

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. In your estimation what will be the greatest gift in eternity?
2. What are the seven “no mores”?
3. Do you desire the Lord to come quickly? If so, explain. If not, why not? –or do you have mixed feelings about it?
4. What does it mean to add to the Word?
5. What does it mean to subtract from the Word?
6. Why is it important that we neither add nor subtract from the things written in the Word of God?

SUMMARY:

The older we become, the more precious are the promises of God for they seem to have more meaning to us. Perhaps this is due in part to the fact that the exuberance of youth is past and we become more reliant upon the promises of God and long for Him to take us to our reward.

However, the promises in this last chapter of the Bible should have much meaning for those who are yet outside of the fold of Jesus Christ because it contains a special plea to “come” and to “take of the water of life freely.” How can anyone try to vindicate themselves for their refusal to partake when such an urgent plea is given? If you, dear one, have not yet tasted of the water of life and have not yet eaten of the tree of life won’t you avail yourself of God’s mercy and accept the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ [\[SoF:7\]](#) so that you can share in His Eternal Kingdom?

NOTES:

[\[SoF:7\]](#) We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.

[\[SoF:10\]](#) We believe that both the saved and the lost will be resurrected; the saved unto life eternal and the lost unto eternal damnation.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #13

December 27, 2020

Fourth Quarter

FOREVER WITH CHRIST [\[SoF:10\]](#)

LESSON TEXT: *Revelation 22:1-21*

LESSON SETTING: John’s vision of paradise

TIME: Approximately 96 AD

I. GREAT GIFTS. Revelation 22:1-5

- A. River of Water of Life (vs. 1) Ezekiel 47:1; Zechariah 14:8
- B. Tree of Life (vs. 2) Genesis 2:9; Proverbs 11:30; Ezekiel 47:12
- C. King of Glory (vs. 3) Exodus 15:18; 1 Timothy 1:17
- D. God’s Seal (vs. 4) Ezekiel 9:4; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Revelation 9:4

II. A GREAT PROMISE. Revelation 22:6-12

- A. Behold, I Come Quickly (vs. 7, 12) Matthew 24:44; Luke 21:27; 1 Corinthians 4:5
- B. Reward According to Works (vs. 12) Matthew 16:27; 2 Corinthians 5:10, 9:6

III. A GREAT INVITATION. Revelation 22:13-21

- A. Be Obedient (vs. 14) Exodus 19:5; Matthew 7:21
- B. Come (vs. 17) Isaiah 1:18; 55:1; Matthew 11:28
- C. Whosoever Will (vs. 17) John 4:14, 7:37-38
- D. **Surely**, I Come Quickly (vs. 20) 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 10:37; James 5:8

GOLDEN TEXT: *BEHOLD, I COME QUICKLY: AND MY REWARD IS WITH ME, TO GIVE EVERY MAN ACCORDING AS HIS WORK SHALL BE.* Revelation 22:12

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Genesis 1:1-31; Colossians 1:15-17

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 40:12-31

QUARTERLY THEME: The Beginnings

TOPIC: GOD IN CREATION

INTRODUCTION:

In Genesis 1, we are told how God created the heaven and the earth and all that is therein. The "beginnings" is certainly plural when we try to enumerate all that He created. In the heavens we see the many varied bodies of light and we are told there are many more not visible to the eye. Just in the heaven alone so very much was created on that second day (vs. 7). In like manner, it is impossible for us to enumerate the kinds of vegetation created on the third day, from a blade of grass, to a redwood tree. The same is true of animal life. How wondrous and glorious these beginnings were...far greater than our finite minds can comprehend. True indeed are the words of Isaiah 40:28: ". . . *there is no searching of His understanding,*" and in Psalms 147:5: "*Great is our Lord, and of great power. His understanding is infinite.*" And in Romans 11:33: "*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God. How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out.*"

How did God create His creation? The Bible tells us that He spoke and it was so. He gave the Word. The Triune God was present at these beginnings as is shown by the plural pronoun used in verse 26. The Spirit was there. It is said that He moved upon the face of the waters (vs. 2). God Himself spoke the Word which John tells us in John 1:14 was made flesh namely in the Person of Christ. It is impossible for us to grasp this stupendous miracle. We can only believe that it was so. Simple faith in God's Word alone can satisfy us.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God showed His love for man by sending His Son to be the SAVIOR.

GOLDEN TEXT: *SO GOD CREATED MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE...*

Genesis 1:27

In all the wonderful creation of God on this globe and in the universe are mysteries that men are still trying to understand. But God had a plan and a purpose in all His handiwork. When He saw that all was waste, without form and in deep darkness, He felt moved to create something of form and beauty; of usefulness and order, of life and light. This world was placed in exactly the proper and perfect relationship with the sun to provide warmth to sustain life, to provide "*seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, and summer and winter; and day and night.*" (Genesis 8:22) "*And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.*" (Genesis 1:23)

And God looked upon all that He had made and saw that it was good. Everything obeyed His master plan. All God's creation praised Him by keeping His perfect law. But there was nothing created thus far with the understanding to love God the Creator, with whom He could walk and talk, in fellowship and communion. "*So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him.*" (Genesis 1:27)

So God gave man dominion over all that is on the face of the earth, with fruit of trees and plants for food, to keep and tend the animals in perfect peace, to be accountable to, and to love and obey God. "*And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good.*" (Genesis 1:31)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 28 – Jan. 3

M. *God in Creation. Genesis 1:1-31; Colossians 1:15-17

T. The Wickedness of Man. Genesis 6:5-12

W. The Conviction of Man. Psalm 51:1-9

T. The Creator of Man. John 1:1-12

F. The Justification of Man. Romans 3:10-28

S. The Carnality of Man. Romans 7:14-24

S. The Victory of Man. Romans 8:28-39

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