

Revelation_22

1] And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. **2]** In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve-manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. **3]** 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. **4]** And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. **5]** And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign forever and ever. **6]** And he said unto me: These sayings are faithful and true; and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. **7]** Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keeps the sayings of the prophecy of this book. **8]** And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which showed me these things; **9]** Then says he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow-servant, and of thy brethren, the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. **10]** And he says unto me: Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. **11]** He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he who is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. **12]** And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. **13]** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. **14]** Blessed are they that do his commandments; that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. **15]** For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loves and makes a lie. **16]** I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of

David, and the bright and morning star. **17]** And the Spirit and the bride say: Come. And let him that hears say: Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. **18]** For I testify unto 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. **19]** And 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. **20]** He who testifies these things says: Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. **21]** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

1-2] And he showed me a 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, which bare twelve-manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. In *Ezekiel 47: 1-9* is an earlier vision of a river. *Afterward he [our Lord God] brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar. 2] Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looks eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side. 3] And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles. 4] Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins. 5] Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over. 6] And he said unto me: Son of man,*

hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river. 7] Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other. 8] Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. 9] And it shall come to pass, that everything that lives, which moves, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and everything shall live whither the river cometh.

According to some biblical history students, between these two visions – Ezekiel’s and John’s - is a time period of 650 to 700 years... I have no way of proving if they are right or wrong, nor time to spend searching out. This vision has been with our Lord before the foundations of the world and He reveals it as pleases Him to whom He wills; as He did to Enoch. To understand such a great vision as Enoch’s we needed to read this entire Book to the last and also one of the shortest epistles in the Holy Scriptures. Gospel according to John tells in 7: 37-41: *In the last day, that great day of the feast, our Lord Jesus stood and cried, saying: If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, as the scripture has said, out of his inside shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spoke he [our Lord] of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said: Of a truth this is the Prophet. Others said: This is the Christ. The Stream of Living Water flows mightily through us because He is our Ransom. Along the banks of our God’s River are many trees... As salt has but one taste for all and the Light of the Truth spreads indiscriminately upon the entire humanity [John 1: 9], so the Everlasting Gospel in the life of genuine believers is fruitful sharing God’s grace with the fellow believers and reaching to the other side: the unbelievers, backsliders and wonderers. In the Heavenly Jerusalem all the*

former sinners are the new creation *born of God [John 1: 13]; born of water and of the Spirit, citizens of God's kingdom [John 3:5]*. In the City of God's glory they are restrained by no adversary to reach to one another in love and to the throne of our Father and the glorified Lamb with endless adoration of our Almighty Savior. As the Bride eagerly receiving every message and all the precious jewels from her constantly expected Bridegroom to appear in glory and take her into His everlasting embrace of eternal love and grace, so we should pray and strive for a testimony of true devotion to our Heavenly Bridegroom that we follow His guidance through joy, suffering and death. To Ezekiel was revealed the healing and the new life brought by God's River to many places. The streams of Christ's Spirit of grace and power flow through our Father's faithful children: His everlasting Gospel is lived, proclaimed and witnessed by living in peace and material prosperity and also in persecution, dungeons and martyrdom [John 7: 37-41]. Among the dead slaves of sin we, who did *hear the voice of the Son of God*, received life [John 5:25]. In Ezekiel 47: 1-9 the River grows in abundance without tributaries. In *Isaiah 9: 6-7: Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace. 7] Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. His increase of grace grows still*. In the Heavenly Jerusalem the abundance has reached the perfect measure and the beauty of our God's Holiness with the delight of everlasting adoration of the ransomed is unspeakable. We need not wait! Let us unite in our Master's Spirit and pray our Heavenly Father to open our heart and mind that we experience His delightful loving Mastership as we **deny self and carnality to adore Him as the true worshippers of the Father in His spirit and in His truth: for our Father seeks such to worship Him**. *God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must*

worship Him in Spirit and in Truth [John 4: 23-24]. Our Teacher says in Luke 11:10: Every one that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened. We must trust and obey Him; there is no other way of life. Our God's River is clear as crystal. How many religions hide their murky mix of truth and deception? Our Father's living Word is clear: pure; because the Father and the Son are One. Pure Truth without carnality and worldliness is our essential manner of our sharing the Word of God. When His River flows through our ministry, our Savior is honored. Satan deceived Adam and deprived him of the tree of life. Our Father's Ransom redeemed, recovered and multiplied His grace to us. Every genuine believer is a temple. Every faithful congregation is a pillar and ground of Truth. All sincere disciples of our Lord Jesus are indwelled by our Master's Spirit. The River flows, the River grows and the River heals. Adam lost the one tree of life. Our mighty Lamb of God replaced it with a forest of the Tree of life. Until the fall, the initial tree of life provided for the need of the first man: Adam and Eve. The forest of life satisfies desires of the entire throng of the Lamb's ransomed Flock. The fruits come fresh every month: they are never stale or withered, but full of delight. The leaves are for healing of the nations.

Not only the fruit - the fundamental teaching and commandments – but also the appearance and manners of our Tree of Life is powerful to heal all that trust and obey the Son of God. In glory the same leaves are constantly generating new & new adoration of gratitude and reverence to our Father and to our Savior. As we are growing in the knowledge of God's Son, we may not forget our appearance and manners in this world around us. We ought to express our Savior's Message as it is in our heart so to be in our appearance and manners.

