

THE MEANING OF “SOON”, 2

So, picking up from last time, can we assume that “soon” in Rev. 1:1 means soon, and that “because the time is near” in verse 3 means that the time is near - - or am I reading something into it? Am I taking things to extremes?

When Elaine says, “Supper will be ready soon,” it gives me a sense of anticipation and expectation. I’ll promptly drop what I’m doing and get ready for her good food. It is typically tasty and nourishing, and frankly, I just like being with her. It’s not hard to motivate me to get ready to dine when she says “soon,” and she rarely needs to repeat it.

Think of the call-to-action in “Kids, you’ll miss the bus if you don’t get out here soon” or, “your ice cream will soon be melted” - - and the consequences of ignoring it.

A CALL TO ACTION?

You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. James 5:8 (all nasb)

The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober *spirit* for the purpose of prayer. I Peter 4:7

Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour. I John 2:18



Do we agree that the spirit of the antichrist is very much at work in our world?

A CHOICE

Our response to “soon” in scripture is determined by whether we humble ourselves before God’s meaning or attempt to diminish its impact with an earthly spin. Accepting His definition leads to anticipation, expectation - - and preparation. Maybe like “washing our hands” and coming to the table. Pleasure for our tastebuds and satisfaction for our stomach are soon to follow.

How differently would we live if we took God’s Word literally - - like we say we do?

Are there consequences to our snubbing His repeated call-to-action? Or don’t we?

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