this is not some sort of made-up fanciful wishful thinking this is the will of God these sayings are faithful and true and the Lord God of the Holy Prophets sent his angel to show his servants the things which must be shortly does shortly be done so again this is not new this is the same God of all the holy prophets and now he's missed this same God is sending this message to John by his angels so that we his servants can understand the things which must be shortly done in this language shortly done

I've surely be done it's like these things which are necessary these things which are necessary to be come to unfold so that we can understand the things that are necessary to unfold to come into being and that's what we're understanding with this these final two chapters of Revelation the things that must come into being and that language is the exact same language here at the end of the book that we saw at the beginning of the book the revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave him to show unto his servants the things which must shortly come to pass the things that are necessary to come into being and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John and I did make a big point there that this message is signified it is wrapped up in symbols and we have to be careful as we go through the book to to make sure that we understand that most of it is symbolic some of it is literal well most of it is symbolic and where people get into trouble is they try to read everything literally and and much of it is symbolic but it's from the very beginning the whole point is to give to his servants this information so that we can know ahead of time these things that are necessary to unfold back to Revelation 20 to behold I come quickly blessed is he that keeps the sayings of the Book of the prophecy of this book so we who are you know there's a blessing that we read at the very beginning that we are blessed if we read this book so the one who reads it so I'm claiming a blessing by reading this book and the one who hears it now you claim a blessing by hearing it but it's not just the reading and hearing it's the doing so we're reading and hearing so that we can focus

on what is it that we must do what what
are the instructions that we must follow
that's where the blessing is so he says
he's coming quickly blessed is he that
keeps the sayings of the prophecy of
this book and I John saw these things
and heard them so at the beginning he
was told to write the things which he
has seen and to write the things which
he has heard and now he's telling us
these are the things that I saw and
these are the things that I heard and
these are the things that I've written
down and when I had heard and seen I
fell down to worship before the feet of
the angel which showed me these things
these things were just so profound you
know though common vernacular we might
say this blue John's mind you know this
blue his mind and so he was so
overwhelmed by the things that he was
privy to see and to hear that he just
fell down to worship this this being
that had this knowledge that shared this
knowledge with him so you fell down to
worship this being and then the angel
said to me see that you don't do this
for I'm your fellow servant and I'm the
fellow servant of your brethren the
prophets and of them which keep the
sayings of this book so that would be us
as well and all the Saints through time
who have read this book and have been
faithful to its instructions as well as
the prophets so he's just saying look
I'm just a servant like you
instead worship God now notice this is
very important that the instruction is
to worship God don't fall down on your
ear to worship me
you make sure you worship God and that's
exactly what happened earlier we'll see
this when we get to Revelation 19 he
said unto me write blessed are they

which are called unto the marriage
supper of the lamb and he said to me
these sayings these are the true sayings
of God and I fell at his feet to worship
him and he said to me see you do it not
I am your fellow servant and of your
brethren that have the testimony of
Jesus worship God
worship God worship God for the
testimony of Jesus is the spirit of
prophecy same thing happened when Peter
as an apostle of God met Cornelius and
as Peter was coming in Cornelius met him
and fell down at his feet and worshiped
him he was just so overwhelmed by this
knowledge that Peter had to share with
him that he wanted to worship Peter but
Peter took him up saying stand up don't
do that
see that you do it not I myself also I'm
a man now compare and contrast compare
and contrast the angel and Peter and
others who are really particular to say
do not break God's commandments and do
not worship Me and angel do not worship
me a man now compare and contrast when
Christ came into the earth and when they
were coming to the house they saw the
young child with Mary his mother and
fell down and worshiped him they knew
exactly who he was and they fell down
and they worshiped him as a baby they
acknowledge that this is the creator
this is the God of the universe who has
come to visit man on earth as as the
earth decentraland man is central to his
whole design and so they understood the
Messiah that is coming and here he is
and so they fell down and worshiped him
and nobody forbade them and when they
had opened their treasures
presented unto him this great king gifts
gold frankincense and myrrh at the end
of his life and Thomas answered and said

