

**Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church**  
**We're glad you're here!**





# Call to Worship

## *Psalm 121*

**Psalm 121** A Song of Ascents. I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? **My help comes from the LORD**, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. **The LORD is your keeper**; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. **The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.** The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.



## Praise and Prayer Request

All Prayer request can be e-mail to:

[plbiblechurch@gmail.com](mailto:plbiblechurch@gmail.com)

***We would love to pray for God's will to be done  
your life and for His Name to be glorified in and  
through you, as you seek His Holy Face!***

# Receiving of the Offering



**An offering for the Church can be mailed to:  
Promise Land Bible Church  
PO Box 1437  
Mountain Home, AR 72653**

# ***Famous Quote:***

*“The reason why many fail in battle is because they wait until the hour of battle. The reason why others succeed is because they have gained their victory on their knees long before the battle came ... Anticipate your battles; fight them on your knees before temptation comes, and you will always have victory.”*

**R. A. Torrey**



**Today's Message**

**“The Coming King”**

**Scripture text: Revelation 22:6-21**

**Revelation 22:10-14** And he said to me, "**Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.** Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and **the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.**" "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, **to repay everyone for what he has done.** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." **Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.**

**Psalm 96:9-13** **Worship the LORD** in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! Say among the nations, "**The LORD reigns!** Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, **for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.** He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

**Don't be concerned that, by referring to the Judgment, you are causing sinners to fear. They have sinned against God and His wrath abides on them. In fact, **the Bible calls them "children of wrath."****

Shouldn't they then fear Him? Look at these words from Isaac Watts:

I never knew but one person in the whole course of my ministry who acknowledged that the first motions of religion in his own heart arose from a sense of the goodness of God, "What shall I render to the Lord, who has dealt so bountifully with me?" But I think all besides who have come within my notice have rather been first awakened to fly from the wrath to come by the passion of fear.

**The Day of Judgment is the reason men are commanded to repent** (Acts 17:30, 31). If we don't preach that God will judge the world in righteousness, we shouldn't be surprised that men and women are passive about responding to the Savior. If we tell them that they need only believe, then neither should we be surprised when the church fills up with false converts who believe **but don't even have enough fear of God to obey**.

**Act 17:30-31** The times of ignorance God overlooked, **but now he commands all people everywhere to repent**, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this **he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.**"

The Holy Spirit used the Apostle John to give us three kinds of inspired literature: the Gospel of John, the three epistles, and the Book of Revelation.

His purposes may be outlined as follows:

*Gospel of John*

Believe, 20:31

Life received

Salvation

The Prophet

*Epistles*

Be Sure, 1 John 5:13

Life revealed

Sanctification

The Priest

*Revelation*

Be ready, 22:20

Life rewarded

Sovereignty

The King

# **The Challenge of the City (Rev. 22:6–21)**

Heaven is more than a destination; **it is a motivation**. Knowing that we shall dwell in the heavenly city ought to make a difference in our lives here and now. The vision of the heavenly city **motivated the patriarchs as they walked with God and served Him** (Heb. 11:10, 13–16). Knowing that He was returning to the Father in heaven also encouraged Jesus Christ as He faced the cross (Heb. 12:2). **The assurance of heaven must not lull us into complacency or carelessness, but spur us to fulfill our spiritual duties.**

**We must keep God's Word (vv. 6–11, 18–19).**

Because what John wrote is the Word of God, his words are faithful and true (see Rev. 19:11).

The same God who spoke through the prophets also spoke through the Apostle John. **As the “capstone” of God's revelation, John's book cannot be divorced from the rest of the Bible.**

**If we deny that John wrote the truth, then we must also deny the prophets.**

What does it mean to “keep the sayings of the prophecy of this book”? (Rev. 22:7)

**Basically, it means to guard, to watch over, to preserve intact.** We must not add to the Word of God or take anything from it (see Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:5–6). And **this responsibility is especially great in light of Christ’s return.** The word shortly in Revelation 22:6 means “**quickly come to pass.**” The church has expected Christ to return since the days of the Apostles, and He has not yet come; but **when John’s prophecies begin to be fulfilled, they will happen very quickly. There will be no delay.**

The warnings in Revelation 22:18–19 do not suggest that people who tamper with the Bible will be brought back to earth to suffer the Tribulation's plagues, or that they will lose their salvation.

Nobody fully understands the Bible or can explain everything in it; and those of us who teach the Word sometimes have to change our interpretations as we grow in knowledge. God sees the heart, and **He can separate ignorance from impudence and immaturity from rebellion.**

It was customary in ancient days for writers to put this kind of warning at the close of their books, because the people who copied them for public distribution might be tempted to tamper with the material.

However, John's warning was not addressed to a writer, but **to the hearer, the believer in the congregation where this book was read aloud.** By analogy, however, **it would apply to anyone reading and studying the book today.** We may not be able to explain the penalties given, but we do know this: it is a dangerous thing to tamper with the Word of God.

**The one who guards the Word and obeys it will be blessed;** the one who alters it will be disciplined in some way.

For a second time, John was overwhelmed by what he saw and heard; and he fell down to worship the angel who was speaking to him (see Rev. 19:10).

**The angel gave John three words of counsel: do not worship angels; worship God; and do not seal up the Revelation.**

The Prophet Daniel was commanded to seal his book (Dan. 12:4), because the time was not yet ready. John's book was an "apocalypse," an unveiling (Rev. 1:1); and, **therefore, it must not be sealed.**

Does Revelation 22:11 suggest that God does not want men to repent and change their ways?

**No**, because that would be contrary to the message of Revelation and of the Gospel itself. The angel's words must be understood in light of the repeated statement, "**Behold, I come quickly**" (Rev. 22:7, 12), as well as his statement, "**For the time is at hand**" (Rev. 22:10).

**Jesus Christ's coming will occur so quickly that men will not have time to change their characters.**

Revelation 22:11, therefore, is a solemn warning that **decision determines character, and character determines destiny.** Suffering believers might ask, "Is it worth it to live a godly life?" John's reply is, "**Yes! Jesus is returning, and He will reward you!**" Next comes John's second admonition.

**Revelation 22:10-12** And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy." "**Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done.**"

**We have the responsibility of serving the Lord (vv. 12–14). “**

**My reward is with Me” implies that God is mindful of our sufferings and our service, and nothing will ever be done in vain if it is done for Him.**

**At the Judgment Seat of Christ, believers will be judged according to their works; and rewards will be given to those who have been faithful.**

Throughout church history, there have been those who have (to use Dwight L. Moody's words) become "so heavenly minded that they were no earthly good."

They quit their jobs, sold their property, and **sat and waited for Jesus to return.** All of them have been embarrassed, of course, because it is unbiblical to set dates for His coming.

**It is also unbiblical to become careless and lazy just because we believe Jesus is coming soon.** Paul faced this problem with some of the believers in Thessalonica (2 Thes. 3).

No wonder John added, “Blessed are they that do His commandments” (Rev. 22:14). **If we really believe that Jesus is coming soon**, we will watch and be faithful (Luke 12:35ff).

Revelation 22:13 is a great encouragement to anyone who seeks to serve the Lord.

**Whatever God starts, He will finish**; for He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, the first and the last (see Phil. 1:6; 2:12–13).

**We must keep our lives clean (vv. 15–16).**

The contrast here is between those who do God's commandments and enter the city, and those who reject His Word and are excluded from the city (see Rev. 21:8, 27).

It is not likely that those who “do His commandments” are a special or an elite group of saints. The phrase is similar to “**them that overcome**” and characterizes all the people of God. **Obedience to God's Word is a mark of true salvation.**

Our Lord's titles in Revelation 22:16 are most interesting. The “**root**” is buried in the ground where no one can see it, but the “star” is in the heavens where everyone can see it. In “the Root and Offspring of David” we have Jesus' Jewish, national name, but in “**the Bright and Morning Star**” we have His universal name. **One speaks of humility, the other of majesty and glory.**

As “the Root ... of David,” Jesus Christ brought David into existence. As “the Offspring of David,” Jesus came into this world, born a Jew from David's line. Both the deity and the humanity of Jesus are evident here. For a parallel, see Matthew 22:41–46.

**The “morning star” announces dawn’s soon arrival.**

Jesus Christ will come for His church as “the Morning Star.”

But when He returns to judge, it will be as “the Sun of righteousness” in burning fury (Mal. 4:1–3).

**Because God’s people look for their Lord’s return, they keep their lives clean and dedicated to Him (1 John 2:28–3:3).**

**We must keep expecting Jesus Christ to return (vv. 17, 20–21).**

Three times in this closing chapter John wrote, “**I [Christ] come quickly**” (Rev. 22:7, 12, 20). But He has “delayed” His return for nearly 2,000 years! Yes, He has; and Peter tells us why: **God wants to give this sinful world opportunity to repent and be saved** (2 Peter 3:1ff). In the meantime, the Spirit of God, through the church (the bride), **calls for Jesus to come**; for the bride wants to meet her Bridegroom and enter into her home. “**Even so, come, Lord Jesus**” (Rev. 22:20).

**But believers ought also to invite lost sinners to trust Christ and drink the water of life.** Indeed, when the church lives in expectancy of Christ's return, such an attitude provokes ministry and evangelism as well as purity of heart. We want to tell others of the grace of God. **A true understanding of Bible prophecy should both motivate us to obey God's Word and to share God's invitation with a lost world.**

If our study of Revelation has been truly led by the Spirit, then we will join John in the Bible's last prayer:  
**"Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"**

**Are you ready?**

**A. M. E. N.**

**A**gree with God

**M**ove with God

**E**nd with God

**N**ever doubt God