



**ARE YOU READY FOR HEAVEN?**

**FIND OUT HERE**

**KEEP THE WORDS  
OF THIS BOOK**



**HOLY  
BIBLE**

**BLESSED IS HE WHO KEEPS THE WORDS OF THE PROPHECY OF THIS BOOK.**

**(REVELATION 22:7B LSB)**

**HE WHO HAS AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYS TO THE CHURCHES.**

**(REVELATION 2:29 LSB)**

**1. God gets us ready for heaven when we keep the words of this Book—the Holy Bible.**

**A. This Book tells us that in heaven God will be on his throne and we will be serving and worshiping him.**

- (Revelation 22:1–3 LSB) Then he showed me a river of the water of life, bright as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, 2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 **And there will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His slaves will serve Him.**

**B. Heaven is life with God—he is on his throne; we are bowed in worship and service.**

**C. Are you ready for that—>forever worshiping and serving the Lord God Almighty.**

**2. God gets us ready for heaven by the teaching in Revelation by doing what he has done from the beginning—offering life and warning of judgment.**

**A. The blessing of God is found in keeping the words of this book, 22:7.**

- (Revelation 22:7 LSB) And behold, I am coming quickly. **Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.**

**B. The blessing of God is living the life he offers through loving him, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments.**

- (Deuteronomy 30:15–16a LSB) **See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and calamity; 16 in that I am commanding you today to love Yahweh your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments.**

**C. When we keep the words of this Book, God blesses us with the assurance that we are ready for heaven as the Spirit bears witness with our spirit identifying us as children, sons and slaves of God and as those who worship God.**

- (Romans 8:14 LSB) **For as many as are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.**
- (Romans 8:16 LSB) **The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God.**
- (Revelation 22:8–9 LSB) I, John, am the

one who was hearing and seeing these things. **And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship** at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. 9 But he said to me, “Do not do that! **I am a fellow slave with you** and your brothers the prophets **and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God!**”

**D. The one who adds to or takes away from the words of this book is not ready for heaven and will be judged by God and will have no part in the holy city, 22:18-19.**

- (Revelation 22:18–19 LSB) I bear witness to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: **If anyone adds to them**, God will add to him the plagues which are written in **this book**. 19 **And if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy**, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

**3. Keeping the words of this Book has been the lifeline for God’s people throughout our redemptive history.**

**A. This book is the inspired, written word of God and is profitable in making us ready both now and forever to worship and serve God Almighty.**

**Book ...** [cepher, say-fer] ... scroll; a written work or composition contained in a scroll; such as a letter or a recording of past events; a book, document.

- (2 Timothy 3:16–17 LSB) **All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, 17 so that** the man of God may be equipped, having been thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**B. Living by everything that proceeds from the mouth of Yahweh we live in the blessing of Yahweh and have even more assurance that we are ready for heaven.**

- (Deuteronomy 8:3 LSB) And He humbled you and let you be hungry and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, **that He might make you know** that man does not live by bread alone, but by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh.

**C. Keeping the words of this Book means the words of God are always living within us.**

- (Joshua 1:8 LSB) **This book of the law shall**

not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way successful, and then you will be prosperous.

D. Listening to the words of this Book we will know where we stand before Almighty God.

- (2 Kings 22:13 LSB) Go, inquire of Yahweh for me and the people and all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is the wrath of Yahweh which is set aflame against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.

E. This book was written so that we may believe in Jesus Christ and have life in his name.

- (John 20:30–31 LSB) Therefore many other signs Jesus also did in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

F. This book was written so that those who believe may know that we have eternal life.

- (1 John 5:13 LSB) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

4. The message of Revelation is directed first “to the churches”—the professing body of Christ.)

- (Revelation 1:4–5a LSB) John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from the One who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.
- (Revelation 2:7 LSB) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.
- ... “what the Spirit says to the churches” ... 2:11, 2:17, 2:29, 3:6, 3:13, 3:22.
- (Revelation 22:16a LSB) I, Jesus, sent My angel to bear witness to you of these things for the churches.