unto Him this is after his resurrection
my lord and my god and Christ didn't say
see that you do it not don't you know
just worship God don't do he accepted
worship he accepted being called curious
the God of the Old Testament he accepted
being called Thomas's God back to 22 and
he said to me seal not the sayings of
the prophecy of this book so the whole
point is these prophecies must be known
they must be known by God's servants not
so that we have head knowledge and we
can run around and say we know things
and all this is what this means when you
see the sign in the sky like this it
means this and we can just have a nice
good ego trip
these prophecies must be known because
there are things that we must do there
are instructions that are in this
prophecy that we have to know oh this is
happening therefore we have to do this
God wants his will done in the earth and
that's what we pray that God's will be
done in the earth as it is in heaven
and so we need to understand what that
will is so that we can do it so he says
do not seal the sayings of the prophecy
of this book for the time is at hand
this is it that my servants must know
what's what's going to happen now
contrast that or compare that with
Daniel when he received revelation in
the vision of the evening in the morning
which was told is true therefore shut
you up the vision for it shall be from
many days it's a long way off Daniel and
and nobody needs to understand what I've
given you to understand seal it up it's
a long way off and here in chapter 12
verse 4 but you 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 and so

there's known with this knowledge of of
Revelation
and and eschatology the end time that
Daniel was given it wasn't necessary for
anybody else to know and so he was told
to seal it up until the end and now John
has given this revelation very very
similar knowledge to what Daniel
in fact even more comprehensive
knowledge than what was given to Daniel
and he's told do not seal it because the
time is at hand
so make sure that it's clear to God's
servants and here again in verse nine of
chopped well Vande he said go your way
Daniel for the words are closed up and
sealed until the time at the end and so
I think all of us are pretty clear this
is the time at the end we don't know
exactly how long we know that when God
says the time is short that is from
God's perspective the perspective of
eternity and what he's doing now and
everything is in place so so there's
just these final few things that have to
happen so the time is short but from a
human perspective you know a year in
fact 10 seconds can feel like forever if
you're in pain so from the human
perspective a year 10 years 30 years
this can seem like a long time to God
this is nothing and so we have to be
understanding by the time is at hand
these things are going to happen very
quickly but at the same time we have to
be prepared to be patient and to endure
to the end and to make sure that we
understand all these things that have to
happen and in other words it's gonna get
bad then it's gonna get really bad and
then it's gonna get even worse before it
gets better and for people who don't
understand these things they're gonna
run out of patience it's gonna get bad

they're gonna panic it's gonna get really bad they're gonna freak out a lot of them are gonna just give up but when it's getting really bad we're looking at the prophecies and we're saying yeah check in our prophecy watch and saying oh that's right on time yeah we were expecting that okay we're just expecting two or three more things all here they come now and no matter how bad it gets here we are solid as a rock solid as a rock and faithful to the end so this is what this is the mindset that we have to have

so in all of this now he says he that is unjust let him be unjust still so so you know the scripture says wicked men and evil men are going to wax worse and worse and they're going to be deceived that this deceiving others and just deceiving themselves so they themselves are deceived and they're deceiving others and they're just gonna get worse and worse and it's like Christ says by their fruit you shall know them and yet they're going to be involved in all of this evil murder sexual immorality deception every evil thing blasphemy every evil thing and they're going to be justifying it they're going to be saying this this is the right way to be in fact they're gonna be arguing as well many are gonna be arguing you know I was born this way that this is God's fault God made me this way well you know what the scripture says he that is unjust let him be unjust still and he which is filthy let him be filthy still so that's up to us huh whether we want to stay in the state that were in or whether we know that God is coming and we need to purify ourselves we need to purify ourselves to prepare to meet God this is what God wants from us so so we're gonna be

surrounded by wicked men waxing worse
and worse and we have to be in this
category and he that is righteous let
him be righteous still and he that is
holy let him be holy still so you know
you just have this impression that God
is saying you know it is what it is it
is what it is and here's the tree of
life and here's the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil and people of
a desire for the fruit let them have
what they want
so those who want life eternal life with
me let them have that and let them
continue in that way
and those who want to be wicked oh well
even so amen oh well oh well
and now this sort of resignation to say
well it is what it is again Ezekiel saw
this but when I spoke will speak with
you I will open your mouth and you shall
say unto them thus says the Lord God he
that hears let him hear so he that is
righteous let him be righteous still and
he that forbears
oh well let him forbear for they are a
rebellious house so this is the house of
Israel and God is driving them to
repentance and some are gonna hear and
some are gonna repent that's wonderful
that's what we want but others are just
gonna harden oh well oh well and here
again in Daniel we see Daniel saying the
same thing many shall be purified and
made white and tried but the wicked will
do wickedly and none of the wicked will
understand but the wise will understand
so we're going into this time in the
future where we're gonna see this very
clear separation that as wicked and
perverse as this society is as wicked
and perverse as this society is becoming
this is Sodom and Gomorrah on steroids
that in the midst of all of this there's