3-4:] 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 they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. Curse entered into human life and the man became a dead soul through the violation of our God's order. The

Lamb of God paid the ransom to redeem us from judgment. Our souls were given new life, but our adversary continued to attack us with lies and evil desires to deprive our new life of the blessings we have when we are united in the Spirit of our Lord and Savior. In this life the closer we walk to our Master, the clearer we see His example, His face and purpose of pleasing our Heavenly Father. So we grow in His Gospel. So we enjoy more of His blessings and so we waste less and less time and effort with Satan's deception. When we live to please our God and to honor our Lord Jesus, the throne of our Heavenly Father is in our heart and we journey steadfastly toward the Heavenly Jerusalem where our God's throne is forever in the center of our loving adoration. Even in this far less than perfect environment serving our God is a blessing, joy and a heavenly experience. In our God's service our life has meaning, purpose and growing value. Our Creator has created us to experience blessed pleasure of love. In the New Jerusalem our joy in our Savior will finally be full and perfect; and His delight in us will be perfect also. We serve our God when we live and labor for the purpose He created us: to adore Him in our entire life and find in Him our greatest delight. Finally we will be enabled to see the face of our Creator and Savior in the beauty of holiness and in the splendor of majesty. All our desires and intensions will be His pleasure and rejoicing in Him with all the blessed.

5] There shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign forever and ever. After a day of labor Adam needed a night of rest. Later, under the consequences of Adam's fall and struggling with their own rebellious and corrupted nature men toiled much more. They needed candles. Life in glory will not be corrupted by greed and godless exploitation that leaves many men working long hours using candles long after the sunset and still living in poverty while the owners and rulers make themselves sick with wasteful aimless life in luxury. The citizens of our God's city will not need candles to prolong working hours for greed or hunger. The blessings ones marred by

sin are fully restored and still multiplied in the blessed, abundant and joyful life in the New Jerusalem. The citizens of this eternal city need not to measure time by night and day taking turns. Eternal love and light of our God will forever be our pleasure and joy. I need not to question if the sun and moon will exist in our life & sphere. Remember our Lord's deliverance of Jerusalem in *2 Kings 19: 34-35? I [the Lord] will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. **That night that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.*** That angel apparently needed no candle or torch to accomplish his task. He had the Light in himself. Our Lord Jesus said in *John 11: 9-10: If any man walks in the day, he stumbles not, because he sees the light of this world. If a man walks in the night, he stumbles, because there is **no light in him.*** ^{1st} *John 3:2* tells us: *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.* Even if someone was able to tell me all the beauty of the heavenly life, I couldn't grasp it... In many godless religions sun is regarded as a god and candles as symbols. In the words of our God to Israel before our Lord Jesus came in the flesh to exemplify the same Word, candles symbolized parts of godly arrangements in the Holy place. After our Lord inspired His faithful disciples, physical candles were not needed: the Holy Spirit is the true light. The children of Israel were instructed to keep themselves from idolatry and pagan symbolism. We are led by our Savior's teaching to forbear both: the heathen customs and lifeless form of the essence fulfilled in Christ our Master's Gospel.

Ephesians 1: 13-14 applied to us today 'sounds' like this: **In Christ we also trusted**, having heard **the Word of Truth**, the **Gospel of our salvation**: in whom also after that we believed, we were **sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. The Holy Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession**, unto the praise of his glory. The

holy apostles and all the genuine disciples have been sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise. The anointing manifested as the greatest one of all among the believers is still only the earnest of the entire inheritance in God's glory. In 2nd Corinthians 5: 5 we read: ...God... has given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. It looks like we received an earnest of an earnest. Some of my grateful memories about our Lord's amazing grace I experienced in my so short and, in comparison with the Bible records insignificant journey and testimony make me instantly tearful each time I recall them. The great victories in Israel were only foreshadowing the fullness manifested in our Lord Jesus Christ. All the glorious testimonies in the Acts and epistles are only the earnest – a prelude, prolog, symbolic amount – of the level and degree of anointing awaiting us in the New Jerusalem to enable us to see the Lamb as He truly is on the throne with the Father. Such is the light that our God gives to His redeemed children in the City of Light that [for our understanding] He compares with the Bride adorned for His Beloved Son. We shall **reign forever** and ever. Adam reigned in Eden until his fall. Christ Jesus reigned manifested in the flesh from Jerusalem to Jordan, through the testing in the wilderness, through the Gospel proclamation more than three years, through suffering, death, resurrection, ascension & anointing disciples. He reigns forever and ever with our Heavenly Father. When we are in Christ, when we live the Gospel, we reign with Him here and now; yet, our best loyalty down here is only the earnest of the inheritance promised to us; only a prelude of the fervor and delight we shall experience with all the ransomed united with the heavenly host glorifying our King of kings and Lord of lords & celebrating His victory; victory of Truth over falsehood, Love over hate, Light & Life over death.

