

THE BRIGHT MORNING STAR

Rev.22:16,17

Beloved of the Lord:

After the completion of judgments in Revelation, the Saviour presents Himself in His relationship to Israel and the Church:

1 - TO ISRAEL - He presents Himself as "the root and the offspring of David", for as the Son of David He will reign over the earth with His earthly people. He was born "King of the Jews"-Matt.2:2. He died as "the King of the Jews"-Matt.27:37. He will reign with them as King! - Zech.9:9 and Zech. 14:9.

2 - TO HIS CHURCH - He presents Himself as "the BRIGHT morning star", a precious title for our hearts in the darkness of this closing age. The title "morning star" is found three times in the New Testament for our encouragement:

a - By Peter in 2 Pet. 1:19, saying - He is the "day star" (morning star), to shine in our Hearts. Peter does not unfold Church truth but Kingdom truth, describing the majesty of the King as witnessed on the mount of Transfiguration-2 Pet.1:16-18 and Matt. 17:1-8.

b - The Lord Himself, in Rev.2:23, encourages the overcomer - "I will give him the morning star". The believer, surrounded by worldliness and spiritual corruption, is to be occupied with Christ Himself, rejoicing in the "blessed hope" (Tit.2:13), anticipating the great joy of meeting Him in the air - 1 Thess. 4:14-18.

c - In Rev. 22:16 the Lord reveals Himself in greater beauty and attraction, emphasizing that He is "THE BRIGHT morning star". The word "bright" means "shining", also "brilliant", used of the clothing of angels in Acts 10:30 and Rev. 15:6. Read Acts 26:13, where Paul recites his conversion, as the Risen Lord appeared unto him "above the BRIGHTNESS of the sun". How brilliant was His Person to the apostle as time went on!

The coming Bridegroom appeals to our hearts (not our intellects), that we, by faith, may see HIM in all HIS beauty (Isa.33:17) and as the One Who is "ALTOGETHER LOVELY" - (S. of S. 5:15). The beauty of the Beloved is characterized in His title as the BRIDEGROOM! "Behold, the BRIDEGROOM cometh, go ye out to meet HIM" - Matt.25:6. There are various aspects of our Lord's Person, but this as "Bridegroom" is the nearest and dearest to Him, and should be to us; an intimate, holy relationship no other saints of other ages have; to be ours through eternal ages. Read Rev.19:6-9 for that occasion which will be the most joyful occasion for our Lord, the moment He takes His Bride to Himself-Eph. 5:27. What does this moment mean to YOU and to ME? Is it shining "BRIGHT" in our hearts?

3 - THE PRACTICAL EFFECT - Rev. 22:17

a - There will be Bridal affection in harmony with the Holy Spirit, for "the Spirit AND the Bride say COME". Unison with the voice of the Spirit in a corporate character.

b - Individual believers, in love and sincerity, will say "COME"- "let him that heareth say COME".

c - As representative of Christ on earth, we invite every thirsty one to come and drink, as our Lord did, as seen in John 7:37.

d - Wider still, our hearts invite sinners, saying "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life FREELY", for not a soul on earth has God forgotten!

Beloved, is "THE BRIGHT MORNING STAR" brilliantly shining IN OUR HEARTS?

"Midst the darkness, storm and sorrow - ONE BRIGHT gleam I see!
Well I know the blessed morrow, Christ will come for me!
There amidst the light and glory - Of the Father's home -
Christ for me is watching, waiting - waiting till I come!"

Faithfully yours in Christ,

