In our last podcast, we discussed the fact that people who belong to the light can be found in the light, as such they no longer need religion or other means to gain spiritual illumination, for the Spirit of God will be their light. The word of God is our lamp and in it very simple truths are there to discover for those who are willing to seek and search out. If they do, they way will be lit, and they will not stumble in darkness. In fact, we know so many of these truths, that if we were to bet our lives on them, the light would shine in us and through us piercing the darkness all around us.

Let's pick back up in *Revelation 22:5* and discuss our eternal rule.

EP 194 Revelation 22 verses 5-6

Eternal Rule

"... and they will in the <u>future</u> reign forever and ever." With "reign" being rendered in the future tense, this speaks of our **ETERNITY THEN**.

Fiction Alert

FICTION ALERT

This is the verse that started me down the whole path of discovering that there are various categories of people in the realm of man. There are those in the household of God who are given the authority to choose to become a child of God. We have referred to them in this study as: 1) the Called, 2) the Called and Chosen, and 3) there are the Called and Chosen and Faithful (AKA, the bondservants of Jesus Christ, the wife of the Lamb). Then there are those who are not in the household of God, but who are deemed to have accepted Christ and the Father (though they are not born again), and they have been referred to as the Righteous and the Elect. Then there are those who have made their abode in this world and those who are deemed to be Accursed, whose names were never caused to have been written in the Lamb's book of life.

According to the normal fiction propagated within the Religion of Christianity, more specifically evangelical Christianity, there are only 2 categories, 1) those who accepted Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior through saying the "sinner's prayer" (or something in-kind) and have been born again, and 2) all the others who will go to hell when they die and will subsequently be tossed into the Lake of Fire where they will burn forever and ever and ever.

This binary understanding of the scriptures confused me. If that were the truth, then who would be left for the wife of Christ to rule forever and ever? Not being able to answer a very simple question, it drove me to search out what the **Codex** said about this issue.

Keep in mind, the Spirit did not just say they will rule forever, which would have been a sufficient description, but He placed an emphasis on this and doubled the phrase to forever and ever. It was essentially Code, a hidden message, for those who now have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. It was an invitation to dig deeper into the Codex and search out the truth and discover what this means.

We have addressed the issue of the Righteous and the Elect many times as they are the actual subject of this whole description of the wife of the bride who is imaged as a holy city, the new Jerusalem. They are the ones from the nations who even now get to come into this amazing city where they can find safety, security, stability, and common association. They will live under Yahweh's righteous rule, and He will be their king, but His bride will be appointed to rule over them, just like He promised in His letter to Thyatira.

"He who is **now** overcoming and he who is **now** keeping my deeds until the completion (or the end), to him I will in the **future** give authority over the nations. And he will in the **future** rule over them with a rod of iron as the vessels of a potter are now caused to be broken to pieces, as I also have received from my Father."1

This rule begins in the Millennial Kingdom, the 1,000 years where Jesus physically rules and reigns upon the earth, and this rule will continue forever and ever.

Revelation 20:4-6

Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was caused to be given to them. And I saw the souls of those who caused to being afflicted because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the Beast or his image and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years

The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were caused to be completed. This the resurrection the first.

Blessed and holy he who is now having a part in the resurrection the first; over these the second death **now** has no power, but they in the **future** choose to be priests of God and of Christ and in the **future** reign with Him for a thousand years.

Micah 4:1-4

And it will come about in the last days that the mountain of the house of Yahweh will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths." For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of **Yahweh** from Jerusalem.

And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war. Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree, with no one to make them afraid, for the mouth of Yahweh of hosts has spoken.

Micah 4:6-7

In that day," declares Yahweh, "I will assemble the lame and gather the outcasts, even those whom I

¹ See Revelation 2:26-27

have afflicted. I will make the lame a remnant and the outcasts a strong nation, and Yahweh will reign over them in Mount Zion from now on and forever.

Jeremiah 3:15-19

Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding. It shall be in those days when you are multiplied and increased in the land, declares Yahweh, they will no longer say, 'The ark of the covenant of Yahweh.' And it will not come to mind, nor will they remember it, nor will they miss it, nor will it be made again.

At that time, they will call Jerusalem 'The Throne of Yahweh,' and all the nations will be gathered to it, to Jerusalem, for the name of Yahweh; nor will they walk anymore after the stubbornness of their evil heart. In those days the house of Judah will walk with the house of Israel, and they will come together from the land of the north to the land that I gave your fathers as an inheritance.