6] The angel said unto John: These sayings are faithful and true; and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. In 3: 14 our Lord is *the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the beginning of the creation of God*. In 19: 11 He is called [the] *Faithful and [the] True and in righteousness He does judge and*

*make war. 21: 5 tells us: He that sits upon the throne says: ...Write: for these words are true and faithful. As the Witness is, so is His testimony. As we read Exodus through Deuteronomy – the chapters recording our God’s commandments to Israel – the expressions: ‘I am the LORD’ and ‘I am God’ have been repeated many, many times. In His mercy and grace our Heavenly Father guards us from forgetting this important truth and falling into Satan’s snare. This verse [6] arms us to remember that the entire Revelation and all of the Holy Scriptures are faithful and true as the Author of the Word is the Holy One and the True. Our godly ministry is not to correct Him, nor to alter His Messages. He tells us in Luke 11: 9: **Ask, and it shall be given you; seek to find; knock, to get it opened unto you. His treasure is open.** Between blindness and seeing is the place for **our** repentance and **His** healing: in His peace we can hear His sound Word. The Message reveals our **Lord doing all at His appointed time.** We must pray for and strive to obey Him instantly and constantly – never delaying. When He points out to us our shortcomings and failures, we must repent, confess to Him, ask and receive His pardon to be renewed, cleansed and sanctified to continue our service in His peace and Fellowship. *The things which must shortly be done* **He takes care for** and all the **faithful disciples** to the end **He makes** the **blessed** participants of His marvelous Everlasting salvation – the ransomed by the Lamb of God, His children in His Covenant. We need the endless eternity in glory to express our **gratitude and adoration to the Father and the Son for His eternal love.***

7] Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keeps the sayings of the prophecy of this book. In 2: 1-7 our Lord speaks to the angel of the church in Ephesus: 5] Remember from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee **quickly**, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. 7] ...hear what the Spirit says to the churches; to the over-comer will I give to eat of the tree of life, in the midst of the paradise of God. To many disobedient rebels our Lord is coming too slowly but, He arrives too soon! To the faithful our Master

comes not a moment too soon, nor a moment too late because they follow His teaching in Luke 12: 35- 38: Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord.

When he will return from the wedding, when he comes and knocks, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants... In Acts 7: 59-60 our Lord comes quickly to Stephen at His appointed time; in 12: 2 He comes to James very quickly; but exactly on time! In the following verses our great Captain comes to our brother Peter precisely at the moment He has chosen, but in the # 19 He comes too soon to Peter's prison guards and in the # 23 way too soon for the bloody Herod! Our Savior says in Luke 18: 7-8: Shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though **he bears long** with them? I tell you that he will avenge them **speedily**. Nevertheless when the Son of man comes, shall he find faith on the earth? He is always on time! All we need is faith and confidence in His goodness and might; to trust & obey. In Daniel 9 we read the penitent prayer of a righteous and faithful prophet... In the # 21 Gabriel flies **swiftly** to Daniel and in the # 22-23 tells him: *O Daniel, I am now come forth to give you skill and understanding. **At the beginning of your supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show you...*** The messenger continues in 10: 12-14. *Fear not, Daniel: from **the first day** that you did set your heart to understand, and to chasten yourself before your God, **your words were heard, and [now] I am come for your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days...*** Through Daniel's penitence our Lord Jesus purged the spirit of Persian pride out of Daniel's heart and by the vision of Gabriel our **Lord comes quickly to His dear prophet**. In **one and twenty days - Jesus comes quickly!** I know not how much I should consider as reliable the gentile history of Roman emperors... By the end of the first century the emperor Domitian declared himself "the lord your god"... Short time after he signed his last decree by this title, he was assassinated. Our Lord Jesus came **quickly – suddenly** – to the tyrant when his iniquity fulfilled its measure. The 2nd Peter's 3: 8-10

states: *Beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. **The Lord** is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but **is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.** The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.* The 2nd millennium is passing since the words of our Savior's prayer were recorded in John 17: 12: *Those that thou gave me I have kept, and none of them is lost; **the Almighty Lamb always comes quickly*** at the Father's appointed time and task. Blessed are all that keep the sayings of the prophecy of this book. Trusting and obeying our Lord and Savior is His testimony to us, to our fellow believers and to the world around us that we are our Master's servants. He says to His disciples in *Luke 10: 20: Rejoice, for your names are written in heaven.* Our Father's mercy keeps us in His covenant.

8-9] John saw these things, and heard them. And when he had heard and seen, he fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which showed him these things. Then the angel says to John: See you do it not: for I am your fellow-servant, and of your brethren, the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. I wonder: is this only reflection on the vision in the chapter 19, or, the 2nd experience given to assure us never to worship anyone but our God. The most majestic heavenly angels or cherubim are still only the created beings and fellow worshipers with Christ's ransomed Flock. We see the teaching in Colossians 2: 18: **Let no man beguile you** of your reward in a voluntary humility and **worshipping of angels**, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind... **Worshipping angels is idolatry.** How could John make such a mistake while receiving this abundant, bright revelation? I think of another vision in the Acts 10: 9-16 where our Lord prepares the apostle Peter for the Gospel message to the new disciples in Caesarea and, in the

verses 13 – 16 we see Peter's rejection of our Lord's word. *There came a voice to him: Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. But Peter said: Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean. The voice spoke unto him again the second time: What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. This was done thrice; and the vessel was received up again into heaven.* I think our Lord is guiding this vision to expose Peter's human weakness - to give him new power. Galatians 2: 11-17 shows an apostle seemingly wrong and dramatically corrected. *But when Peter was come to Antioch, Paul withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. Before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. Other Jews dissembled likewise with him; Barnabas also...*

When Paul saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, he said unto Peter before them all: If you, being a Jew, live after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compel you the Gentiles to live as do the Jews? We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. If, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. I wonder if I am taking too much liberty in questioning how and why was it possible for Peter, an apostle tested so severely, so many times and, in so many ways, to fall into his [or theirs], Jewish-custom syndromes and confusions... One of my thoughts is that some of the believers "of the circumcision" were prone to turn away from following our Lord's Gospel if they were surrounded by the faithful believers that rejected many Jewish superstitions. Could it be that our brother Peter physically joined the 'separated' – Jewish believers with a purpose of sacrificing...? Perhaps this – older - apostle intended to have himself as one on the wrong – Pharisaic – side to be the one willing to accept correction. I perceive that it

was easier for the 'circumcised' to follow Peter as a leader seeing he was willing to accept the blame after he [Peter] eased somewhat their residue of Jewish 'superiority in having been God's people'... I have confidence in our Lord's guidance, protection and correction in John's day to day walk so much that John would never make a mistake of worshipping anyone but God – our Creator and our Savior. My thought is that this correction addressed to John, from the angel, is a part of the vision – a message to all believers throughout every era in the world. That message is: **worship belongs only to God**. The angels accept no worship from any person. A genuine saint could accept no worship addressed to him / her from anyone. Genuine believers should offer no worship to any angel or saint. **Worship belongs to God**. Some religions encourage 'service' to saints [no longer living in this world] as a proper practice. I find no Scripture justifying that activity. Pretending to communicate with any people not present or physically connected with us seems like idolatry in disguise. I find no Gospel teaching allowing any "service to any saint" that has been transferred to eternity; nor any uncorrected example of believers worshipping any saints – on earth or in Heaven. The verses [8 & 9] guard us from falling into a confused, man-made religion and secure us in following our holy apostles' faith to adore only our Heavenly Father and His Only-begotten Son, our Lord and Master. This message also offers much encouragement to all of us often facing our shortcomings: the angels, prophets and apostles, all are our fellow servants. It is a great privilege and a high honor to serve our great King of kings and Lord of lords; He's adored by the entire host of Heaven and all the saints in Heaven and in the earth. Genuine children of our Heavenly Father are blessed by a stable fellowship in the Spirit of our Blessed Redeemer and uninterrupted desire to worship our God in our spirit and in Truth. In the light of the Gospel according to John 1: 1-3 the Center and the most essential part of the entire God's Word is God – himself: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him;*

and without him was not anything made that was made. **The Creator** seen in the beginning is also **the Savior** manifested later and **the King of glory** we behold in this book of the Revelation. Halleluiah! Our God is so glorious! Our Heavenly Father is doing all to glorify His Son. The Son gives all of Himself for His Father's perfect pleasure. The Holy Spirit is manifesting this perfect unity, love and grace with His, Spirit's, entire power; never asking for any separate, special, recognition. Divine nature is all loving, giving, selfless zeal; no selfish demanding. I sense my inability of explaining our God's character, yet I am confident He will change us and make us more like His Son to make our joy and blessedness in Him full and forever excelling. I am close to the end of my earthly journey and labor... If our Lord will keep me longer down here, I'd like to study the Bible all over again with this awareness of God. This is almost like some of the last walks of Enoch – down here... [Genesis 5: 24] Seeing all the genuine prophecies in this light, we see Christ' Spirit in every one and then we see the main fulfillment of each prophecy in Jesus, the Son of the Blessed One; the Eternal God. Such glory and bliss! The Spirit of Christ speaks through the prophets, apostles, and, to us. As soon as we are in this sunshine of His Spirit, our soul blossoms with the thrill of expectation to make the next step, to see the next revelation, to experience more of the beauty of His holiness and to explore more of His character, presence and grandeur. We continue our journey striving for, praying for and longing for full obedience; perfect unity in His Spirit.

During the periods of hard persecution, or general apathy toward salvation and Truth, or in the times of material prosperity, Satan will tempt us to deceive us to hide the Gospel message in one way or another as he tempted many disciples before our times. In 1st Kings 19: 4 the faithful prophet Elijah *said: It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life.* Yet, our Lord had something much more glorious than taking Elijah's life away from this dark world that very moment. Many of the recorded prophecies are not only predictions of near or distant future. Prophetic messages bring us tasks,

lessons, corrections and encouragements. This is not the first instruction toward 'not sealing the words...' of this Book. Our time is not the only time our Savior's Message – the Everlasting Gospel of salvation in Christ Jesus – is rejected. The first couple were told the Gospel of grace and neglected to keep it. The first two sons received the Message of our God's pleasure and displeasure; one son received it; the other rejected it. *Jeremiah* tells 7: 25-26: *...Unto this day God sent unto you His servants the prophets ...Yet you hearkened not unto God, nor inclined your ear, but hardened your neck...* In *Matthew* 5: 11-14 our Lord says: *Blessed are you, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. You are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.* In 28: 19-20 we are told: *Go teach all nations to observe all things I commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.* These messages are not sealing nor hiding; rather revealing and encouraging, even **urging us to live and proclaim the Gospel**. The **time is at hand**. *Isaiah* says in 49: 8: *...Thus says the LORD: In an acceptable time have I heard you, and in a day of salvation have I helped you...* In the 2nd *Corinthians* 6: 2 (our God says: *I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succored thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of our God's salvation.*)

