Our scripture comes from Revelation 22:12-13. While you’re finding that, a husband was talking to his wife. “This article says that women use about 30,000 words a day, whereas men only use 15,000 words." His wife said, “Hmfff - we have to say everything twice because you men never listen!” The husband looked up and said, “Did you say something?” I know no man is guilty of that here this morning.

**Revelation 22:12-13 12“And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.”**

 We’ve come to the end of Advent, but this doesn’t end the hopeful watching for our Lord. As Christians, we must be excited about the promise! Today may just be the day!

Those of you who have attended this church for a long time know that each time we have Communion, we end with a quote from Revelation 22 – it affirms that we are waiting, desiring, expecting Christ’s return. He has gone to prepare a place for us, and He will return, just as surely as the sun rose this morning.

Revelation 22 is the final chapter of the Bible. It’s the final word from God. The revelation is complete! Anyone who tells you different or has a little book that they say God added is deceived. Revelation 22:18-19 couldn’t be clearer on this subject. We are warned, “For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. Very clear!

In Revelation 22, we find the testimony of Jesus Himself about His return. In verse 7, He sends an angel to testify. In verse 12, Jesus testifies. In verse 20, we’re told again. He’s coming quickly! The word used for come has the idea of appearing. The word for quickly has the idea of a sudden appearance. Listen to Jesus in Mark 13:32-37 “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning— lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!” Sounds consistent!

**Verse 12** says - And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work.Notice in Mark 13:36 it says lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. How many Christian’s would Jesus find sleeping on the job in this day and time? Quite I few I believe. We’re saved by Grace, but we have work to do. Jesus didn’t go away and say – stay here until I get back. He said, Go therefore and make disciples. What is our work? To spread the Gospel. What is the Gospel? John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. We are to love God and love others enough to tell them of Jesus, because He first loved us.

**Verse 13** - I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last. Jesus is the Word become flesh. John 1:1-2 says In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. John 1:14 says in part - And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Some want us to believe it’s like a 10,000 pc puzzle all sky blue! I’d say it’s more like the child’s puzzles. The great big pieces just fit. Jesus was, is, and always will be. Those who refuse to believe don’t refuse because the Bible is unclear, or God’s commands are hard to understand. They love sin. They’re deceived to think that there’s always time.

Today, I want to ask a question that requires a look inward - Where would I be if Jesus appeared suddenly this morning? As we take our Communion, think on this. Would He find us sleeping or watching? Would He find us about our Father’s business or sitting with our backs to the fields ripe unto the harvest? This morning, if you’ve never given your life to Him, come as we sing. Let’s make that right. On this first Sunday of a new decade, maybe you need to realign with the Holy Spirit? Come and do that.

Jesus says – Surely, I am coming quickly – may we all be ready to answer with excitement - Amen, even so, come Lord Jesus.