

# The Revelation of Jesus Christ



## Revelation 22

<sup>1</sup> Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; <sup>4</sup> they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.

## Chapter 22

### CONTINUING THE DESCRIPTION OF NEW JERUSALEM

- In Israel there are a few year-round rivers. Most of them are \_\_\_\_\_—dry in the dry season and flowing in the rainy season. Rivers are cherished because they bring water \_\_\_\_\_
- Rivers bring
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Many rivers of the ancient world were not particularly clean. The off-scouring of cities usually went into the nearest river. This river is \_\_\_\_\_, clear as crystal.
- Where is this river coming from?
- What will the tree of life do for the inhabitants of the city?
  - “...bearing twelve kinds of fruit...every month” tells us what about the tree of life?
  - Leaves of the tree were for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_
- What curse is John talking about?
  - What has happened?
- What does seeing His (God’s) face imply?
  - Exodus 33:23 talks about...
  - Which is the more glorious side of anyone?
  - What does seeing God’s face tell us?
- How long will the inhabitants of the new Jerusalem live and reign there?

<sup>6</sup> And he said to me, “These words are faithful and true”; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must soon take place.

<sup>7</sup> “And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book.”

<sup>8</sup> I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. <sup>9</sup> But he \*said to me, “Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God.”

<sup>10</sup> And he \*said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. <sup>11</sup> “Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and

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#### FINAL TESTIMONY, WARNINGS, AND ENCOURAGEMENTS

- Why is Revelation telling us again that these words are faithful and true?
  - Why mention that the God of the spirits of the prophets had sent His angel to tell us these things?
  - Any lesson here for us?
- How soon is “soon”?
  - Did some of what we have read come to pass “soon”?
  - What is “double prophecy”?
  - When might we expect “soon” to be soon again?
  - What is the lesson intended here for the first century hearers and us, too?
- What is the difference between Rev. 22:7 and Rev. 1:3?
  - What does this tell us?
- Why does John fall at the feet of the angel who showed him all these things?
  - What was the angel’s response?
    - I am a fellow \_\_\_\_\_ of yours
    - and of your brethren the \_\_\_\_\_
    - and of those who \_\_\_\_\_ the words of this book.
    - Worship \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - Hasn’t this happened before?
  - What is the lesson for John, the 1<sup>st</sup> century Christians, and us?
- What does it mean to “seal up the words of the prophecy”?
  - So what does it mean to “**not** seal up the words of the prophecy”?
  - Is v. 11 expressing God’s indifference to sin or is this a statement about free will?

let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and the one who is holy, still keep himself holy.”

<sup>12</sup> “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. <sup>13</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

<sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city. <sup>15</sup> Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

<sup>16</sup> “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

- Especially in view of the clear punishments and rewards for evil and righteousness (v.12), what does the Lord seem to be saying here?
- How soon is “quickly”?
  - What rewards is Jesus coming with?
- What does “the Alpha and the Omega” imply here?
  - Paraphrase...
- How do we wash our robes?
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ to the tree of life
  - Enter by the \_\_\_\_\_ into the city
  - An interesting textual question...
    - KJV and older translations translate: “14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”
    - NIV and newer translations translate: “14 “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.”
    - The difference...  
HOI ΠΛΥΝΟΝΤΕΣ ΤΑΣΣΤΟΛΑΣ — Blessed are they that do his commandments  
HOI ΠΟΙΟΥΝΤΕΣ ΤΑΣΕΝΤΟΛΑΣ — Blessed are those who wash their robes
  - Both underscore the need to make a choice and do what must be done
- Who is outside?
  - Is it immoral to be a dog? Explain...
- What is being said, when Jesus claims to be both the root and the descendant of David?
  - What is the morning star a harbinger of?

<sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

<sup>18</sup> I testify 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; <sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming quickly.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

<sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

- What are the Spirit and bride (who is the bride?) saying “come” about?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- Does this warning apply only to Revelation?

- Why is the “soon” and “quickly” repeated so often here?