11] He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he who is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. In the chapter 2 & 3 the Revelation is addressed to all of the seven churches. This verse [11] is calling all genuine believers to be steadfast in following our Captain and never be dismayed. Aware of aggressive wickedness in the world around us and among many nominal – professing – believers, **follow your Savior**. **Suffering** persecution or being

despised, take **comfort in your Lord** and the faithful disciples; and **cleave** to your **True Leader**. **Keep your awareness that the leader of wickedness and all his followers are hasting to the lake of fire.** Reach out with the pure Gospel Message to the devil's victims that live in filth and godlessness. Keep in mind that **only our Redeemer** in His mercy and grace removed us from the awful destiny and **He** alone keeps us on the path of Truth & salvation. Pray and strive to grow in faith and knowledge of the Son of God to be His living testimony – light in darkness. Our God is the only Holy One [15: 4] and *He has not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness [1 Thessalonians 4: 7]*. Our Lord Jesus is the Righteous One. He bestows His righteousness upon us to follow Him, to trust and obey Him; to *be steadfast, unmovable, abounding in the work of the Lord, for we know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord [1st Corinthians 15: 58]*. Thanks & praise to God! He gives us His victory through our Lord Jesus Christ [1st Corinthians 15: 57]. The victory our God gives us is both – **through and in** – Jesus Christ. The evidence of His victory in our heart and our daily walk is the **fact** that we **trust and obey our Lord Jesus**. Living in rebellion and known disobedience yet “relying” on “eternal security” is only a mirage – a self-deception. **True eternal security always has been and forever is in Christ.**

12] Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. In this book alone this is the fifth time our Lord says about Himself: **I come quickly**. There is one more statement in the verse 20. All these references to Him being the **One** that **comes quickly** are not making up to the symbolic and frequently used number 7. Christ is the great number 7. If we take into the count the quick woe in 11: 14, by the end of this book we have the number 7 of **quick comings** fulfilled. Before the ushering of everlasting wedding feast celebrating the complete and everlasting unity of the Bridegroom & the Bride, here, we observe the quick work of both: our Lord's grace and consequences of grace-rejection.

Our mighty Lamb of God and King of kings is the **One** that **comes quickly**; that is His character. He is never late nor ever before our Heavenly Father's appointed time. He says: I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. [Matthew 28: 20] As we approach the end of the Book we are more & more aware of **His presence & His precise work**. Throughout the Holy Scriptures many 'portions and phases' of rewards and precious fruits of our Lord's Spirit are evident for us in many ways. The Revelation book continually illuminates our minds to see and understand [more in depth] manifold benefits of temporal and, also, everlasting valuable rewards our Lord gives us for His work in us! Our Heavenly Father is giving to us His Beloved Son's rewards all the time... His rewards have been before the world's foundation... [John 17: 24 & Ephesians 1: 4]. Before He delivered us from the darkness and death we were ignorant of His rewards. When He opened our blind eyes we saw His Truth. His Word & Spirit brightens our sight by this Revelation. Our Savior and Master's reward streams continually from above by the amazing grace of our Heavenly Father. His reward is both instant and everlasting. Living in faith and obedience to the Son, the Living Word of the Almighty, is rewarding right here and right now more than we could describe in multitude of examples and our-days' testimonies. It is much easier to endure hard times by His power in us than to sink into the mire of despair and helpless bitterness. It is beyond description more rewarding to live single in purity or in a godly marriage than to run after immorality and selfish – self-destructive lusts. Satan's promises are lies! Our Lord's call and guidance are overflowing with rewards... In my short and limited experience that I cannot compare with the hardships of our brothers and sisters in the beginning of the apostolic times, I observed such tender loving and always present care of our blessed Savior that the five years of imprisonment for the faith remained the most beautiful memories until this time. I am now past 73. **He comes quickly**. He gives every man according as the man's work **shall** be. He knows our heart before we manifest it in our deeds. He says: Forgive to receive forgiveness. Our unforgiving spirit

prevents us from receiving our Father's abundant grace [Mark 11: 25&26]. An imprisoned evildoer is not necessarily less wicked than one victimizing some innocent souls - at large. Paul and Silas in Acts 16: 22-26 suffered cruelty. *The multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. When they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely. He thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. At midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. **Our Lord Jesus did come quickly** to the prisoners and especially to the jailor..., but our Blessed Redeemer had been with Paul and Silas all that time suffering with them to glorify them in Him. He is our gracious **Lord Jesus Christ** that does **come quickly** to His own; but also, to His enemy and to the devil's victims. Satan is the fallen angel, the defeated adversary. In Christ our King all His faithful are victorious in peaceful times and in the times of persecution and martyrdom; because Christ's Spirit is victorious in their heart and daily walk. Glory to God!*

13] I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. This is a short verse with meaning and significance I cannot measure... In 1: 5-8 **Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. He loves us, and washes us from our sins in his own blood, and brings us up for His kings and priests unto God and his Father; glory and dominion to him forever and ever. Amen. He is the First, the Only One. Behold, he comes with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him; even so, amen. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, says the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.** What a flash of God's glory, might and grandeur. Our Blessed Redeemer presents Himself in bliss to His patiently suffering but

faithful witnesses and martyrs. He is ever with His own. In 1: 17-18 HE laid his right hand upon John saying: *Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that lives, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.* HE is the Almighty God's Right Hand. That Hand leads His Redeemed people through the Red Sea and hurls the waves over the cruel Oppressor's volunteers [Exodus 14]. This is the Right Hand that touched many with healing and a few with return "from the dead".

