The Last Words of Jesus

I am coming quickly "Behold I am coming quickly" (Rev 22:7,12,20).

The book of Revelation is not primarily concerned with the span of history, because "with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day" (2Pe 3:8-9).

Rather Christ's concern is with the individual lifetimes of his saints. When the souls under the altar seemed to want God to hurry up with the last day, God explains the delay in terms of his concern with the lives of their brethren still living on earth (Rev 6:10-11).

If you want to understand the book of Revelation properly, you need to be looking at the time of your life as the time that matters most in the visions. Don't think of Christ's coming datewise in terms of history. Think of it as addressing your nearness to the last day because "it is appointed for man once to die, and after this comes judgment" (Heb 9:27-28).

Blessed is he who heeds "Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book." (Rev 22:7). This is the final beatitude given by Jesus, repeated with a promise further down in verse 14

My reward is with me "My reward is with me, to repay to each man according to his work." (Rev 22:12). The word reward here is meant in the sense of recompense. This statement of Jesus is either a promise or a threat—depending upon whether or not one's work is to keep the commandments of Jesus.

I am the first and last "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." (Rev 22:13). In claiming to be the Alpha and Omega, Jesus is claiming to be God and equal with his Father. Only Almighty God can be called "The First and the Last" (Isa 44:6).

Blessed are those who obey "Blessed are those who do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city." (Rev 22:14). Anyone has a right to the tree of life. Nobody is excluded. However there is a condition. You have to obey Christ's commandments. If you don't do them, you forfeit any right that might have been yours.

Outside are dogs "Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood." (Rev 22:15) The dogs are the wicked, those who don't do the commandments of Jesus Christ. Jesus did not mention many sins, although the few he did mention cover a fair scope.

There's another list in Revelation 21:8, and even more lists throughout the Bible. The message is not about making lists of sins. The message is assuring us that there won't be any wickedness or wicked people in heaven. So give up being wicked and start doing what Jesus says.

I Jesus have sent my angel "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify these things to you for the congregations." (Rev 22:16). This is Jesus's own testimony about John's sources. We noted before (in part 1) that John said this, and the angel said it. Now Jesus says it. Nevertheless many people still think John made the book of Revelation up.

I am the... Morning Star "I am the root and the offspring of David—the bright and Morning Star" (Rev 22:16). Jesus, even in heaven glorified, is still a human being. The Son of God is still the son of David (Mtt 1:1). Jesus is glorious like the sun, the star of the morning. Note: The name Lucifer means morning star and has been stolen by the Devil, the father of lies (Isa 14:12).

Whoever will, let him come "The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" He who hears, let him say,"Come!" He who is thirsty, let him come. He who desires, let him take the water of life freely." (Rev 22:17).

This invitation is for all, especially you. No invitation surpasses it. You may have missed out on a lot of things. But this is the best of all by far. Don't miss out on this. Accept God's invitation without delay.