Ready or Not Notes

Revelation 22:6-15

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Main Point: Because God's Word is reliable and Jesus is returning soon, we must be ready for His return.

God's Word is Reliable

1. The phrase, "these words" is emphatic and refers to what the angel is about to say, to what has already been recorded in Revelation, and to the whole of sacred Scripture.
2. "Trustworthy" means "rock _____ and believable."
3. The word "true" means, "real and _____, versus spurious or false."
4. We must not _____, diminish, or supplement God's revealed Word (Proverbs 30:5-6).
5. Six key biblical and historical truths to keep in mind.
    - These additional books are not newly discovered revelations that have previously been lost.
        - The word "apocrypha" means "_____ or secret."
        - These manuscripts contain stories of doubtful authorship, disputed authenticity, or unknown origin fall _____ the accepted standard collection of sacred Scripture.
        - Also called "pseudepigraphal" (_____) writings.
    - These books were _____ removed by Christians or banned by them.
        - The extra books in the Ethiopian Bible were never included in the canon of Scripture because they were not recognized as _____ and authoritative.
    - Just because a book is old, does not mean it is inspired.
    - The Ethiopian Bible contains _____ doctrines and theological speculations.
        - While some of these writings preserve helpful historical context, others contain speculative and potentially harmful doctrines.
            - Sensationalized angelology and demonology.
            - Noah's birth story.
            - Cosmic warehouses and portals of Heaven.
    - Citing a source does not make the whole work inspired.
    - _____ of algorithm-driven discipleship.
6. The Scriptures alone are sufficient for salvation and sanctification, requiring no _____ revelations, church tradition or modern philosophies.
7. Some of us don't need more information; we need more _____.

Jesus is Returning Soon

1. What makes the Bible true is that "the Lord the God of the spirits of the prophets" is the one _____ out His Word through men who recorded Scripture (2 Peter 1:20-21).
2. The phrase "must soon take place" has the idea of "_____, suddenly, and speedily."

3. The word “behold” is used to call _____ to what follows.
4. His coming is already in _____.
5. Implications of the closeness and _____ of Christ’s return.
    - His return demands our joyful _____.
        - The word “keep” means “to _____, to fulfill, to heed, to guard like a warden.”
        - Prophecy is not designed to satisfy our curiosity but to sanctify our _____.
        - This reinforces the necessity of _____ our minds and hearts from unbiblical and extrabiblical truth and to make sure we’re hearing and heeding God’s Word alone.
    - His return calls for _____ (verses 8-9)
    - His return calls for _____ (vs. 10).
        - The word “seal” means to “_____ or keep secret.”
        - The Bible is not a closed book, accessible only to those entrusted with its secrets.
        - When Jesus comes back it will be so sudden, that evildoers will have no time to _____ their ways (Isaiah 32:6).
        - The righteous, on the other hand, are ready to go at any time and will be _____ for how they have stewarded their time, talents, and treasures.
    - His return brings reward and _____.
        - We see how the Old Testament is fulfilled in the Book of Revelation as this verse comes from Isaiah 40:10.
    - His return unveils His divine _____ (vs. 13).
        - Jesus is eternal, omnipresent, and omnipotent.
        - When Jesus returns, He will come triumphantly as the Creator and Lord of all, claiming what is _____ His.

We Must Be Ready (vs. 14).

1. This blessing is plural, which speaks of _____ blessings given to those who are washed by the blood of Jesus.
2. Soiled robes represent _____ and washing speaks of the cleansing of sin that accompanies salvation.
3. To those of us who know Christ, we have access forever to the tree of _____ (Revelation 21:25).
4. Dogs at that time were dirty and _____ scavengers, concerned only about their physical well-being.
5. The term “dogs” was used to describe _____ and false teachers in the Bible.

Action Steps

1. Be baptized
2. Live righteously.
3. Share the Gospel
4. Prepare your heart for Christmas.
5. Cross the bridge of salvation.