

General Topics :: Revelation 22:10-11

Revelation 22:10-11 - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2015/6/18 9:51

Maybe I should post this in the scripture forum, but am afraid people won't see it and respond...would like to get your thoughts on my question.

Revelation 22:10-11: And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and the one who is holy, still keep himself holy." NASB

Revelation 22:10-11: "And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still." KJV

I read these verses this morning and for the first time ever, they grabbed my attention - never gave them much thought before. I got to wondering how this looks like where the rubber meets the road.

How would you apply this to life?

Sandra

Re: Revelation 22:10-11 - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/6/18 10:48

Maybe it is a poetic way of saying that at the judgment there will be no doubt as to who gets what. It will be obvious.

Re: Revelation 22:10-11 - posted by enid, on: 2015/6/18 11:09

I don't think it's 'poetry', I think it's fact.

Doesn't God say, be holy, for I am holy? Doesn't God say, without holiness, no one will see the Lord?

How would you apply this to life?

Be holy, for God is holy.

Re: Revelation 22:10-11 - posted by JFW (), on: 2015/6/18 11:14

Blessings Sister Sandra,

This particular passage has also grabbed my attention and has caused me to question age old beliefs that I now understand to be hyperbole. The first time our pastor preached on this it startled me, bursting the paradigm that I had grown so comforted by- namely that "His mercy endureth forever" as the psalmist frequently wrote. This particular passage of scripture seems to be more authoritative in that the chance of it being hyperbole is nil and seems to quite frankly state that in fact His mercy comes to an end right here in vs11 of this 22nd chapter. Other verses seem to readily confirm this fact leading me to consider that perhaps the "Jesus" that most in the modern era believe in is in fact a 2 dimensional construct of our own imagination, a "Jesus" fashioned after our own image if you will.

Recently I've considered several situations in scripture that seems "unchristian" by our modern interpretations, yet undeniably received the full affirmation of God which has led me to reconsider whether the "Jesus" we know is the true and living Christ or just one we made up that's more marketable to the world and more comfortable in our sin...

Basically I'm suggesting we have taken His mercy for granted and have lost that in which our Lord delighted Himself... the fear of God.

Matthew 7:21 on... Jesus clearly states that most "believers" are going to hell with several parables confirming this fact.

2 Thess 2:9-13 Paul clearly states a similar phenomenon occurring and the people in all cases seem oblivious to their condition.

So this begs the question; if we really believe the day will come that you've pointed out in Rev 22:11, or that we might be

given over to a reprobate mind, or sent (by God) a strong delusion that we would believe a lie, or that the mercy we so bountifully rejoice in the newness of every morning will come to an end... How could we live like we do? Or as the writer of Hebrews states "how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?"

It seems to me that the over stating of Gods mercy, which indeed is great, has played a key role in the complacency of His people and caused an almost apathetic response to the soiling of our garments.

Mercy has never nor will ever cancel the righteous requirements of holiness,... and as far as I can see the only application of grace is to walk in obedience by faith in the promises of God.

Tho nowadays grace has become the gooey stuff God rubs over His eyes before He looks at us so as to play a joke on Himself and call filthy people clean... I submit that this is crazy-town talk and the verse you posted seems to confirm that this idea is indeed foolishness of the highest order.

It's like we're playing with God but He's not playing and the consequences are eternally binding.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/6/18 11:33

That being said, I think there is danger for an unsaved person to apply this to their life. They might get the impression that there is no hope, which of course is not true.

That is why we have to be careful with a book like Revelation which is apocalyptic literature. Not saying it's not inspired, but it is apocalyptic in nature and every piece cannot be taken literally.

For example, we should not be telling sinners to just keep on sinning based on these verses in Revelation. We should be telling them to repent and believe the Gospel.

Re: - posted by enid, on: 2015/6/18 11:52

Guess God was joking.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/6/18 13:01

Enid--

Do you really believe those verses stand for the proposition that a person should remain in their sins?

Re: Revelation 22:10-11 - posted by Lysa (), on: 2015/6/18 17:12

This is from "The Homiletic Monthly" from 1883.

"Light on Important Texts," No XXII, By Howard Crosby, D.D., LL.D.:

This passage is not a declaration of the fixity of conditions after death and the judgment, as it is generally supposed to be. The context shows this. It is Jesus who speaks (verses 10 to 16 inclusively), and we see by verse 12 He speaks 'before' His coming to the judgment. The passage is a prediction, put more strikingly in the imperative mood. In the 10th verse He declares that the time in which the prophecy given to John would be fulfilled was at hand, and in the 12th verse He declares that He is coming quickly.

Between these two is our passage, which states that the good and evil will go on as before until the day of doom. The unjust (or unrighteous) in his principles and filthy in his conduct will continue so, and the righteous in his principles and holy in his conduct will continue so. That is, the great opposition between God's people and the children of the devil will continue to the end. The final disposition of the two classes is given in verses 14 and 15.

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Verses 14 & 15: Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

It seemed to be relevant to the conversation and I thought it's simplicity would add to the conversation.