Then I said, 'How I would set you among My sons and give you a pleasant land, the most beautiful inheritance of the nations!' And I said, 'You shall call Me, My Father, and not turn away from following Me.'

Jeremiah 23:3-6

Then I Myself will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and bring them back to their pasture, and they will be fruitful and multiply. I will also raise up shepherds over them and they will tend them; and they will not be afraid any longer, nor be terrified, nor will any be missing," declares Yahweh.

Behold, the days are coming, declares Yahweh, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely; and this is His name by which He will be called, 'Yahweh Tsidkenu' (Yahweh our righteousness).

All those who survive the great slaughter of the wicked will go up from year-to-year and worship the King, the Lord of Hosts, and to celebrate the Festival of Booths.² They will enter in through the gates of this city (though the Chosen of God) and come to meet with Yahweh. Sitting on Jesus' throne, the bondservants of Christ—those faithful shepherds—will forever and ever rule the Righteous and the Elect—those of the nations that are permitted to enter the holy city.

What begins as a 1,000-year reign (in the Millennial Kingdom) will stretch into eternity—forever and ever!

2 Timothy 2:11-12

It is a trustworthy statement. For if we died with Him, we will also in the future live with Him; if we

² See **Zechariah 14:16**

Revelation 22:5-6 4

now endure, we will also in the **future** choose to reign with Him.

Romans 5:17

For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who are now receiving the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will in the **future** reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

Matthew 19:27-29

Then Peter said to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You; what then will there in the future choose to be for us?" And Jesus said to them, "Truly I now say to you, that you who have been following Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man may sit on His glorious throne, you also will in the <u>future</u> choose to sit upon twelve thrones, <u>now</u> judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Daniel 7:18

But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.'

Daniel 7:24-27

As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

But the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.

Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.

An eternal rule is the future destiny of those who are now overcoming and are now believing. This is the glorious future of the bride of Christ, the holy city, the new Jerusalem. They will rule and reign with Christ forever and ever over those of the nations who are permitted access to Yahweh through His bondservants (His wife).

These Words: Faithful & True

Revelation 22:6

And he **now** says to me, "These words, faithful and true."

And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bondservants the things which **now** must soon choose to take place.

Faithful & True

The angel who had been talking to John and showing Him the bride of Christ affirms that the words he spoke are "faithful and true." This phrase "faithful and true" is used 4x in Revelation, confirming that from one end of creation to the other, the word of God is solid, reliable, unbending, and will always accomplish His purposes, it is just a matter of time.³ After all, Jesus Himself is the Word of God and He is the faithful witness.4

In the letter to the church at Laodicea, Jesus is called the Amen, the "faithful and true" witness. 5 When we see Jesus at His Second Coming riding on a white horse, He is called "faithful and true". 6 Next, He who sits on the throne (another reference to Jesus) said, "these words are 'faithful and true." And now this angel attests to the fact that all he has revealed to John is "faithful and true."

It is just as the Codex confirms: "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it."

Faithful and true defines **Yahweh** and every word He has breathed.

The Greek word "logos" is translated as "word." And it is important to note that the idea of "logos" goes beyond print on a page or the literal words uttered from the Lord's mouth, but it embodies the entire concept of thought, the entire narrative that goes beyond the words.

A Greek philosopher named Heraclitus first used the term "logos" around 600 B.C. to designate the divine reason or plan which coordinates a changing universe. In that light, the entire divine reason or plan which establishes all that takes place and is revealed in this *Revelation* narrative, all that has taken place leading up to the events that occur now and will occur in the future, and all expressions throughout the entire Codex which provide an integrated message systems climaxing in this Revelation narrative, are faithful and true.

After all, this is "the Revelation of Jesus Christ," and "In the beginning was the logos and the logos was with God and logos was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things by choice came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came, by choice, into being, that has come into being."8 "And

³ According to the **Code** the number 4 speaks of God's creative works.

⁴ John 1:1; Revelation 1:5

⁵ Revelation 3:14

⁶ Revelation 19:11

⁷ Isaiah 55:10-11

⁸ See **Revelation 1:1; John 1:1-3**

the logos chose to become flesh and dwelt among us, and by choice, we saw His glory, as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."9

God of the Spirits of the Prophets

"And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bondservants the things which **now** must soon choose to take place."

Spirits of the Prophets & Angels

The Spirit confirms that His chosen avenue of communication is through various agency relationships: through both prophets and angels. It seems He loves to engage others in His work, as the Spirit express Himself in-and-through the personalities and personhood of others. The expression is still all Him, it is just uniquely expressed through the vessel He uses.

This concept of "the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets," is picked up in a discourse expressed by the Spirit through the Apostle Peter.

2 Peter 1:16-21

For we were not following cleverly tales caused to being devised when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were caused to being eyewitnesses of His majesty. For when He was receiving honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was caused to being made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is now My beloved Son with whom I am wellpleased" — and we ourselves heard this utterance caused to being made from heaven now being with Him on the holy mountain.

We also **now** have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you **now** do well to **now** be paying attention as to a lamp now caused to be shining, now choosing to be shining, in a dark place, until the day may dawn and the morning star may arise in your hearts.

But **now** knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is **now** caused to be, or **now** chooses to be, a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever caused to be made by an act of human will, but men spoke from God now caused to being moved by the Holy Spirit.

The words of the prophets rang true in the hearts of the Jews as well as the early Christians. Accordingly, Jesus wants us to trust the *Revelation* narrative as we have trusted the messages delivered from the prophets of old all across the Codex, for this Revelation narrative brings forth a culmination and integration of all that has been revealed. They "spirits of the prophets" of old brought to us the Word of God, it was certain, authoritative, we believed it, and it has been a lamp unto our feet. And the message of the Revelation, though delivered through an angel, is the authoritative message regarding the affairs of humanity, and we are to believe it and bet our lives upon it.

Remember, these "words" (the "logos") are faithful and true.

⁹ John 1:14

The Code

This is the reason it is so beyond dangerous and reckless to ignore the Code. Throughout this study, we have done our best to address the text in the manner in which it was spoken, through the spirit of the prophets, and delivered by angels, all across the Codex, believing whole heartedly that "These words are faithful and true." The verb tenses, case, and mood, how the Spirit spoke it, has been considered and not ignored. As Bible students, it is so important to not artificially constrain the "logos" to something we understand or that fits our religious paradigm, for if we do, we end up with powerless and empty *fiction*, words that are good merely for entertainment or religious consumption, but not for knowing the "logos."

Angels as Messengers

We discussed this before, and it is one of the most startling revelations coming out of the book of Job, God works through His ministering servants (the angels), both the good and the bad ones, for they are all ministering spirits.¹⁰ He takes the responsibility for all that is done, and said, but He does the work through his agents. These ministering spirits ensure that His word is delivered, and His purposes are executed so that His will in heaven is done on earth.

EVERYTHING ORIGINATES FROM THE ALPHA AND OMEGA, THE FIRST AND THE LAST, THE BEGINNING AND THE END, AND IS PUT INTO EFFECT VIA THE AGENCY OF THE ANGELIC (YAHWEH'S MINISTERING SERVANTS, WHICH INCLUDES SATAN AND HIS DEMONIC HORDES¹¹), ALL OF WHICH THEN PLAYS OUT ON EARTH, FULFILLING THE PROMISE THAT THESE WORDS (THE "LOGOS") ARE FAITHFUL AND TRUE.

The Bondservants: A Private Viewing

"And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His **bondservants** the things which **now** must soon choose to take place."

This angel was sent to show to **Yahweh's** bondservants the things which now must soon take place. This was not just a message for John, but it was for all who now have ears to hear what the Spirit is now saying to the churches—all those who are now overcoming and now believing—the bondservants of Yahweh. This message is targeted at the 144,000, those who are now worshipping in the Sanctuary and who now comprise the holy city, the New Jerusalem, the bride of Christ, the wife of the Lamb.

In that regard, and with this being "the Revelation (or the "unveiling") of Jesus Christ," the purpose of this book is all about knowing the "logos" of God, knowing Jesus Christ, the one who is revealed in every word of this book. This is in effect, a private viewing of Jesus for a very exclusive private gathering.

Though people can take parts of this book and make it an evangelical message to the nations or even use it to drive fear into the hearts of mankind, and so on, and preach its contents in church after church and book after book, its fundamental purpose, its reason, is all about intimacy between Jesus and His wife. He wants his wife to know Him exactly as He is, as He chooses to reveal Himself to her.

