

December 22

- WORSHIP -

Is Today The Day?

Revelation 22:6-7, 18-20

"Is *today* the day that daddy is coming?"

"No, honey. Not today."

"Then how many more sleeps?"

Each time I called home from New York City my wife offered the same report. Her life was an endless loop of this conversation with our five-year-old daughter, who was eagerly awaiting my return. To her, my absence was palpable. Everything was a reminder that I was missing. Her world would be uneasy until daddy was home. Her life was charged with anticipation. Every day could be the day.

That same expectation supercharges the final section of Revelation, which is both the conclusion to the book and the grand finale of the entire Bible. This section opens and closes with the same promise on the lips of Jesus: "I am coming soon" (22:7, 20)! With these words, Jesus peels back the curtain of reality. He grants us preview of the final scene. Some day soon, this present moment, in all its brokenness, violence, and uncertainty, will disappear, chased away by Jesus' coming, who will bring with Him a whole new creation! Every day could be the day.

Our world is missing its Saviour. If we look, we can see evidence everywhere that He is missing. Yet, unlike my daughter, we've become comfortable with Christ's absence. We've learned to expect it, to accept it, to accommodate it. We've stopped noticing that Jesus is missing and stopped anticipating His return. What would it look like to live as though every day could be the day?

Let's anticipate Jesus' coming with all the fervency with which we anticipate Christmas. Let's long for the new creation He is bringing, a world full of hope, joy, and peace. Let's pray with John, "Come, Lord Jesus" (22:20).

Question: Why is it so easy to not notice that Jesus is missing? Where in our world do you notice His absence? What does it look like to live in the anticipation of His return?

Michael Krause is Teaching Pastor at Southridge Community Church in St. Catharines, ON.