

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF REVELATION THROUGH BIBLE PROPHECY

15 Revelation's Last Call

Revelation makes its final appeal in **Revelation 22:17** in which the “And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” But, many people delay in responding to this appeal, feeling that they need more time. **Revelation 7:1-3** tells us that the opportunity to respond is rapidly fading. It says that the angels are holding back the winds of strife so that God’s people can be **sealed**. The sealing is on our foreheads, suggesting that our minds respond to God’s truth and acts on it.

2 Corinthians 1:22 tells us that we are sealed when the Holy Spirit is in our hearts and that this is a guarantee of our salvation. This means that the sealing has to do with our response to the Holy Spirit. **Matthew 12:31-32** say that the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit cannot be forgiven. Of course, all kinds of sins are forgiven and God has promised us in 1 John 1:9 that if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us. The sin against the Holy Spirit is therefore not a kind of sin, like murder or adultery, but rather the *condition* of the person who rejects the Holy Spirit. Why is this sin against the Holy Spirit so serious that it would cause the loss of eternal life?

The Bible makes it clear why this sin is so serious. **John 16:33** says that when the Spirit comes, He will guide us into all truth. **Ephesians 1:13** says that we are sealed with the Holy Spirit only **after** we have heard the word of truth and the gospel preached to us. To reject the Holy Spirit is to reject the truth that God has sent us. We may have an opinion on a fact, but that doesn’t change the facts, just as having an opinion that $2+2 = 5$ doesn’t change the fact that $2+2 = 4$. Some look for signs to validate what they want to believe, but then we are in danger of trusting in what the devil uses, for it is the devil who works signs and wonders in order to lead us away from a love for the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:9-11). It is by refusing to love truth and act on it, that we can grieve the Holy Spirit and potentially lose our salvation and our sealing.

Now is the time of salvation. Jesus said in **John 12:35** that we need to walk in the light. If we start to walk toward the darkness, it will eventually overtake us. Just like those who have consistently drowned out the Spirit’s pleading on their conscience, so our consciences can become hardened to the point where we no longer respond to the Spirit talking to us. At that point, what else can God do?

It is better to respond than not to respond, for **James 4:17** say that to him who knows to do good and doesn’t do it, to him it is sin. **1 Thessalonians 5:19** warns us against quenching the voice and pleading of the Holy Spirit and **Hebrews 2:3** says that is possible to lose our salvation by neglecting to follow truth. The example of the apostles clearly teaches us that we should respond **immediately** when Jesus calls us to follow him. To delay is extremely dangerous. In **Acts 26:28**, King Agrippa is almost persuaded to be a Christian but fails to follow His convictions and is therefore lost. **Genesis 6:3** records the story of the flood and how the Spirit will not always strive with me. We have an opportunity to follow Jesus today. Won’t you take that opportunity now and let the Spirit’s invitation draw you the living waters? “The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come!”