

# Revelation 22:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

## Analysis

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**And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done....** This verse from Revelation's vision of river of life, invitation, warnings - eternal blessing, urgent call, maranatha employs apocalyptic imagery rich with Old Testament allusions and symbolic meaning. The Greek text uses vivid apocalyptic language characteristic of Jewish prophetic literature, drawing heavily from Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah, and Zechariah.

The symbolism must be interpreted within its first-century context while recognizing timeless spiritual realities. The imagery would resonate powerfully with persecuted believers facing Roman imperial cult worship, providing hope that despite present suffering, Christ reigns sovereign and will consummate His kingdom. The apocalyptic genre uses symbolic numbers (seven, twelve, 144,000), colors, beasts, and cosmic imagery to convey theological truth rather than photographic descriptions.

Christologically, Revelation consistently exalts Jesus as the victorious Lamb, the faithful witness, the King of kings and Lord of lords. Every vision ultimately points to Christ's supremacy, His finished redemptive work, and His certain return to judge the living and dead and establish the new creation.

## Historical Context

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John received this revelation circa AD 95 during Domitian's persecution, exiled on Patmos for his testimony. The seven churches of Asia Minor faced increasing pressure to participate in emperor worship and pagan religious practices. Refusal meant economic hardship, social ostracism, and potential martyrdom. Understanding this context illuminates Revelation's encouragement to faithful endurance.

The apocalyptic genre was familiar to first-century Jewish and Christian readers. Rather than newspaper-style predictions, apocalyptic literature uses symbolic imagery to reveal spiritual realities behind earthly events, encourage the faithful, warn the unfaithful, and assert God's ultimate sovereignty over history. Parallels with Daniel, Ezekiel, and intertestamental apocalyptic writings would help original readers decode the symbols.

Rome's imperial cult demanded worship of Caesar as divine, placing Christians in impossible situations—compromise their faith or face persecution. Revelation identifies Rome as "Babylon" and assures believers that despite appearances, the Lamb conquered through His death and resurrection, and all earthly kingdoms will submit to His reign.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Revelation 22:6 reveal God's character, particularly His sovereignty, holiness, and justice?
2. What specific encouragement or warning does this verse offer for maintaining faithful Christian witness amid cultural pressure?

3. How does this passage point to Christ's victory and the hope of new creation, and how should that shape your present priorities?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	εἶπέν	μοι,	Οὗτοι	οἱ	λόγοι	πιστοὶ	καὶ	ἀληθινοί
And	he said	unto me	These	G3588	sayings	are faithful	And	true
G2532	G2036	G3427	G3778		G3056	G4103	G2532	G228
καὶ	κύριος	ὁ	θεὸς	τῶν	ἀγίων	προφητῶν	ἀπέστειλεν	
And	the Lord	G3588	God	G3588	of the holy	prophets	sent	
G2532	G2962		G2316		G40	G4396	G649	
τὸν	ἄγγελον	αὐτοῦ	δεῖξαι	τοῖς	δούλοις	αὐτοῦ		
G3588	angel	G846	to shew	G3588	servants	G846		
	G32		G1166		G1401			
ἃ	δεῖ	γενέσθαι	ἐν	τάχει				
the things which	must	be done	shortly	G5034				
G3739	G1163	G1096	G1722					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 1:1** (References God): The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

**Revelation 21:5** (Faith): And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

**Revelation 19:9** (Truth): And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

**Revelation 18:20** (Holy): Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.

**Hebrews 12:9** (Parallel theme): Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

**Acts 3:18** (Prophecy): But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

**2 Peter 1:21** (Holy): For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

**Romans 1:2** (Holy): (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)

**Luke 1:70** (Holy): As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

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