In our last podcast, we discussed the famous cry "come Lord Jesus." Revelation 22:17 provides multiple commands directed at Jesus and directed at those who are now hearing, now thirsting, and now willing. We discovered that this cry is an invitation for Jesus to come and invade our now and do what is necessary to secure us as those who are Called and Chosen and Faithful, the bride of Christ. Jesus says that He chooses to now come quickly, and He in turn then commands the one who is now thirsting and now willing to come to Him and He will come to them.

Let's pick back up and discuss the Divine Threat.

# **EP202 Revelation 22:18-19**

## **Divine Threat**

#### **Revelation 22:18-19**

I now testify to everyone who is now hearing the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone may add to them, God will in the future add to him the plagues (wounds) caused to being written in this book; and if anyone may take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will in the future take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which have been caused to being written in this book.

Wow! That is one scary promise. Don't add to it and don't lessen, take away, or devalue the things that have been written. I don't even think this WARNING needs much elaboration.

Jesus is deathly serious about what He has caused to be written and its veracity. He testifies or bears witness that He will punish anyone who messes with this book. Don't do it; all that He says is faithful and true. It would not be worth the risk.

Jesus bears witness to everyone who is "now hearing the words of the prophecy of this book." As we have learned, not everyone who has auditory function can hear. Over-and-over, at the end of every letter He inscribed to each of the seven churches in **Revelation 2** and **3**, Jesus said, "He who is **now** having an ear is commanded to hear what the Spirit now says to the churches." What became clear is that not everyone who read or heard the letter was in a position, in their now, to hear and to comprehend the words of the Spirit. "Now having an ear" is a spiritual condition, not a physical condition.

There have been so many difficult truths that we have uncovered in this book, truths that cut across the norm of what is considered by the Professionals, the to be acceptable Christianity. Some who are listening or reading have heard these truths and have adopted these truths, and guard them like a watchman. But still far too many others don't want the truth, they don't like it, and they simply cannot hear.

So, we need to ask, why is Jesus giving this testimony to those who have hears to hear, those who are "now hearing" and not to others, to those who need to now be hearing?

It seems He wants His bondservants to understand more about who He is. He wants His bondservants to understand more about the judgment He brings upon those in His household who do not now have ears to hear; and, as a result, end up distorting or altering (adding or taking away) the truths He has revealed.

In large part it seems to be a damning judgment on the Professionals identified in Revelation 18, the Merchants of the earth, the Shipmasters, Sailors, and those making their living by the sea, those whose trade is the word of God.

In the same manner, perhaps He does not want those who have open channels of communication to ever abuse it, like the Professionals, and never become spiritually arrogant and play lose and easy with His words. Again, He testifies to the veracity of all He has said, and He does not want anyone, not even those with ears to hear, to take liberties with His Word, indulging their own sensualities.

# To Add & Take Away

The issue is: if anyone "may add" to the words or if anyone "may take" away from the words, both "add" and "take" are rendered in the aorist active subjunctive, indicating the possibility of the action sometime in their life (being in the *aorist* tense, there is no direct connection to time).

The "words" are found in the prophecy of this book. Both "prophecy" and "book" are singular. We therefore cannot look at this book of *Revelation* as sectional or a collection of individual prophecies. It is all one big prophecy, and it is contained in one book.

Moreover, the Spirit addresses this issue in two ways, just to be sure that there is no way to fenagle an exception out from what He says: If anyone may add to the "Words of the prophecy of this book" or if anyone may take away from the "Words of the book of this prophecy."

Many teachers and believers might not realize it, but the Spirit has just said something that has terrifying implications. For the most part, this is not talking about someone who writes a 23rd chapter to the book as many movies have fictionalized (though that would be included), but it addresses all the fictions that have been authoritatively taught in the religion of Christianity about this book and about this prophecy which have either added to the words of the prophecy of this book or taken away from the words of the book of this prophecy.

For instance, if we were to go back through the **FICTIONS** that we identified, they either added to the prophetic narrative or they removed something that was uncomfortable, or which did not fit in the world view of the proponents of those fictions, including the consistent utilization of the Code.

This is the reason why sticking to the **Code** is so important, for if one chooses to ignore the **Code** they will be operating largely from their religious licentiousness and their personal bias (just as Jude warned), with the result being that they add or take away from "the words of the prophecy of this book" and "the words of the book of this prophecy."

Just consider all the translation issues that we encountered that were contrary to the Code, because the truth did not fit into the translators' "traditions" or their religious world view. These translators added and took away from "the words of the prophecy of this book" and "the words of the book of this prophecy."

## The Code

We addressed the Code early in our study. If there is no plumbline by which to navigate this book and this prophecy, then everyone gets to give their own opinion as to what is the truth, so much so that whole generations of people end up following additions to this book and additions to this prophecy as well as deletions to this book and to this prophecy. It is a terrifying reality. And worse of all, the Professionals have been trained in the use of the Code, they just choose to ignore it because they have been trained, indoctrinated, and are paid to hold the status quo of their denomination or field of study.

The Code, whether in the use of language (verb tenses, mood, case, number, and so on), the use of colors, numbers, images, phrases, the connected scriptures all throughout the Codex, and so, on are all how the Holy Spirit chose to communicate. And He did so not just in the words of this prophecy and the words of this book, but all throughout the Codex. He is shockingly consistent in how He uses the Code. For instance, as we discussed many times, the image of something being "white" has never been an idiom of deception and corruption. It has consistently been used, all throughout the Codex, as a symbol of righteousness, purity, and that which is clean.

And if He (the Spirit of God) was so careful and manically detailed in writing the Old Testament such that every little jot and tittle was inspired by Him, and every single prophetic word was inspired by Him (for "no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God...for all scripture is inspired by God"), and if Yahweh is the same yesterday, today, and forever, then why would the New Testament or the words of this prophecy and the words of this book be any different.<sup>1</sup> To argue otherwise is to deny the character and nature of God and His Spirit. After all, He unequivocally states, "For I **Yahweh** do not change."<sup>2</sup>

Besides, without the plumbline of the Code, everyone just makes up their own interpretation of the words of the prophecy of this book and the words of the book of this prophecy based on nothing more than their own religious licentiousness—even though that may have been learned at the finest of religious institutions taught by the "godliest" of men. Regardless, without the consistent use of the Code, things are added to, and things are taken away from "the words of the prophecy of this book" and "the words of the book of this prophecy."

The Spirit also said, "But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation."3

This means there CANNOT be many truths, there is one truth—His truth—and everything else is a dangerous fiction. Likewise, there CANNOT be many interpretations and positions, there is just His interpretation and position, and that should be what we seek, for everything else is false.

In that light, following the Code is a lot like following a map. If you stick to the path that has been transcribed onto the map, there is a good chance you will land at your destiny. But if you deviate from the path because you do not like the route that has been detailed, then you will likely miss the destination.

And if we simply let the "the words of the prophecy of this book" and "the words of the book of this prophecy" speak for themselves, and then let the Codex explain things to us, then we have a much better chance of understanding what the Spirit is saying to the churches. It is like having multiple pieces of a map that are all pointing to the same destiny. Put the pieces together and "whalah," the path is charted. We then need to be careful to choose to follow the path.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Matthew 5:18; Luke 16:17; 1 Peter 1:21-22; 2 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 1:12, 13:8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Malachi 3:6

<sup>3 2</sup> Peter 1:20

This is, however, a huge **WARNING** for everyone who studies the Bible. After all, Jesus is not above hiding His word and its meaning from those who are **NOT** now having ears to hear. For instance, it is why He spoke in parables in the first place. Quoting from *Isaiah 6:9-10*, Jesus said,

#### Matthew 13:12-15

For whoever **now** has, to him more shall in the **<u>future</u>** be caused to be given, and he will in the **<u>future</u>** be caused to have an abundance; but whoever does not **now** have, even what he has shall in the **<u>future</u>** be caused to be taken away from him.

Therefore, I now speak to them in parables; because while now seeing they do not now see, and while now hearing they now do not now hear, nor do they now understand. In their case the prophecy of Isaiah is now caused to be fulfilled, which says,

'YOU WILL IN THE <u>FUTURE</u> KEEP ON HEARING, BUT WILL NOT POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND; YOU WILL IN THE <u>FUTURE</u> KEEP ON <u>NOW</u> SEEING, BUT WILL NOT POSSIBLY PERCEIVE; FOR THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE HAS BEEN CAUSED TO BECOME DULL, WITH THEIR EARS THEY SCARCELY HEAR, AND THEY HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT SEE WITH THEIR EYES, MIGHT HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, AND POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART AND MIGHT RETURN, AND I WOULD IN THE **FUTURE** CHOOSE TO HEAL THEM.'

The principle is that those who are **NOT** now hearing, He will let them continue in their delusions and **fictions**, but the penalty to be paid is terrifying: the plagues in this book (which is another way of saying they will be left behind) and God will remove that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book. That is another way of saying that those who have been called into the Household of God but choose to add or take away from "the words of the prophecy of this book" and "the words of the book of this prophecy" will have their names erased from the lamb's book of life. And they are **NOT** and will **NOT** be part of the bride, the wife of Christ.