going to be a people prepared to meet
their God there's going to be a people
who have wisdom there's going to be a
people striving for purity and and the
wicked are not that then we're gonna
have no clue and when Christ returns and
and this army of saints is ready to meet
him from the graves but also there's
gonna be some of us are gonna live over
there gonna be stunned like how did this
happen where did this come from well
it's happening now and we need to make
sure we're in the right camp and we we
are very clear about what God is doing
back to revelation 22 with John's vision
Christ says and behold I come quickly
so from God's perspective this is all
gonna happen very quickly from our
perspective it seems we're gonna be
saying my lord delays his coming is like
while he's not coming yet is our
patience is going to be tested but from
God's perspective this is right around
the corner

behold I come quickly
and notice this my reward is with me to
give every man according as his work
shall be so this is very important to
God that that we have works that we are
purifying ourselves and we have works
and he's going to give to everyone
according as our work shall be I wanna
spend a bit of time to show how
important this is to God that we have
works and that we're supporting people
who are doing the work of God that he's
evaluating not only our character but
also our works so he's going to give to
every man he as a reward he's gonna give
to every man according as his work shall
be in Jeremiah he says this I the LORD
search the heart I try the reins even
to give every man according to his ways
and according to the fruit of his doings

this is the God of the Bible we don't earn salvation salvation is a free gift of God but there is a reward when we cross through so we cross the finish line that's by God's grace but there is a reward for the work that we've done while we were in the race and this is very very clear so he says it in Revelation at the end of the book he says it here through Jeremiah notice here in Romans who will render to every man to every man according to his deeds so our works matter notice in 1st Peter 1 and if you call on the father who without respect of persons judging judges according to every man's work so if you do that if we call on the father who we know is going to judge according to every man's work past the time of your sojourning here in fear get busy act like you really believe you're going to see God face-to-face and he's going to evaluate us for our works we should be productive Christians here in psalms david says also unto you O Lord belongs mercy for you render to every man according to his work are we getting the point do we see how important this is to God that we have work behold in Isaiah the Lord God will come with strong hand and his arm shall rule for him behold his reward is with him so yes salvation is a free gift but there's a reward and his work before him and so the work yeah you know if we put two and two together the reward according to our works it appears is going to be more work that at the end of time when all of this is over students at the end of time but at the end of this age when all of this is over and there's a new heavens and a new earth and we have God's name in our

forehead and we are now married to Christ the reward is more work because you did this work now you can do this work because you were faithful in this office now you can have this office so that there's a great work in front of God and how we work now is going to influence how God chooses the work that we will do with him going forward again in Isaiah he says in 62 11 behold the Lord has proclaimed unto the end of the world say you to the daughter of Zion behold your salvation comes behold his reward is with him and his work before him so again Isaiah says it again your salvation is coming but a reward is coming and there's a great work in front of God and that's very tightly connected to this reward we come back to Revelation in chapter 2 when we read the epistles to the to the churches God saying here that he will kill her children with death and all the churches every congregation will know that I am he as if we saw in Jeremiah that searches the reins and hearts and I will give unto every one of you according to your works so there is no denying hope it is impossible now for us to say works don't matter we can just sort of sit back and as long as we declare Christ we have nothing to do Christ has done it all for us and we're just gonna you know go to heaven and float around we need to be productive developing spiritual muscle through work and as we work and bear fruit God is going to give us the opportunity to do more work and bear more fruit and so our works are being evaluated and our works are going to be deeply scrutinized and then that's going to determine where God places us in this future configuration back to revelation 22 I am Alpha and