God bless,
Lisa

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/6/18 18:33

I certainly agree with that interpretation.

Re: , on: 2015/6/18 18:46

Rev 22:10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

Rev 22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

The KJV version makes more sense to me.

If you die being unjust, filthy or righteous you will "awake" the same person and oh what a day that will be (that is, if you are righteous and holy).

You will be in front of the Lord who you are when you die!!

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2015/6/18 18:49

I have left a lot of Bible studies in my travels when they ventured off into Revelation, it's a very hard book to understand, well it is for me.

Maybe it's saying those who hear the truth but continue to do wrong will by that hardened response, fix their eternal destiny in hell. On the other hand, those who continue to practice righteousness and keep themselves holy give evidence of genuine saving faith. When Christ returns the deliberate choice of each person will have fixed his eternal fate. We cannot cover up from God, he sees into the heart, If you are a sinner, He already knows it, you do not have to tell Him. If you belong to Jesus, He knows that too. Whatever you are down deep, Jesus already knows.

Re: Revelation 22:10-11 - posted by JFW (), on: 2015/6/18 19:43

Please understand this is not submitted in contentious spirit but in an earnest seeking of the truth-

The commentary submitted by Sister Lysa from another saint is incorrect in assuming Jesus is speaking in this verse, as it is in fact His angel who in the preceding verse refused the worship of John who is speaking. Jesus speaks in vs 7,12,13 and in vs 16 confirms it was His angel that had been testifying to John.

Whether or not it is predictive/prophetic is for me not the issue so much as it is the fact this indeed seems to be quite clearly a fixed position at the point in time in which it occurs.

Brother Todd I do agree that it would be unwise to present this passage to an unbeliever as you stated would almost certainly squash any hope of being reconciled to God, however to the initiated it would serve along with several other passages to be a warning of great significance.

Again there are numerous passages like this one that, taken in context, call out to us to awaken and live a sober and holy life before the Lord.

Re: - posted by Sree (), on: 2015/6/19 6:22

We can present this passage to unbelievers as well, if Bible can present it then why should we not? Let us not think of ourself more wiser than God or his spirit.

The reason we have those verses at the end of Revelation which also happens to be the last book of the Bible is, God wants to send a clear message. Even after reading this book that is inspired by me, if you still want to do evil then do it. If you still want to be filthy after all these warnings and demonstration of love then let it be so.

We all have a wrong image of God as if someone who is begging for us to obey him. Or a picture of Jesus as a man who is longing for any kind bride to marry. In reality it is not so. God has all rights to give up on a person, we read that God himself hardened the heart of Pharaoh. We read that God himself will send a deluding spirit on those who do not love the truth. We also read that God's spirit will not strive with men for a long time.

Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2015/6/19 7:05

I quoted this verse recently in the thread about Tony Campolo endorsing 'same sex marriage'. Not sure if that is was sparked off Sandra's meditation on this?

The context in which I quoted this was that if someone is established in unrighteousness, they will continue to bear more and more fruit of unrighteousness and conversely the opposite is true. This is not a truth limited to this scripture in Revelation, but is seen in many other places in scripture. For example in Matt 7:17-18 Jesus said:

“Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

“A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.”

So regarding Tony Campolo and those like him, he previously had unrighteous views of God's attributes and righteous decrees and God is just handing him over to more and more depths of unrighteousness.

So please do not try and evade certain scriptures as being less true than others because they are in Revelation. Look for the same truth elsewhere in scripture.

The extreme 'free grace' position often paints a picture that is not true. i.e. that God declares a person 'righteous' even if they continue to live in unrighteousness. Scripture teaches the exact opposite. God gives His righteousness to a person on the basis of faith, but that righteousness by faith produces the fruit of righteousness in a person.

"In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother."

1 John 3:10

I wonder if over the years there has been a big error in the interpretation and application of the scriptures that state 'The righteous shall live by faith'. It is commonly interpreted as 'by faith you will be declared righteous' When in fact it does not say this. It says 'Those who are righteous will live a life of faith(or faithfulness).

I also think what Sree wrote was very true.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/6/19 7:12

Sree I agree that no scripture should be "hidden" from an unbeliever. My point is that you can't take these verses at the end of Revelation apart from the whole counsel of God revealed in the scriptures. Our attitude should be that we never know when it is too late for a sinner to repent. God may know, but we don't.

We should never tell a sinner, based on these verses in Revelation, "go on being filthy, it is too late for you." Can we use them to warn of what might happen if they don't repent now? Absolutely.

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2015/6/19 9:19

Dave,

My question was not provoked by your comments concerning Tony Campolo - in fact I did not even read it...sorry! Personally, I dismissed him a long time ago for being an authentic Believer.

QUOTE:

The extreme 'free grace' position often paints a picture that is not true. i.e. that God declares a person 'righteous' even if they continue to live in unrighteousness. Scripture teaches the exact opposite. God gives His righteousness to a person on the basis of faith, but that righteousness by faith produces the fruit of righteousness in a person.

We are now having to deal with this issue amongst us...seems like the devil is finding new ways to twist scripture in a manner unknown to us in the past. or, maybe it is a newer version of OSAS.