This is the Right Hand that embraced John at the Last Supper to give the young disciple the answer and to the traitor the last warning [John 13: 25-26]; the same Hand that 'touched' Herod and his guards with a 'mortifying touch' [Acts 12: 19-23]. This Hand was nailed in crucifixion and lifted above the disciples with blessings in ascension. HE is the **first**, the **last** and **our All in all**. In 21: 5-7 HE sits on the throne and says: Behold, I make all things new. He says to John: Write: These words are true and faithful. It is done. **I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.** I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. His victors inherit all things; HE is their God, and they are His children. In Hebrews 3: 14 *we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end: Christ's Spirit in us; and we in Him.* In 7: 2-3, **Christ is the King of righteousness, King of Salem which is King of peace; having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; the Son of God; HE abides the priest continually; God's eternal Son.** In Hebrews 12: 2 **Christ Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, is at the right hand of the throne of God.** In the 1st Chronicles 29: 29, and 2nd Chronicles 9: 29 & 12:15 **the first and the last includes also everything in between.** In Isaiah 44: 6 our LORD the King of Israel and his redeemer, the LORD of hosts, says: **I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.** In 48: 12 He repeats: *Hearken unto me, O Israel, my called; I am he; I am the first, I also am the last.* The few references listed reveal and confirm our Creator and Savior's omnipotence in His Everlasting Gospel; trust & obey GOD! I have not gathered all the

references pertaining to this majestic announcement of our God, our Heavenly Father, **in** His Only-Begotten-Son; yet, as many as are listed here would require longer study and expounding than the expected remainder of my earthly journey; perhaps this also reminds us: we need the endless eternity to adore our God.

14] Blessed are they that do his commandments; that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. Blessed are all that lived the Gospel to the end of their earthly journey [2nd Timothy 4: 7-8]. All that **did hear** the Gospel call are blessed [Luke 10: 23]. The strongly persuasive testimony of our blessedness is loyalty to our Lord **now**. Our past is not sufficient; the future is not present. **If we are in Christ now, we know He is in our heart.** Our Lord is not just a pleasant memory, not only a hope for the future; He is permanent presence, our eternal **I AM**. Blessed memories and faithful records are wonderful; our living hope in HIM is glorious; yet we must be united in HIS SPIRIT NOW: we need HIM all the time. Without HIM, we are lost. If we are in **Christ, our Tree of Life**, we live and grow. Our Lord Jesus constantly feeds us with the Bread of Life, with the Fruits of His Spirit, by His and His witnesses' example. Every new experience of His loving Lordship in our heart, mind, soul, body and our daily walk is a step through the Gate. Blessed are those suffering persecution, imprisonment and martyrdom for the testimony of the Lamb. Those rejoicing in His salvation are blessed. All genuine believers are blessed **in Him doing His commandments**. We do His bidding when we live to please our Heavenly Father, to honor our Blessed Lord Jesus, to bless our fellow believers and to reach out to the sinners around us in sincere godliness; then we are salt to the earth and light to the world; His living testimony here. Blessed are all washed from their sin by the blood of the Lamb. In John 1: 12-13: As many as received Him, to them He gave power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name: which were born of God. *Romans 8: 1* tells us: *There is no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

15] Without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loves and makes a lie. Dogs feed on unclean food that our God's people must refuse [Exodus 22: 31]. Dogs lack holiness, trample on the gifts of our Lord's Spirit, victimize ignorant disciples and prey on the life of disobedient [1st Kings 21: 24 & Matthew 7: 6]. Dogs return to their own filth: they lack genuine repentance and lasting discipleship [2nd Peter 2: 22]. Sorcerers offer false information to deceive both sinners and believers; sorcerers battle against our God's Word and remain under our God's condemnation [Exodus 7: 11 & Malachi 3: 5]. Whoremongers lust after filth of the flesh and worldly pollution. Some of them might creep into a company of believers and some of believers might get entangled into such snares of the devil. Real children of our Heavenly Father haste to repent and receive His grace toward restoration. Our Lord Jesus says in Matthew 5: 28: *Whosoever lust after a woman has committed adultery with her already in his heart; and in 15: 19 He says: Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies...*

Murder has been with men since the time of Cain. The originator of murder is the devil [John 8: 44]. He deceived the first couple into spiritual suicide. Commandment against murder was given long ago **in** the commandment to love one another [In the 10 Commandments and in John 13: 34-35]. Our Lord warns us again in 1st John 3: 15: Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. Mass murders and suicides are committed in the world around us all the time. Worldliness, vanity, pride and arrogance, sinful lust, selfishness, greed, social entertainment and numerous other snares of this world's god stimulate murders and suicides of both – soul and body. Many highly praised worldly virtues are predispositions for murdering body & soul. Our adversary lusts to deceive men into idolatry. Many foolish ambitions are idols. Some meaningless, purposeless and worthless things or ideas become idols of individuals, groups or masses. A dangerous and very much multiplied idol of wealthy individuals and of poor masses is idleness.