Omega the beginning and the end the first and the last and we understand this through the annual holy days so ever you know this evening and morning or the first day these moons rather than the Sun so the Sun gives us the days the moon gives us the months and we're able to use this this calculator this calendar in the sky to figure out these these divine appointments and from Passover straight through to the last great day all of these divine appointments if you don't understand what I'm talking about please go to CGI org in the search bar just type God's holy days and take advantage of the resources that are there that there for free and understand these holy days that God does not change and they are right through from the beginning the in Genesis we see them in in Genesis 1 they are do God shares with us that leave them with Sun and the moon are putting this in the sky as a calendar so that we can know that the assigned appointments the divine appointments with God and they come right through to the end until God Himself comes to earth and then there's no more Sun no more moon no more need for this unfolding of God's plan because now we've come to the end God's plan is complete we have no longer any need for the Sun to give us these divine appointments now God is here and so he's the Alpha and Omega the beginning in the end the first and the last and notice this is Jesus Christ speaking blessed are they that do His commandments now when we hear that yesterday they that do His commandments generally speaking were thinking of the ten commandments but I think we really have missed the point if we just think of the Ten Commandments

remember these this whole apocalypse is being revealed to us so that we can do the things that were commanded to do in the apocalypse so his commandments go beyond just the Ten Commandments his Commandments are any instructions that he gives us in his word so we have to search the word to see what is it what is God's will what is it that God wants us to do so if we do His commandments we will have right to the Tree of Life and we may enter in through the gates into the city in other words if we don't do his commandments we will not have access to the Tree of Life the same way Adam chose to not do what he was commanded to do which was the freely from all the trees but not to eat from the tree of good and evil he defied God he defied the commandment and he broke the commandment well we need to understand what is God's will for us and so here in Matthew 7 we can see and remember that we can remember that that Christ said not everyone who says to me Lord Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven so notice this blessed are they that do His commandments that they may have right to the Tree of Life that they may enter in through the gates of the city not everyone who says to me Lord Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven but he that does the will of my father in heaven so it's not just the Ten Commandments we don't just sit back and say well I'm doing the Ten Commandments all I've got to do we must do God's will we must understand what God's will is and that's what we're gonna be doing is we're going through this book we're gonna be highlighting the will of God what is it that God wants us to do and we're going to do that and here you know if you look at Paul's letter to the

Thessalonians he says but as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel even so we speak not as pleasing men but God which tries our hearts so God searches the hearts he searches the reigns in the hearts and he wants us to do his will and his will is that we preach the gospel his will is that we make known this this good news of the coming kingdom despite the opposition when we look at the Apostle Paul we see the tremendous amount of opposition that he and all the all the apostles had and God said you will be my martyrs you will be my witnesses my faithful witnesses and here he says to the Corinthians for though I preach the gospel I have nothing to glory of that they I'm preaching the gospel but I can't be proud for a necessity is laid upon me this is a commandment that he must preach the gospel it's necessary to preach the gospel yes woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel so he could sit back and say well you know I'm keeping the commandments all is good I'm fine I'm good no I'm not good of necessity is laid upon me and and and people the Jews at this time they hated the gospel they hated it with with a murderous passion and Paul looked them in the eye and he preached the gospel and so this is how we have to be that necessity is upon us to preach this good news continuing the the revelation for without are dogs and sorcerers and whoremongers and murderers and idolaters and whosoever loves and makes a lie he that is filthy let him be filthy still he who is unjust let him be unjust still so unfortunately there are human beings that are just been so corrupted and are in so in

league with the devil
they cannot separate themselves from
these things and so none of these people
can come into the gates and come into
the New Jerusalem and be married to
Christ none of them I Jesus have sent my
angel to testify unto you these things
in the congregation's so every
congregation must hear these things I am
the root and the offspring of David and
the bright and morning stars he wants us
to know that he is fulfilling these
prophecies about the offspring of David
and Isaiah for example there shall come
forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse and
a branch shall grow out of his roots and
in that day there shall be a root of
Jesse which shall stand for an ensign of
the people to it shall the Gentiles seek
and his rest shall be glorious so the
whole world Jew and Gentile shall come
to this seed of David continuing in
revelation 22 verse 17 and the spirit
and the bride say come so outside are
dogs and sorcerers and murderers and
whoremongers and everybody that makes
and loves a lie but the spirit and the
bride say to us come come inside come
and let him that hears say come and let
him that is athirst come so we're here
reading these prophecies so that we can
respond to this call come come
leave all that filth come leave the
filth behind come purify yourself get
ready for God he's coming to earth come
come and let him that is athirst come so
if we're thirsty and hungry and thirsty
for this righteousness come and
whosoever will let him take of the water
of life freely this is the same thing
that God said to Adam of all these trees
you may freely eat including the tree of
life it's all yours freely just do not
eat