#### **Erased**

This passage brings up a scary truth. Do you remember the promise Jesus made to the church at Sardis? He said that those who are now overcoming will be clothed in white garments and that He will **NOT** erase their names from the book of life. The clear implication is that those who are **NOT** now overcoming He **WILL** erase their names from the book of life or said another way, remove their names from the registry of citizenship in the Kingdom of God, such that they will **NOT** have a share in the tree of life and they will **NOT** abide in the holy city.

We studied the "Book of Life" when we addressed the great White Throne Judgment. We found that anyone whose name is not found written in the book of life is thrown into the lake of fire (this is the "Second Death"). The terrifying implication is that names which at one time were in the book of life are erased, removed, thereby expelling those individuals from citizenship in the Kingdom.

In Psalm 69, which is a very Messianic Psalm, prophetically describing various times in Jesus' life,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Revelation 3:5

including His crucifixion, the Spirit, through King David, cried out "Erase their names from the book of life, don't let them be counted among the righteous." Thus, those who were once in are now permanently out.

### **Now and Continually**

There have been many people "called" into the household of God. Many have said the "prayer" and asked God into their life, to come into their heart, to be their Savior, or words of similar effect. As we have learned, being called into God's household is just the first part of an enduring relationship – it is **Step-1**. The first step is to be converted by God, or born-again.

However, to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, to have a place and position in the Kingdom of Heaven, once converted by God, a person must then choose to become a little child, dependent upon their Father for all things all the time. Little children do not choose the direction of their lives, little children do not provide for themselves, little children do not protect themselves, little children do not tend to their own needs, little children do not set themselves apart for God, little children do know what is good for their lives, what to eat, what to do, where to go, and so on. Little children do not have the wisdom, the knowledge, or understanding for any complex matters. Those are all choices and tasks that are left to the parent(s). Little children wander, play, cry, demand, throw fits, smile, and embrace, but little else.

We discussed this when we talked about the most profound *conjunction* in the entire **Codex**, a conjunction that, for the most part, seems to be ignored by the Professionals.

#### Matthew 18:3

Truly I **now** say to you, unless you may be caused to be converted **AND** you may choose to become like children, you may not enter the kingdom of heaven.

This is not a one-time choice made during an emotional or even a logical prayer, it is a lifestyle choice, an ongoing decision to now live according to the **Substitution Principle** (His life for ours), where one learns, over time, to become dependent upon **Yahweh** for all things, all the time.

In this light, we can better understand the implication of **John 1:12**. "But as many as have received Him, to them He gave the right {the authority}, to choose to become children of God, even to those who are **now** believing in His name."<sup>5</sup>

The Spirit is very precise; those who receive Jesus into their lives, into their heart, are not automatically made into a child of God. They must become one through intentionally choosing to be a child, to live emotionally, practically, like a little child who is dependent upon their Father for all things all the time. Jesus modeled this for us when He communicated that He only did what His Father told Him to do, He only went where His Father told Him to go, and the words He spoke were not His own, but those of the Father.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> **John 1:12**, "become" is rendered in the *aorist middle infinitive* and "believe" is rendered in the *present active* participle.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> John 5:19-20, 26-27, 36, 8:28, 38, 10:32, 37-38, 12:50, 14:10-11, 30-31, 15:15 and John 4:4 where Jesus "had" to pass through Samaria, as "had" is rendered in the imperfect active indicative. In other words, the Father appointed

Those who make this choice and continue in this choice, they are the bondservants of God whose names will not be erased from the book of Life. And that choice is secured simply through our willingness to now be believing in (or betting our lives upon) His name: Yahweh, the Hayah, the one who is our I AM, our resource and provision for every aspect of our lives.

If we bet our lives on the truth that He is the I AM, then we will live like that little child, dependent upon Him to be our I AM. Which means we can no longer live as if we are the I AM of our own life.

With this understanding, both *Matthew* and *John* describe a saving relationship as one who is "called" and has "chosen" to be faithful. After all, many are called, but few chosen. Few make this choice to live like a little child, dependent upon Yahweh for all things all the time. And from those few who do, even fewer are faithful and endure to the end.

The point is that this WARNING of having their part in the tree of life and in the holy city taken away by God should not hit us as a shock. It is consistent with what we have learned about betting our lives on the word of God and the truth, what He has chosen to say versus what we think He has chosen to say.