Idleness is like a nest of many other idols and wicked activity in men. All these satanic devices have no power over the children of our Heavenly Father as long as we are on guard as our Lord says in Luke 12: 34-37. *Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; you be like unto men that wait for their lord; that when he comes and knocks, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he comes shall find watching...* Negligence in our worship and fellowship paves the road for evil powers. For all faithful disciples Satan is a defeated adversary. Only when we make ourselves weak through negligence, our treacherous and cruel Enemy is very strong. His power is in his deception. Our Teacher says in John 8: 44: The devil is a liar, and the father of it; there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own. Our Lord is the way, the truth, and the life: the only way unto the Father... By our diligent adoration of the Father in the Son, His Holy Spirit keeps us safe and secure. As long as we abide in Him we abhor the devil's falsehood and the filth of wickedness. Our Lord's Spirit and Truth keep us from accepting and doing lie.

16] I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. Our Lord Jesus speaks to His disciples in Matthew 28: 19: *Go, teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. He is with us but He sends His angel.* In His Spirit He guides us step by step to the end of our earthly journey. He personally teaches, leads, corrects and protects us. To reveal His glory and majesty, He sends His angel! This is the revelation to John! To the seven churches! To all believers! And to us – to the end of the world! John was not ready to see the reality of Glory after all the revelation given to him. To me within my limits, the revelation comes from our Father through our Savior, by the angel's testimony. John receives the vision and writes the book. We read the book and pray for deeper

insight, clearer understanding, faithful application, sound teaching and clarity in our presentations. Every step of the way our Lord Jesus is with us to guide, correct and protect us. All the time the devil strives to distract and confuse us. O Lord, keep me humble, prayerful and faithful; keep me in Thy grace in Christ Thy Son, our Lord, Master, Owner and Sustainer; save me from my self-will... The next part of our King's announcement is: *I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.* This sounds like an echo of the # 13: *I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.* Some psalms and prophecies foretell the coming of the Messiah of the seed of David. Some people addressed our Lord as David's son. In some aspects our Savior's Kingdom can be compared with the blossoming Israel of the King David' time... Our Lord Jesus says that He is the root and that gives greater meaning to the word 'offspring'. David was our God's chosen and anointed, but also he was only a man. If our Lord allowed David to follow his own carnality, David would have been lost like Saul, the first king of Israel. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the only Source of any and all goodness in a man. Humanity is a fallen race. In John 5: 25 our Redeemer tells us: When the dead hear the voice of the Son of God they shall live. In 1: 1-4 we are told: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.* All the redeemed have their 'conception & birth' from "above". **The glorified Lamb of God is the bright and morning star.**

Our apostle Peter writes in 2nd:1: 1&19: *Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ: [19] We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the **day star arise in your hearts**; Christ is our rising Star!* Isaiah 9: 7&6 foretells: *Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government is upon*

*His shoulder: and His Name is Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. **Of the increase of His government and peace there is no end**, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with **judgment** and with **justice** from henceforth even **forever**. The zeal of the LORD of hosts performs this. [I updated it.] As long as we journey, labor or battle in our flesh we ought to grow in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ [Ephesians 4: 13]. That way we keep our inner man in the Light of our Rising Star, our Sun of righteousness [Malachi 4: 2], King of kings & Lord of lords.*

17] The Spirit and the bride say, Come. Let him that hears say: Come. Let him that is athirst come. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. As soon as our King and Savior appears and proclaims His attributes [in #16] His redeemed souls are moved with a surge of yearning for more of His presence, love and loving Lordship. The **Holy Spirit of Christ** is in the Bride; **He** is in the Kingdom of Glory; **He** proclaims the Everlasting Gospel of salvation in the Son of God, Sun of righteousness, the Creator and Ruler of the universe, our soul's love, yearning and adoration. The Spirit responds to our Lord's appearance [in # 12–16] with a desire of the host of Heaven and all the rescued souls in Heaven and in the earth: **Come!** Yes, our glorious King, Creator and Savior, **come!** *The whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now. We ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves, waiting for the redemption of our body. The Spirit also helps our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought. The Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered [Romans 8: 22 – 26].* The divine 'language' is unlimited. The blessed, mighty and gentle influence of our Master's Spirit generates, sustains and accelerates the same fervent longing for the completion of our transformation and full manifestation of eternal glory. *We have a building of God, a house eternal in the heavens. In this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house from heaven: that mortality might be*

swallowed up of life. God hath given us the earnest of the Spirit: we are always confident and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord [2nd Corinthians 5: 1-8]. Sinners still in the yoke of sin cannot hear the clear sound of the Gospel testimony; but let him that hears say: Come! Let all of us that did hear the voice of the Son of God and received life [as in John 5: 25], bravely proclaim our soul's longing! As we desire to see our King in His glory, so we echo His calling: If any man thirsts, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, out of him shall flow rivers of living water [John 7: 37-38]. Lord, give us grace to be Thy living call! Just like in Matthew 11: 28-30, our Savior is still calling: Come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. We must pray to be His living invitation to the end of the day of grace.

Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. When we drink from His Fountain, His living Water flows through us. All are invited and *whosoever will let him take the water of life freely. The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray you therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into His harvest [Luke 10:2].*

18-19] For I testify unto 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; and 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. I perceive that many translators and editors of our Bible text were godly laborers. My confidence is that all sincere disciples of the Word, have godly concerns and keen desire for correct and trustworthy translations of the entire Book in all languages and dialects of our era. I believe we all pray for our Lord's guidance, correction and protection in our studies, understanding and applications **in our presentations, and, our daily testimony.**

In my limited observation and personal experience it is obvious that many translations suffered a degree of influence by some denominations, prejudice and, even intentional – political - deviations from the original meaning of some words. Dogmatic absolute confidence in a particular translation borders with superstition. In # 18 & 19 we have a stern warning. We must be alert to keep ourselves from adding to or subtracting from the Word of God. We, also, ought to preserve our awareness about certain contaminations in nominal religions. Some idolatrous teachings and false doctrines are wrapped in very decorative deception. Much wickedness and rebellion is camouflaged with carnal goodness psychology. Besides our prayerful efforts to be faithful to the genuine meaning, interpretation and application of our Lord's Message we need to 'walk humbly and be watchful': willing to sincerely examine our understanding of 'our King's decrees'. A significant help to me came through comparing translations in diverse languages and 'direct' translations of old scripts. Very reliable help in understanding our God's Word is in good references and comparison of related verses & passages. Attempt of some groups and individuals to use this warning in the verses 18 & 19 as a doctrinal base for, or, against nominal teachings and applications of predestination and 'eternal security' is misleading as are many arguments about these topics. The Gospel books, Acts and epistles contain sufficient and clear fundamental information about the Truth. It is clear that the Wisdom from above teaches us to reverence and adore our Heavenly Father and His Only Begotten Son, our Lord. We need His constant guidance, correction and protection. Any attempt to 'correct' or 'improve' our God's Word, indicates strongly a rebellion instigated by our Adversary, the dragon. **God's Word is the only foundation.** All man-made changes of the true Scriptures' texts reveal the deeds of deceivers and self-deceived slaves of darkness. These slaves have not the liberty in Christ, the blessings and glory in the Revelation and the entire Holy Scripture; they aim for the plagues listed in these books and ultimately to the lake of fire burning with brimstone - the endless death.

20] He which testifies these things says: Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. In 3: 7-12 our Lord's encouragement to the angel of the church in Philadelphia reveals Christ's Holiness in Truth, the genuine repentance and conversion followed by faithfulness – the key of David. Our Redeemer is with us in all the work He gives us to labor in. **He** opens the hearts and minds of the Gospel hearers and the persuasive power of the Gospel Light prevails against the onslaught of Satan's deception and wickedness. **He is strong in** the weak but faithful; victorious keepers of His Word – the true worshippers of **His** Name. **His** marvelous deeds confirm **His love** for His faithful - more than we can understand. **He is victorious in His** faithful witnesses and **He** declares to them: ***Behold, I come quickly! I*** protect you! *No man can take your crown:* hold fast all **I** give you! **I** will write upon you the **Name** of my God, of the **City** of my God - the **New Jerusalem**, and **my new Name**. In this [22nd]: 7 our Captain repeats to us: Look! See the reality! **I am the One that always comes quickly! Keep my commandments!** It's not just a burden! **It is my blessing: keep;** don't just talk; **walk!** Remember and experience the testimony of our Savior's Spirit in and through His faithful witnesses in 2nd Corinthians 4: 13 – 5: 1: *We have the same Spirit of faith, as it is written: I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; we know that He who raised up our Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus.* The abundant grace through the thanksgiving of many glorifies our God exceedingly. We faint not. Our Lord's words 'speak' to us. Your outward man wears out, yet your **inward man I renew** day by day. Your light affliction is but for a moment, but it works in you a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. We know that our earthly tabernacle dissolves... We have a building of God eternal in the heavens; and the Builder is with us now. In # 12 one more beam of encouragement, another surge of new power sounds: ***Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me...!*** Our God's Lamb, our King of

kings, is with us on His own pillar of suffering and shame, in the den of lions, the fiery furnace, dungeons, in burning the books of witchcraft, in martyrdom and..., in looking forward to eternal glory. Blessed are the keepers of His commandments! They are open to the Tree of Life. They are stepping in through the Gate into the City. Our Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the First and the Last, our All in all – the Only One says: Surely I come quickly. Join the Chorus of all ransomed in unison and perfect harmony: Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! O what bliss! Such splendor! Glory and Majesty of the Father and Son!

O what thrill and triumph of the ransomed with the heavenly host! And all this is only a vision; just a glimpse; just a pre-taste... Even our tiny experience is beyond description...; but the reality of His glory, majesty and the beauty of His holiness are way beyond our present perception. It looks like our beloved brother John cannot end the Endless: our Deliverer's Spirit is so much in John's awareness that he must add his Christian farewell salutation. **21] *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.***