the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and so here we are now just like Adam God is saying come freely have this Tree of Life and we have access to the holy spirit and he's saying do not eat from the tree of deception and that's up to us now

are we gonna be like the first Adam or are we gonna be like the second Adam for I testify unto every man that hears the words of the prophecy of this book so again where there's a blessing for us to hear this prophecy to read it and to hear it but now there's a warning and I prophesy to every man that hears the words of the prophecy of this book If any man shall add unto these things God shall add unto Him the plagues that are written in this book that is serious so we have to faithfully read this book and not alter it in any way we can add to it we can't subtract to it if we add to it God shall add unto us the plagues so it's really important to God that this book be transmitted faithfully If any man add unto these things God shall add unto Him the plagues that are written in this book this is just similar to Deuteronomy when when the instruction was given to Israel you shall not add unto the word which I command you neither shall you diminish aught from it so God takes his words seriously that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you so they weren't to add to it they weren't to take away from it so that they could follow the instructions and that's what John is saying here at the end that the the reason we mustn't add or subtract from this book of Revelation this apocalypsis is so that we can do the instructions that are inside it and when we do the

instructions we do the will of God this is when we are blessed we're not just blessed listening to it we're blessed by doing the things that are written in it again in Deuteronomy says whatsoever thing I command you observe to do it he shall not add thereto nor diminish from it going on in Deuteronomy and it come to pass when he hears the words of this curse that he bless himself in his heart saying I shall have peace so he hears the words of the curse and he just how this says that's okay I mean to follow that I shall have peace though I walk in the imagination of my heart to add drunkenness to thirst the Lord will not spare him but then the anger of the Lord and his jealousy shall smoke against that man and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him and the Lord shall blot out his name from under heaven so here we are facing the exact same instruction as original Israel with the original law and it's the very same thing here in verse 19 If any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy God shall take away his part out of the book of life and out of the holy city and from the things which are written in this book

so it means brethren that we can be written in the book and we can have a part in the holy city but if we mess around with the Word of God and if we mess around with the instructions in the Word of God then you know it's a very simple addition and subtraction if we add to it God will add plagues if we take away God will take us blot us out of the book of life and take us out of the holy city and from the things which are written in this book he says he that testifies says surely I come quickly so

there's not a lot of time here and then
certainly we've none of us know when we
will die so so we just have to work and
be very serious realizing God is coming
and we're gonna see him face to face
surely I come quickly amen
even so come Lord Jesus so time is
running out some people are gonna get
caught not in the right place even so
come Lord Jesus that that peacefulness
that the astronauts thought they were
seeing from from
Evans but when you get closer to the
earth it's pure chaos
well that chaos ends when Jesus comes so
even so come Lord Jesus the grace of our
Lord Jesus Christ be with you all amen
and so I just want to just conclude here
by saying as we look at Revelation the
end of the story we see it's a perfect
bookend to Genesis from Genesis to
Revelation the Bible is telling one
story and we see in Genesis how at the
beginning Satan appears at the end he's
removed the first Adam has established
its ruler of the earth the second Adam
is established as ruler in the earth
night darkness and see our creative
night darkness and see our removed the
tree of knowledge is introduced here the
tree of the knowledge of good and evil
is now removed the river and the Tree of
Life are in the Garden of Eden here we
have this river of life in this tree of
life again in the Garden of Eden world
where everything is being restored to
the original intent that God had
fellowshipping with man on the earth in
the Genesis Satan utters the first lie
in Revelation all Liars and everything
false is removed here Genesis begins
with a wedding
revelation ends with a wedding so we see
this perfect book ending of the Bible