¹⁰ See **Job 1-2**; **Hebrews 1:7**, **14**

¹¹ Hebrews 1:4, 7 (note: "all", meaning both good and bad angels)

Jesus wants to remove all the religious notions, indoctrination, and nonsense that have been fused into her heart by the Professionals, by the whispers of the "Image," and the distortions of truth brought about by all manner of demonic entities. He wants her to understand how He is so contrasted with the Harlot. He wants His bride to be to see the marvel and glory of all that He brings forth through the angelic entities, including the Beast, the False Prophet, and how He manhandles the Dragon, the devil, the serpent of old, that twisted serpent, the Satan, the Accuser of the brethren.

Through revealing His thoughts, intentions, plans, desires, and modes of action, Jesus wants His bride to fall ever more in love with him and be thoroughly convinced that He is worth waiting for, worth betting their lives upon, and now and continually believing. He wants her to see the marvel of the "logos" so that she will never be persuaded to go back to drinking the deep, dark, red wine of the Harlot, but will choose to stay worshipping in the Sanctuary, now choosing to be coming out of the great tribulation.

Think of this book, and all that it has revealed throughout the **Codex** and integrated from the **Codex**, as a love letter to His bride. To Him, she is the most beautiful of all His creations, able to hold His stare with a single glance. He wants her to feel for Hiim what He feels for her. So, He opens Himself up and unveils who He is, in large part through what He does, but most importantly through WHY He has done, now does, and in the future will do all that He has revealed. It is all for her. It is all so that she can share His nature and be one with Him, just as He is one with the Father.

We must not miss this reason, this purpose. It is all about love, His mad and passionate love for His bride. That is why this Revelation narrative has been given to His bondservants. He desires every one of them to continue their journey of faith with Him, clinging to Him as a little child, for all things all the time, and to never apostatize, as so many have done, and so many will do.

Must Now Soon Take Place

"And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bondservants the things which now must soon choose to take place."

Now Must

Given that "must" is rendered in the present tense, we are to understand that the angel was sent to give Yahweh's bondservants a sense of the urgency and certainty around all that has been revealed. As we have learned, much of the events that have been revealed begun in John's day, in his now, and they continue to occur in our now, and they will continue to unfold in the now of each day. Thus, "now" has been and is relevant to each generation.

For example, going back to the opening of the seven seals, we found that it was not until we reached the opening of the sixth seal that we were ushered into the time we call the "End Times." The events depicted in the first five seals, including what has been called the "4-Horsemen of the Apocalypse" are happening now, and have been happening every moment of now from time past.

The use of the word "must," is used to convey certainty but also need. It will all unfold exactly as He has declared because it needs to be so and must be so. Nothing will be altered, as even the choice of each character has been marked for certainty.

Soon

This notion of "soon" is one of the most difficult notions to reconcile in our minds since we live within

time, and so "soon" has a very distinct meaning. However, God transcends time, and since this entire narrative is written from a perspective of the heavenly realm, we have learned that "soon" has its own unique meaning that is quite different from ours.

From God's perspective, "soon" can mean an event will take place immediately or in thousands of years. It is all relative, and one must see things, as John did, from the heavenly perspective to grasp this notion of "soon."

Choice

It is so odd that "take place" is rendered in the middle voice, indicating that a choice is made by the one who is being described. Throughout the book of Revelation, the Spirit of God ascribes a level of cognition and sentient-will to various elements of creation that we would otherwise not consider having a choice in the matter. It seems that freewill and choice is a constant amongst all of God's creation.

This is one of the reasons the book of *Revelation* cannot be understood from a bottoms-up perspective, from the view of humanity looking into spiritual events. That is the reason why John was commanded to "come up here," and then John made a choice (rendered in the middle voice) to be in spirit and obey the command to come up into the heavenly realms to get a view according to how God sees all things. 12 Reality as it exists in the spiritual realm is far different than what we experience in our physical realm, which is merely a shadow of the truth that exists in the spiritual unseen realm.

Accordingly, the events must now soon choose to take place.

Let's stop here and in our next podcast we will pick up with Jesus' statement that He now chooses to come quickly; He also will leave us with a blessing.

I am glad you "tuned in" and have been "ready to listen."

¹² Revelation 4:1-2