

Him who is and who was and who is to come?

9.22.24

God the Father is yet to Come

1. Revelation a book of blessing and judgment:

Revelation 1:1-3 (NIV)

The **Revelation** of Jesus Christ which God **the Father** gave Him to

all those who **keep** the words of the prophecy of this book. The one who reads it will gain the blessing which is written in the book. And the one who hears and keeps the words of the prophecy of this book will gain the blessing which is written in the book.

So it's evident from the very first word of this book that it's not meant to be hidden, it is meant to be revealed, and disclosed.

It was not written to be misinterpreted but to be clearly and precisely understood, so it is not something to be guessed at.

show His servants—things which must shortly take place.

Revelation 1:3 (NIV)

And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw.

This is our motivation:

Right now, today is when we make this choice to obey.

Blessed is he who **READS** and those who **HEAR** the words of this prophecy and **KEEP** those things which are written in it.

for the time is **near**.

There's no blessing outside of an accurate understanding of scripture.

We do not see anywhere in scripture where God's blessing is on a mis-use or misinterpreted use of His word.

Remember absolute **TRUTH** is the only thing that we take with us to the judgment seat of Christ.

Why is it important to **READ** and **HEAR** and **KEEP** the words of this prophecy?

Because the time is **near**.

Revelation 1:3 (NIV) says (when compounded with verses 1-2) that the time is **near** for the purpose of the prophecy. It is a promise that the time is **near** for the purpose of the prophecy.

Jesus could come back tomorrow.

If He doesn't come back tomorrow we could die tomorrow, we don't know.

So the time is **near**. This is intended to inspire in us a sense of urgency.

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This Greek word **near** has the idea of immediacy, which would relate to the idea of the **imminence** of the Lord's coming. **It could happen at any time**. We don't know when it will be, **but the time is near, it is imminent**.

Imminency

No prophecy needs to be fulfilled for Christ return.

1 Corinthians 1:10-12 (NIV) says (when compounded with verses 1-2) that the time is **near** for the purpose of the prophecy. It is a promise that the time is **near** for the purpose of the prophecy.

So the evident implication is that this book can be heeded because it can be understood.

When it is understood and heeded it is a blessing.

The assumption is that God's word is designed to be a blessing, not something we have to guess at. It's something designed by an omnipotent and omniscient God to communicate **precise specifics** in a way that can be clearly understood by the **believer**.

Some people like to think that if the believer is excited when they're reading Scripture, that that is equivalent to being faithful to the word of God.

John 1:14 (NIV) says (when compounded with verses 1-3) that the time is **near** for the purpose of the prophecy. It is a promise that the time is **near** for the purpose of the prophecy.

Introduction to the book of Revelation:

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John 1: