

“THE END IS NEAR!”

“He who testifies to these things says, ‘Yes, I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.”
Revelation 22:20

November is an interesting month. We’re transitioning between fall and winter. The trees will have lost all their color and leaves and we’re “battering down the hatches” in anticipation of snow – LOTS of snow. November seems to have a “finality” to it.

Perhaps it is fitting, then, that in the Church Year, November is bookended by two observances that mark The End: “All Saints’ Day” at the beginning of the month, and “Christ the King” at the end. The first is a commemoration of the end of our individual lives on this earth, and our ongoing life with Christ in heaven. The second reminds us of the end of all things when Christ returns in judgment at The Last Day, and our ongoing life with Him in the “new heavens and the new earth, the home of righteousness (2 Peter 3:13).”

Both “endings” remind us that this life, and the things of this life are passing away. We will come face to face with Him who will “judge both the living and the dead.” Those in Christ will not have to fear that Day (either the day of our deaths, or that Last Day), for He has redeemed us by His death for our sins, and guaranteed our victory over death by His resurrection. Though here, we mourn those who have departed this life, we still rejoice over those saints (made so by faith in Christ’s atonement) who are with the Lord.

And though the thought of the end of the world can be somewhat frightening to us, yet there is a deep longing to see God restore this creation to that which it was meant to be “where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away” and Christ “is making everything new (Revelation 21:4-5).”

Though November is a month of endings, it is also a month filled with hope, anticipation and “thanksgiving,” not just for God’s earthly provisions and blessings to us, but for the eternal victory that is ours through Jesus Christ.

“The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen (Rev. 22:21),”

Pastor Lueke