

# SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:**                      **THE FUTURE IS HERE**

**SERMON REFERENCE:**            **REVELATION 1:1-3**

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:**        **#2333**

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## 1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is at hand.
- b) The book of the Revelation gives us a steadfast hope.
  - i) There are two books in the Bible that the devil especially hates:
    - (1) Genesis
      - (a) In Genesis, Satan's doom is prophesied.
    - (2) Revelation
      - (a) In Revelation, Satan's doom is realized.
  - ii) There is no devil in the first two chapters or the last two chapters of the Word of God.
- c) Revelation and Genesis are tied together.
  - i) In Genesis, we see the creation of the heavens and the earth. In Revelation, we see the new heavens and the new earth.
  - ii) In Genesis, we see the first Adam reigning on earth. In Revelation, we see the last Adam reigning in glory.
  - iii) In Genesis, we see an earthly bride brought to the first Adam. In Revelation, we see a heavenly bride brought to the last Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - iv) In Genesis, we see the beginning of death and the curse. In Revelation, the Savior brings us to a state where there is no more death or curse.
  - v) In Genesis, man is driven from the face of God in sin. In Revelation, we see God's face in glory.
  - vi) In Genesis, Satan appears for the first time. In Revelation Satan appears for the last time.
- d) The book of the Revelation is the golden clasp that brings the entire Bible together.

## 2) THE CENTRAL PERSON OF THE BOOK (Revelation 1:1-2)

- a) Jesus Christ is the central person of the book of the Revelation.
- b) We are not looking for something to happen; we're looking for someone to come.
- c) The book of the Revelation is the revelation of Jesus Christ.
  - i) The Greek word for "revelation" literally means an unveiling.
  - ii) Jesus' glory will be unveiled.
    - (1) When He came the first time, His glory was veiled.
    - (2) When He came the first time, He came to a crucifixion. When He comes the second time, He's coming to a coronation.
    - (3) He came the first time in shame. He's coming again in splendor.
    - (4) He came the first time to a tree. He's coming again to a throne.
    - (5) When He came the first time, He stood before Pilate. When He comes again, Pilate will stand before him to be judged.
    - (6) He came the first time as a servant. He is coming again as a sovereign.

## 3) THE CLEAR PURPOSE OF THE BOOK (Revelation 1:1)

- a) Jesus has come to show His servants the future, and only God knows the future.
- b) The word "servant" in this passage means "bond slaves."
  - i) A bond slave is willingly a slave to the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - (1) Our lives are not our own; we belong to the Lord Jesus.
    - (2) We will not understand the book of the Revelation unless we are bond slaves to Jesus.

- c) The book of the Revelation tells us things which must come to pass.
    - i) History is not happening randomly.
    - ii) God is in control.
      - (1) Ephesians 1:11
    - iii) The Holy Trinity never meets in an emergency session.
    - iv) The devil does not know the future.
    - v) Only God knows the future; only God can prophesy.
  - d) The clear purpose of the book is to reveal the future.
    - i) There are different ways in which people view the book of the Revelation.
      - (1) Some view the book as already fulfilled in the first century.
      - (2) Others believe that Revelation is an outline of history, beginning in the first century and continuing to present day.
      - (3) Others believe the book to be a spiritual allegory comparing the battle of good and evil.
      - (4) We know the clear purpose of the book to be the unveiling of future events, the consummation of the age.
  - e) When you're certain of your future, then you can concentrate on your present.
- 4) THE COMFORTING PROMISE OF THE BOOK (Revelation 1:2-3)
- a) There is a promised blessing if we will read, heed and keep the book of the Revelation; it is a blessing book.
    - i) We are to read it.
    - ii) We are to hear it.
      - (1) Revelation 2:7
    - iii) We are to keep it.
      - (1) We need to obey it.
      - (2) There are some commands in the book, and one of them is to bring souls to Jesus.
        - (a) Revelation 22:17
        - (b) If we truly believe that the end of all things may be close at hand, then we will not be so casual about soul winning.
  - b) The Bible is the only book that can bless you.
  - c) You will be blessed by studying the book of the Revelation.
    - i) It will unlock the mystery of history.
      - (1) In Eastern religions, history is cyclical, where you keep repeating and coming back until you get it right.
        - (a) Re-incarnation
      - (2) Bible history is linear; we're moving toward a goal.
        - (a) The kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ.
        - (b) Revelation 11:15
      - (3) The world is in a mess today because things are out of place.
        - (a) Jesus is the King, and the King belongs on the throne.
        - (b) The church, who is the bride, belongs with the groom.
        - (c) The criminal, Satan, belongs in prison.
      - (4) One day, when the King is on the throne and the bride is with the groom and the criminal is in prison, then we will understand the way things are meant to be.

- (a) The book of the Revelation tells us how this is going to come to pass.
  - ii) It will bring sense to our suffering.
    - (1) Revelation 21:4
  - iii) It will give stability in chaotic times.
    - (1) Revelation 1:8
    - (2) Jesus Christ is the Almighty.
    - (3) The book of the Revelation means that we win.
    - (4) The second coming of Jesus Christ gives us stability.
  
- 5) THE CERTAIN PROPHECY OF THE BOOK (Revelation 1:3)
  - a) The time is at hand.
    - i) This does not mean that the time is immediate; it means that it is imminent.
    - ii) Jesus Christ can come at any moment.
      - (1) We are not waiting for an event in history to take place before He comes again.
      - (2) We are to be living on ready.
  - b) I Peter 4:7
  - c) I Corinthians 10:11
  - d) Philippians 4:5
  - e) James 5:8
  - f) I John 2:18
    - i) These New Testament authors were looking for Jesus to come in their lifetimes.
    - ii) Every Christian must always be living in the light of the imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - iii) We are not waiting on an event; we are waiting for Jesus.
  - g) The imminence of Christ's return does not mean that there are no signs of His coming.
    - i) We see in Revelation fore gleams of things that are to come. But, in spite of this, Jesus may still come at any moment.
  
- 6) CONCLUSION
  - a) We are living in a day that is quickly coming to a climax.
    - i) We are seeing an escalation in scientific progress, technology, etc.
    - ii) The Bible says these things must quickly come to pass.
      - (1) Revelation 1:1
      - (2) Daniel 12:4
    - iii) 2 Timothy 3:13
      - (1) The increased degradation of man coupled with the exponential increase of knowledge is coming together and has been prophesied in the Bible.
  - b) The kingdoms of this world will be the kingdom of our Lord and His Christ.
  - c) The only way to be ready for the second coming of Jesus is to receive Him, who came first to die on the cross as our substitute.
  - d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
  - e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
    - i) Romans 3:23
    - ii) Romans 10:9-10

- iii) Romans 10:13
- iv) Acts 16:31