

Revelation 22:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly.
Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Analysis

Surely I come quickly (Ναὶ ἔρχομαι ταχύ, Nai erchomai tachy)—Christ's final promise in Scripture is not slow timing but certain swiftness when the hour arrives. Tachy conveys imminence and suddenness, not chronological nearness. This echoes His earlier warnings: "Behold, I come as a thief" (16:15).

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus (Ἄμην ναὶ ἔρχου κύριε Ἰησοῦ, Amēn nai erchou kyrie Iēsou)—John's response is the church's perpetual cry: Maranatha (1 Cor 16:22). The double affirmation (Hebrew Amen + Greek nai) expresses wholehearted longing. This is no mere resignation to fate, but passionate desire for Christ's return. The church that truly loves His appearing (2 Tim 4:8) doesn't dread judgment but yearns for the Bridegroom. To pray "Come, Lord Jesus" is to confess this present evil age cannot satisfy—only Christ's visible reign will suffice.

Historical Context

Written circa AD 95 during Domitian's persecution, Revelation concludes with Christ's promise and John's response from Patmos exile. The book's seven churches endured Roman imperial cult pressure, economic persecution, and martyrdom threats. Christ's promise "I come quickly" assured suffering saints their affliction was temporary—vindication was certain. The early church regularly prayed Maranatha ("Our Lord, come!"), likely at the Lord's Supper, expressing eager eschatological hope that sustained them through persecution.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Do you genuinely long for Christ's return, or does the thought unsettle you—and what does your answer reveal about your heart's true treasure?
2. How should the certainty of Christ's sudden return shape your daily priorities, relationships, and use of time and resources?

Interlinear Text

Λέγει ὁ μαρτυρῶν ταῦτα, ναί, ἔρχου, ταχύ.

saith G3588 **He which testifieth** G3140 **these things** G5023 **Even so** G3483 **I come** G2064 **quickly** G5035

Ἄμην, ναί, ἔρχου, κύριε Ἰησοῦ

Amen G281 **Even so** G3483 **I come** G2064 **Lord** G2962 **Jesus** G2424

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 22:7 (Parallel theme): Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Hebrews 9:28 (Parallel theme): So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

2 Timothy 4:8 (References Lord): Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Revelation 22:12 (Parallel theme): And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

1 Corinthians 16:22 (References Jesus): If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha.

Revelation 22:10 (Parallel theme): And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

Isaiah 25:9 (References Lord): And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Revelation 22:18 (Parallel theme): For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

Revelation 1:2 (References Jesus): Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

John 21:25 (References Jesus): And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.