

Bereans Bible Institute

Module XI – Revelation

Lesson 59 – Epilogue (Rev. 22:6-21) Introduction

I. Epilogue Chapter 22:6-21 Introduction:

A. Throughout Revelation, there are **4 descending ranks** in the relaying of information: They are: God, the Messenger of God (Son), the Son's own messenger, and John & the 7 pastors.

(These must be understood correctly to properly know when Jesus is speaking, otherwise Jesus becomes another "angel" in ch. 22, who refuses John's worship).

1. FIRST in rank: "God, the Sovereign Over All" (Rev. 1:8; 4:8; 11:17; 15:3; 16:7,14; 19:6,15; 21:22)

a. He is also the "God" of His Son ("My God" Rev. 3:2,12 & "our God" Rev. 19:5)

2. SECOND in rank: "The Son of God" (Rev. 2:18) & "Son of Man" (Rev. 1:13; 12:5; 14:14)

a. Jesus is the "Messenger of God" (the Angel of the LORD)

1. He is the same "Messenger of God/the LORD" who confirmed the covenants, called "the Messenger of Great Counsel" (Isa. 9:6 LXX) and "the Messenger of the Covenant" (Mal. 3:1).

2. He appeared to John: Rev. 1:1-2 LGV "The revelation of Jesus the Anointed which God gave to Him to show His servants the things which must occur suddenly, and [God] communicated it, having sent it by His Messenger to His servant John, who reported the word of God and the testimony of Jesus the Anointed as much as he perceived."

3. The only one of God's "Messengers" authorized to use the names of God as His own (Exod. 23:20-23): He calls Himself by God's title "the First & the Last" (Isa. 44:6; Isa. 48:12; Rev. 1:17; Rev. 22:13).

4. The "Messenger" of God (Jesus) spoke the 7 letters (chs. 2-3), and spoke the 7 thunders & appointed the 2 witnesses (chs. 10 – 11).

3. THIRD in rank: The Son's own "messenger" (who relayed Jesus' words to John)

1. The 7th "messenger" is the Son's own "messenger" to John (Rev. 16:15 & 22:6-20)

4. FOURTH in Rank: John as "messenger" and seven pastors as "messengers" to their respective assemblies.

B. Revelation follows the pattern of the last book of the OT – Malachi.

1. Mal. 1:1 "The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by the hand of Malachi"

a. Heb. "The burden of the Word of YHVH by the hand of My Messenger."

1. "malak" means "messenger"

2. with the suffix "yod" (י) the noun becomes first person singular possessive – "My Messenger"

3. exactly the same as Mal. 3:1 where "malek-i" (my messenger) refers to John the Baptist. **Jesus is the one speaking** since John is "My messenger" preparing the way before "Me." (YHVH says, "Behold He is coming").

b. Grk. LXX "The burden of the Word of the Lord concerning Israel in the hand of His Messenger."

1. The Jewish translators of the LXX, who were Temple scribes, translated "malek-I" as "His Messenger" (ἀγγέλου αὐτοῦ)

2. If they thought this was a Hebrew proper name, they would have transliterated it as they did with all proper names, reproducing the phonetic sound with Greek letters (Μαλεκί)

3. The LXX reads exactly as follows: "The burden of Logos of the Lord, concerning Israel, in the hand of His Messenger, place it indeed upon your heart."

4. Malachi is the last word to Israel **by the Son** prior to His becoming flesh.

a. The entire book of Malachi is the condemnation of the Levitical priesthood, and the reason for their being displaced by the Son's priesthood. Jesus drew extensively on this book in his "Rich Man and Lazarus" parable, where the "rich man" is Levi and Jesus is Lazarus.

C. In Rev. 22:6-21, Jesus speaks through His own "messenger" rather than appearing Himself.

1. This is the 7th messenger of the 7th bowl judgement (Rev. 16:15-17)

2. The same messenger shows John the judgment of Mystery Babylon (Rev. 17:1)

3. The same messenger shows John the Bride, New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:9)

4. The same messenger relays Jesus' last words to John and the assemblies (Rev. 22:6-21)