However, it seems that those who do not want the truth to be the truth but want the truth to conform and meld into their religious licentiousness, are those who add to "the words of the prophecy of this book" and "the words of the book of this prophecy," They need the words of this prophecy and the words of this book to say what they want it to say for a myriad of reasons that are likely all tied to the apostasies of Cain – the lusts of the flesh (6), the apostasies of Balaam – the lusts of the eyes (6), and the apostasies of Korah – the boastful pride of life (6), combined to complete the infamous and mysterious number of the Beast: 666.

#### **Additions and Deletions**

Let's re-address some of the additions and deletions that we discovered. It would be too much to go back over every passage and detail every deviation from the map, so you just might have to listen to this or read the transcript over-and-over-and-over again. But some of the fictions that add to or take away from the "the words of the prophecy of this book" and "the words of the book of this prophecy" are as follows:

- The evangelical philosophy of "salvation"
- The Opening of the 1<sup>st</sup> Scroll is the beginning of the Tribulation
- The White Horse and Rider = the Antichrist
- **Black Horse = Global Famine**
- **Invention of a category of believers as Tribulation Saints**
- The Souls of those beheaded = Tribulation Saints
- 144,000 = the Jewish Remnant

it in the past and Jesus therefore had to complete this task. He was bound to complete it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Philippians 4:3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Matthew 18:3; John 1:12

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Matthew 22:14

- The 144,000 will evangelize the world
- Those who come out of the great tribulation = "Tribulation Saints"
- The 2 Witnesses are 2 individuals
- A 3<sup>rd</sup> Jewish Temple will be built
- The Holy City = Jerusalem
- The Beast = Satan
- The Great City = Jerusalem
- Where Their Lord was Crucified = Jerusalem
- The Woman with Child = the Church
- God cannot look upon evil
- Antichrist is a global ruler for 7-years
- **Captivity and the Sword is an End Times phenomenon**
- The Second Beast, the False Prophet, possesses a man
- The Mark of the Beast 666 is an End Times phenomenon
- The Beast takes his seat in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Jewish Temple
- The Doctrine of Imminence
- The claim that there is no prophetic event required to happen before the Rapture
- Literal Kings from the East cross a dried-up Euphrates River
- Behold I Come Like a Thief = Rapture
- Armageddon = a 145 square mile plain that is called the valley of Megiddo, or the plain of Jezreel
- The 7-Hills = Rome which is a euphemism for the Catholic Church and a revised Roman Empire.
- Satan is currently bound in the Abyss, and we are living in the Millennium Kingdom, and he has no more ability to deceive the nations
- People will literally be beheaded by the kingdom of the Antichrist
- If a person's good deeds exceed their bad deeds, they will get into heaven
- The Restrainer, the one holding back the Antichrist, is the church, or the Spirit's work in the church
- There are only two categories of humanity, those born-again who are going to heaven, and everyone else who is going to hell, destined for the Second Death in the Lake of Fire
- People in heaven will be walking on literal streets of gold

- The failure to understand that the New Jerusalem is merely a picture of the Bride of Christ
- The imagery in Revelation is to be understood from the earthly experience, versus from how God sees things from the heavenly realms
- Revelation is primarily about the future, ETERNITY THEN verses now, and ETERNITY NOW
- There are partial resurrections of the dead unto life, instead of just one, the resurrection,
- The kingdom of the Antichrist is the revived Roman Empire
- The New Jerusalem is a literal city with literal streets of gold
- 2 Categories of people: those who have accepted Jesus and those who have not
- **Revelation was written for unbelievers**

What is shocking is that despite such a scary WARNING, people have added to the words of the prophecy of this book and taken away from the words of the book of this prophecy through fiction after fiction. And the above list does not even capture all the deviations from the Code and all the translation errors that seemed very intentional to fit a certain pre-determined theological view.

Accordingly, none of us should dismiss or ignore this **WARNING**. If anyone attempts to alter the things of this book, they seal their doom. They prove themselves to be unbelievers; thus, the plagues in this book will fall upon them and they will have no part in the tree of life—no right and no authority. Further, they will have no right to abide in the holy city. For to them it will be forbidden as they will be those who are "outside" and abide in the **Second Death** for all eternity because they believed "the lie." It is scary.

Simply said, it is very dangerous to approach the word of God from a pre-determined theological positioning versus truly and honestly letting the Word of God speak for itself by sticking to what the Spirit has said and how He has said it. It makes a difference in one's eternal destiny, the difference between life and death, having one's name written or removed from the Lamb's book of life.

Let's stop here and in our next podcast we will pick up with the final two verses in the book of Revelation.

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