

SERMON MANUSCRIPT

Series: *King's Arrival*

Week 2: *The King Who Will Come in Glory*

Text: Revelation 22:12–13

Additional Texts: Matthew 25:31–32; Philippians 3:20–21; 1 Peter 1:13

Introduction – The Promise That Shapes Our Waiting

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Advent is a season of longing—of waiting—but it is not passive waiting. It is more like standing at the window, looking down the road for someone you love who promised, *“I’ll be there soon.”* It is the waiting of anticipation. The waiting of hope. The waiting that shapes how you live here and now because you know something better is coming.

We live in a world obsessed with the next thing. The next election. The next news cycle. The next crisis. The next technological breakthrough. But Christians look beyond all of that. Our eyes are fixed on a horizon the world cannot see. We are waiting for the **King who will come again in glory.**

And near the very end of Scripture, Jesus Himself speaks to His church:

“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing My recompense with Me.”

The Alpha and the Omega leaves us with a promise meant to anchor our lives.

Today, we hear this promise again, and we let it form our Advent hope.

1. The Promise of His Return (Revelation 22:12)

Listen again to Jesus’ words:

“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing My recompense with Me, to repay each one for what he has done.”

A. His return is certain

There is no hesitation in His voice. No vagueness. No metaphor to unravel. Jesus is not giving a symbolic vision but making a direct promise. The same Jesus who came in humility—who entered the world through Mary’s womb, who lay in a manger—promises that He will come again in glory.

The world hears this and shrugs. Even some Christians treat the Lord’s return as an optional doctrine. But Jesus speaks so plainly: *“I am coming soon.”*

This is not up for debate. It is the certain future of the world.

B. His return is purposeful

And when He comes, He comes with “recompense”—with reward, vindication, and justice. That word tells us that the King sees everything His people endure. Every act of faithfulness. Every tear shed in prayer. Every sacrifice made in His name. Every quiet act of mercy.

He comes not randomly, not without reason, but to make all things right.

C. His return shapes our present

When Jesus says *“I am the Alpha and the Omega ... the beginning and the end,”* He is reminding us that our lives are bookended by His grace and His promise. Our days are not defined by chaos, fear, or uncertainty. They are defined by the coming of Christ.

Christians do not wait for the future with fear.

We wait with certainty.

We wait with hope.

Because the King is coming.

2. The Justice of the King (Matthew 25:31–32)

Jesus continues His teaching in Matthew 25:

“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate people one from another...”

A. The King will judge with perfect justice

At His first arrival, He was wrapped in cloth and laid in a manger. At His second arrival, He sits upon a throne. Heaven’s angels surround Him. All nations stand before Him. The King who was mocked, beaten, and crucified now comes with glory that cannot be ignored.

And He judges—not cruelly, not arbitrarily, but with holiness and righteousness.

Every hidden thing is brought to light.

Every injustice is addressed.

Every wrong is made right.

This world aches for justice, but it cannot achieve it. Human judgments are always flawed—tinged with bias, politics, incompetence, or corruption. But the King’s justice is perfect.

B. The separation of sheep and goats

This is a sobering moment. Christ tells us plainly that there will be a separation. The sheep and the goats. Those who are His and those who are not. This is not the cruelty of a harsh King; it is the clarity of a righteous one.

He will not allow evil to stand forever.

He will not allow injustice to go unresolved.

He will not allow His people to suffer without vindication.

C. Justice gives hope

The return of the King is not primarily a warning—though it is that. It is primarily a comfort. Because it means that oppression will cease, violence will be silenced, and evil will face its end.

The world will finally be made right.

3. The Transformation of the Saints (Philippians 3:20–21)

Paul writes:

“Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body...”

A. Our true citizenship is in heaven

We are citizens of earthly nations, but our deepest loyalty is to a Kingdom that cannot crumble. No election, no war, no cultural shift can change where we truly belong.

B. Our Savior comes with resurrection power

When He returns, He isn’t merely coming to rearrange the world—He is coming to **renew** it. He will transform our frail, aging, tempted, weary bodies into something glorious—like His resurrection body.

Imagine a world without pain.

Without decline.

Without weakness.

Without sin.

This is the promise of the returning King.

C. Our hope is not escapism

Some say Christians cling to fantasy when we talk about resurrection. But our hope is not myth or metaphor. It is rooted in the bodily resurrection of Jesus Himself. The King who rose from the dead will raise us too.

This is the future awaiting the saints.

Application – Living as Citizens of the Coming King

So what does this mean for us today?

1. Our hope rests in Christ alone

“Our hope rests not in politics, progress, or plans—but in the promise of the returning King.”

Nations rise and fall. Leaders disappoint. Technology can’t save us. Progress cannot give eternal life. Whenever fear overwhelms us, we preach to our hearts:

“He is coming soon.”

He will finish what He began.

2. Daily repentance and faith prepare us for the Kingdom

Peter writes, “*Set your hope fully on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ*” (1 Peter 1:13).

Every act of repentance is a rehearsal for eternity.

Every moment of faith is practice for the Kingdom.

We live now as though the King is already here—because He is.

3. Advent becomes a way of life

“Our anticipation spills over from Advent into every day. We await the King whose arrival will peel back the sky and reveal His total goodness forever.”

The Christian life is perpetual Advent—always looking forward, always anchored in hope, always longing for the day the sky gives way and Christ appears in glory.

Conclusion – Come, Lord Jesus

As Scripture closes, it closes with a prayer:

“Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.”

This is the cry of the Church.

The cry of the saints.

The cry of every heart longing for the world to be made right.

He is the King who came in humility—born in Bethlehem.

He is the King who reigns at the Father’s right hand.

And He is the King who will come again in glory.

Until then, we watch, we trust, we repent, we believe, we hope,
and we live as citizens of His everlasting Kingdom.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.