

THE MOST WELCOME WORD

Revelation 22:17

Introduction: There is a word when uttered by God the Father or the Lord Jesus that is the most welcome word a person could ever hear. It has been called "the gospel in a single word." The word appears in the Bible over 1,000 times.

- It is the word God spoke to mankind before destroying the world in a flood.
- It is the word the Prophets preached so frequently.
- It is the word which brought Peter and others to Jesus.
- It is the word which was so often on the lips of Jesus.
- It is the word which Jesus spoke to the little children.
- It is the word which, when obeyed, causes joy among the angels in heaven.
- It is the word which, when disobeyed, brings sorrow to the heart.
- It is the word that brings the Bible to a close.
- It is the word which is inscribed in letters of gold over the gates of Heaven.

Delete from the Bible all other passages of scripture, leaving only those with this word and there would still be a full gospel to preach.

What is that most welcome word? What is the word that can change lives? What is the word that can give hope? That word is: **C O M E !**

I. GOD SPOKE THAT WORD TO NOAH (Genesis 7:1)

- The world was totally wicked with the exception of one man and his family, Noah.
- God told Noah of His plan to destroy the world with water and gave Noah instructions for building a boat and to gather animals to be saved.
- When all was ready, God said: *"...come thou and all thy house into the ark..."*
 - All that were not in the safety of the ark drowned.
- The ark has been a symbol of safety to the Christian whose faith and hope is in Jesus.
- In a way the Church represents the Ark.
- God invites all who would to " *"...come into the ark, thou and thy house..."*

II. CHRIST SPOKE THAT WORD TO BARTEMAEUS (Mark 10:46)

- Jesus, on His way to Jericho, is accompanied by a large excited crowd of people.
- A blind beggar sitting on the roadside begging named Bartemaeus learned that it was Jesus passing by and begins to cry out: *"..Jesus of Nazareth, thou son of David, have mercy on me...."*
- Jesus stopped and said, *"...tell him to come to me..."*
- When the blind man came to Jesus, Jesus asked him what did he want and the man replied "to be able to see."
- Jesus then said: *"...Go thy way, thy faith hath made thee whole..."*
- Jesus was passing by, Jesus stopped, Jesus called for the blind man to come to Him.
- Once again, Jesus stands still to listen, He is holding out His hands and saying *"...come to me..."* Is it to YOU He is holding out His hands and calling?

III. THE LAST TIME THAT WORD IS SPOKEN IN THE BIBLE (Revelation 22:17)

- *"Suffer the little children to come unto me..."* To the rich young ruler Jesus said:
"Go sell whatsoever thou hast, and give it to the poor, and then shalt have treasure in heaven, and come follow me..."
 - To those who are tired, weary and worried, Jesus says: *"...Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest..."*
 - One will have to go to his/her Bible and read all the many other times that most wonderful word, **"Come,"** was spoken by Jesus.
 - That most wonderful word used so many times by God the Father and the Lord Jesus might be summed up in this great invitation: *"...and the Spirit and the Bride say 'Come,' and let him that heareth say 'Come,' and let him that is athirst 'Come' and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely..."*
 - God's Word closes with that wonderful word of invitation to **"come"** drink of the water of eternal life, freely.
 - This invitation is extended to **"whosoever."**
- "...Whosoever cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out..."*

CONCLUSION:

- **"COME"** is the most welcome word a person can hear from God or the Lord Jesus.
 - All through the centuries that word has been uttered by Prophets, preachers, and apostles, all saying "Come."
- Picture the Lord Jesus standing before you with His arms outstretched toward you saying, *"...Come unto me..."*
- One will never hear a more wonderful word from Jesus than that word.
 - You do know what the opposite of that word is don't you?