with the book of Revelation and Genesis now as we conclude here it's really important for us to understand just how valuable human life is to God as when we go back when I start going through the the seals and as the seals are unfolded you know when we meet next Thursday as the seals are unfolded there's gonna be a lot of loss of human life even today we're seeing human life has no value to man but to God human life is precious and God intends to dwell with man on the earth forever and so I just want to end in Romans that we as we conclude and look what Roman says the spirit itself bears witness and these are images you're seeing here from the telescope as it now has these this understanding of just how big the universe is I think that the estimate is that our galaxy is one of our hundred billion galaxies and each galaxy has a hundred billion stars in it this is a big big universe and so the spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God and if children then heirs heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ if so be that we suffer with him that we may be also glorified together for I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us for the earnest expectation of the creation ways for the manifestation of the sons of God for the creature was not made subject to vanity whether the creature was the creation was made subject to vanity not willingly but by reason of him who subjected the same in hope so the whole creation it's just waiting there it's it's not it's not doing anything it's subject to vanity not willingly but by reason of him who has subjected the same

in Hopi he has an intention for it
because the creation itself also shall
be delivered from the bondage of
corruption so those those astronauts
that are out there and they're looking
at the earth nests and the whole thing
is so peaceful but nothing's happening
it's it's it's just there it's just vain
and they don't understand but we have
God's perspective and God's perspective
is that all of this has been subject to
vanity not willingly and even you know
the earth with all its chaos is vanity
not willingly but by reason of him
who has subjected the same in hope
because the creation itself also shall
be delivered from the bondage of
corruption into the glorious liberty of
the children of God behold the Lord is
coming and his reward is with him and
his work is before him and this whole
creation is waiting for this new work
and and and the message to us is come
come come come into the New Jerusalem
and from the New Jerusalem the whole
creation will be glorified because the
creation itself also shall be delivered
from the bondage of the corruption into
the glorious liberty of the children of
God for we know that the whole creation
groans and travails in pain together
until now and not only they not only
this whole creation but ourselves also
which have the firstfruits of the Spirit
so no one else understands no one else
is groaning but we're groaning because
we understand we're groaning because we
understand so we with the firstfruits of
the Spirit you know we're looking at the
creation and it's groaning we're growing
because the those of us who have the
Holy Spirit weak we have an
understanding that this is all coming to
an end this is not the way it was

intended to be we which have the
firstfruits of the Spirit even we
ourselves groan within ourselves waiting
for the adoption to wit the redemption
of our body for we are saved by hope and
this is so important brethren as we read
the book of Revelation together we must
be filled with hope and not
discouragement we mustn't read the book
of Revelation become discouraged we must
read it and be filled with hope that all
of this is coming to an end and a new
creation is coming and the whole
creation is going to be Liberty
liberated from this vanity that's being
subjected to for we are saved by hope
but hope that is seen is not
hope for what a man sees why does he yet
hope for but if we hope for that we see
not then we do with patience wait for it
we with patience are going to wait for
it God says behold I come quickly but in
another place the servants are saying my
lord delays is coming so we have to put
these two things together and realize
that this from God's perspective it's
all happening very very quickly from the
human perspective it seems like wow you
know how much longer well it's gonna get
bad then it's gonna get really bad and
then it's gonna get worse and then the
Lord will appear so let's make sure we
understand the prophecies we understand
the sequence of events we are going to
begin next Thursday Thursday evening
we're gonna begin unfolding or reading
the unfolding of these seals so that we
can understand the will of God what's
going to happen and here we're gonna end
in proverbs 11 and verse 30 where the
scripture says the fruit of the
righteous is a tree of life go Christ
says by their fruits you shall know them
so we who are righteous we who have the

holy spirit we who are seeking to do the will of God our fruit is a tree of life and so this Gospel message this good news message that we are preaching it is a tree of life that the way we lead our lives the way we live our lives the examples that we set it's a tree of life and he that wins Souls is wise so despite all of the things that we're going to be reading about together we're gonna be committed to preaching the gospel and we're going to win souls even at the risk of our own lives and our own injuries but as we saw with the early apostles they won souls and that is our job and he that does the will of God we are the children of God it's not that we say Lord Lord and we don't do the will of God the will of God is to win so if we're wise we'll win so Lassalle thank you so much for being with me this evening again I apologize for the schedule over the next couple of weeks we'll be bouncing around a little bit but then we'll get back God willing to our regular Wednesday night Bible study so tonight it was Sunday next week is going to be Thursday evening at 7:30 Eastern 6:30 central god bless Jesus Christ what a god what a dog we serve let's praise Him let's worship Him and let's do his will God bless