5. Old Testament: When we obey the command to keep God’s words, we demonstrate our faith and trust in God and his word.

**Keep ...** [Heb. shamar /shaw-mar/] ... to observe with the intent to conform one’s action or practice to; to guard, keep watch; to observe; to keep, retain as with a treasure; to, preserve, protect.

A. We are warned to not add to or take away so that we may keep the commandments of Yahweh.

- (Deuteronomy 4:2 LSB) You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of Yahweh your God which I am commanding you.

6. New Testament: Different word but the same thought and intent as to keeping God’s word.

**Keep ...** τηρέω [Gk. tereo /tay-reh-o/] ... to observe with the intent to conform one’s action or practice to; to attend to carefully, take care of; to guard, preserve.

A. We know we are ready for heaven when we keep God’s words because we have the inner witness of never seeing death—meaning we live forever.

- (John 8:51 LSB) Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he will never see death—ever.

B. We know we are ready for heaven when we keep Christ’s words because keeping his words authenticates our love for him, the Father’s love for us and the presence of both Son and Father in our lives.

- (John 14:23–24 LSB) Jesus answered and said to him, “if anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him. 24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.”

C. We know we are ready for heaven because keeping God’s word reveals the active, perfecting work of the love of God in our lives.

- (1 John 2:4–5 LSB) The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; 5 but whoever keeps His word, truly in him the love of God has been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him.

**7. A warning is given to the churches that not all will enter the city but that some will be outside.**

A. If we are keeping the words of this Book, then we know things—two specifically ...

- i. **We know** that to enter the city our robes must be washed in the blood of the Lamb.
- (Revelation 7:13–14 LSB) Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “**These, clothed in the white robes**, who are they, and from where have they come?” 14 And I said to him, “My lord, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, **and they washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb**.”
- ii. **And we know** that those who do not wash their robes in the blood of the Lamb will not be allowed to enter and will remain outside.
- (Revelation 22:14–15 LSB) **Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that** they may have the authority to the tree of life and may enter by the gates into the city. 15 **Outside** are the dogs and the sorcerers and the sexually immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

**8. A final invitation given for the churches, 22:16-17.**

- (Revelation 22:16 ESV) I, Jesus, have sent my angel **to testify to you about these things for the churches**. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.
- ... “for the churches” ...** Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.

**PRACTICAL APPLICATION FROM THE LIFE OF SAUL:**

Saul changed the words and disobeyed God. In changing the words rendered himself incapable of keeping the commandments of Yahweh.

- (1 Samuel 15:3 LSB) Now go and strike Amalek and **devote to destruction all that he has**, and do not spare him; but put to death both man and woman, infant and nursing baby, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.

Saul and the people changed the words and only partially obeyed the command of God.

- (1 Samuel 15:10–15 LSB) Then the word of Yahweh came to Samuel, saying, 11 “I regret that I have made Saul king, **for he has turned back from following Me and has not established My words**.” And Samuel became angry and cried out to Yahweh all night. 12 Then Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul; and it was told to Samuel, saying, “Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself, then turned and proceeded on down to Gilgal.” 13 And Samuel came to Saul, and Saul said to him, “Blessed are you of Yahweh! **I have established the word of Yahweh**.” 14 **But Samuel said**, “What then is this sound of the sheep in my ears and the sound of the oxen which I am hearing?” 15 And Saul said, “**They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and oxen, to sacrifice to Yahweh your God; but the rest** we have devoted to destruction.”

In his self-deceit Saul proclaimed that he had “established the word of Yahweh” contradicting Yahweh’s commentary on his actions. Saul’s spiritual eye was bad because he feared the people and his “truth” was a lie. The light in him had become darkness.

- (Matthew 6:22–23 LSB) The eye is the lamp of the body; **so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light**. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. **If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!**