Sandra

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2015/6/19 9:44

Fletcher,

I love the commentary you just shared. I would understand it to be Biblical.

Talk about the mercy of God, I was really struck by this evidence when I read Revelation 21 where we read how the Holy City's foundation has the names of the apostles, and its gates the names of the Sons of Israel. Think about that for a moment. These fellows did not always do the right thing - especially the sons of Israel- they were jerks, sometimes. Or, look at Peter - denying his LORD! But the difference is they repented. Now Jesus has their names emblazoned in "stones" for all eternity!! Think about that a while... WOW!!

Now where does that put us?

Another verse that troubles many, ignored by most Bible teachers is one found in Hebrews 10:26: "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins".

Fletcher, thank-you so much for sharing your analysis of how the over-stating of mercy has resulted in its perversion in the minds of many. Much food for thought...

Enjoyed reading the comments left by the others.

Sandra

Re: - posted by JFW (), on: 2015/6/19 11:01

Sister Sandra,

We are definitely on the same page as the points you bring out clearly illustrate the reality of God's faithfulness and mercy and how bountiful His rewards are for those who love Him. It's overwhelming really to even consider the amazing honor bestowed, as you pointed out, on people who don't always get it right. Indeed He is not a hard task master but a loving Father whose patience and kindness are beyond my ability to comprehend.

Take Paul, the super apostle, for example well into his ministry and at a spiritually mature point in his relationship with God even he "gets it wrong" and is a disagreeable "jerk" with John Mark, though as you pointed out later "he repented" and issued a reconciliatory invitation requesting his presence and confirming his value/profitability in the cause of Christ.

While there would seemingly be no need of mercy in Heaven, the evidence of God's mercy will, as you pointed out, be on display emblazoned for all of eternity!

Jesus remarks of this to his disciples when He tells them not to become puffed up because the demons submit in His name but rather rejoice because their names would be written on the walls of Heaven!

King Asa is another illustration of this phenomenon, though he clearly failed in areas of faith at a time when he should have been steady as an oak tree, God nonetheless pronounced him faithful all of his days and having served the Lord with integrity. Now that is some kind of mercy!

It seems it's not so much about "getting it right" as it is about being righteous... The Lord knew Asa's heart was to serve and glorify Him even though he failed at times in his attempts to do so God nonetheless honored Asa's effort just as He did David and so many others when their heart was right before Him.

So as far as I can see the Rev 22:11 verse doesn't detract from the mercy of God but brings balance by declaring that at some point our heart position becomes fixed, not in a static sense, but in a directional sense progressing down our chosen path.

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2015/6/20 7:43

Rev 22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

There is only One that justifies, there is only One that is just, there is only One that is clean and cleanses, there is only One that is righteous, There is only One that is Holy.

Because Christ is birthed by the Father in me I am all these things in His Power by "Christ in me, the hope of glory".

1 Corinthians 1:30-31 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

I am holy because He that lives in me is Holy.

1 Peter 1:16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Who makes me clean? Ephesians 5:26-27 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

All these blessings came to the body of Christ when each one was saved and born again receiving the birth of the Spirit of Christ in me, "The hope of Glory". Jesus also gave each of his birthed brothers and sisters "The another Comforter the Holy Spirit to keep us in these blessings bestowed on us because "Christ liveth in me",

These things I work toward by His power that worketh in me Mightily.

Colossians 1:27-29 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Without Christ in me I would be the lost and perishing to what these scripture speak to. But the Christ in me is all this in me which the Father sees as me, making me a son of God and fellow Heir with Jesus Christ to all that is the Father.

Colossians 1:22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:

Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: This is the holiness by His birthing in me which brings my ability to see Him.

In Christ: Phillip (I agree all 146 times "in Christ" is written by Paul.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/6/20 16:42

Daniel 12:9-10:

9 And he said, Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. 10 Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

Re: Revelation 22:10-11 - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2015/6/20 18:39

There is one interpretation of this verse that comes back to haunt me, troubling me, yet on the other hand it is comforting.

Many of us have witnessed people deliberately perverting the WORD of God, ending up preaching another gospel which is of another Jesus. In the beginning they appeared to be sincere, earnest in their walk with the LORD. There may have been a few things about them that caused one to question their walk, but then, everyone is in a stage of growth, learning, repenting - this is the norm for a Believer. Instead of them growing there appeared to be serious backsliding because the work to defend it, teaching others also to do, believe likewise..

We get frustrated.

Is the angel telling John to just leave them alone? Do not fret about them?

What say?

Sandra

Re: - posted by JFW (), on: 2015/6/20 20:56

My wife and I were discussing a similar subject (inclusion) and this was her take; Jesus will meet us right where we are at and if we choose to follow Him, He won't leave us where we are at. If we don't choose to follow Him, He will leave us where we are at. He did the rich young ruler...

I found this to be succinct and consistent with my understanding. There does seem to be confusion between "potentials and literals" and as you've pointed out sister Sandra there are many who are building on shifting sand and go to lengths to convince others to do also.