

Revelation 22

Revelation Chapter 22

Bill Holdstock

And he showed me a pure river of water of Life, clear as crystal proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

In the last chapter we read there will be no more sea, but there will be rivers and lakes. This chapter tells of a pure river of life flowing from God who sits on the throne, then out of the Temple into the streets of gold. We do know there will be 12 beautiful gates around the city; it is through these gates 12 great rivers will flow to all parts of the earth. These rivers will spring up into fountains bringing life to all the cities and form many lakes of purity and freshness for all. This place is of exquisite beauty; in the last few verse of the last chapter we count at least 14 precious stones in a wall of about 216 feet tall that surrounds the city. We cannot, in our simple minds imagine what it will be like in heaven when all this wonder and beauty describes the wall outside what will it be like inside?!

Verse 2

In the midst of the street of it and on either side of the river was there the Tree of Life which bare twelve manner of fruits and yielding her fruit every month and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

On both sides of all 12 great rivers that are flowing down the golden streets for 1500 miles are trees of life. From each tree and on each side of the river are 12 different types of fruits which grow new and fresh every month. We are not told what the fruit is but we can assume they are for food, however we are told that the leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations, no doubt to stop sickness of any type from developing before it even begins. These nations will be those saved during the Kingdom Age and had not been in the Rapture so they may not enjoy Glorified Bodies.

Verse 3

There will be no more curse: but the throne of God and the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him.

The curse that came as a result of Adam and Satan's rebellion will be gone. Conditions that were before Adams sin will now prevail and will continue as if the curse had never been. All rebels and troublemakers will be confined to the lake of fire. Every believer in this perfect age will so love the Lord we will gladly serve Him. Notice that in verse 3 God the Father and God the Son is spoken of using the singular pronoun 'Him', this points to the oneness of the Trinity Mathew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14, and Jesus said in John 10: 30 'I and the Father are one'.

Verse 4

And they shall see His face and His name shall be in their foreheads.

We will be able to see His face, the Bible tells us no man shall look upon God and live. But now we will be changed like unto His glorious body and be able to look into those beautiful eyes and see and feel the love He has for us with no sin marring the process. And better yet have His name *in* our foreheads, not just printed on the top but *in* it. So our very thoughts, our thinking, our mental attributes will be like His although He will still be God and we His servants there will be such a oneness between us. Remember this is what He wanted right at the beginning when He created Adam and Eve. He made them with the excitement of a Father waiting for his son the grow up so he could watch him play, watch them experiment and find out things, and a whole lot more that only God can know about. But sin and rebellion ruined God's plans; His wonderful world was given to Satan by His creation... that is until now Praise His Name! Now is 'the Day of God'. Now He has taken it back, He has dealt with that rebellion, that sin and wickedness that separated His beautiful creation from their beautiful creator.

Verse 5

And there shall be no night there and they need no candle, neither the light of the sun for the Lord God gives them light and they shall reign forever and ever.

The rest of the earth will have night and day as promised at creation but in the New Jerusalem God will be the light to us all.

Verse 6

And He said unto me these sayings are faithful and true.

Remember all these visions of the last day events were shown to John. My guess is that John was completely shocked at what he saw in these visions; I know I would be so God in His great love confirmed to John that what he was seeing was faithful and true. He reminded John that an Angel was sent to show John what was to happen in the last days and that it was to happen shortly. The Angel was talking about the Tribulation which must take place shortly after the Rapture.

Verse 7

Behold I come quickly, blessed is he who keeps the sayings of the Prophecy of this Book.

The coming of the Lord will be sudden, quick, and immediate, it will be at the height of the battle of Armageddon. It will be at the point that the Antichrist thinks he has won as he breaks down the walls of Jerusalem preparing to march into the Temple to sit on God's throne, which has been his ambition all along. But The Antichrist and his followers will be defeated and put down and God will have the victory.

The book ends with a blessing from God on all who hear, read, and keep the truths of this prophecy. (1: 1-3. 22: 7).

Verse 12

And behold I come quickly and my reward is with Me.

Once again God tells us of the suddenness of his coming. if you think you have time, time to finish building the house you have started, finish studying for that qualification, finish making plans for your marriage, think again getting your heart right with God is far more important than all your worldly plans. We are talking about where you will spend eternity. And God says 'I will come quickly or suddenly' giving you no time to get ready, to ask Him to stop as you bow in prayer, no we are exalted by God Himself to accept His son Jesus NOW don't waste any more time. He says He will bring His reward with Him. That will be a positive one or a negative one. It will be the reward of Hell or Heaven both are for eternity.

Verse 14

Blessed are they who do His commandments that they may have the right to the Tree of Life and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Archaeologists in 1516 found very many manuscripts relating to this Chapter, the best interpretations render verse 14 as '*They who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb*'. I like this rendering best because *without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins* and that has to bring us to the foot of the cross, there is no other way other than by the blood of the Lamb. Why is it that man will do their best to find another way to God other than God's way through the shed blood of His Son Jesus? The acceptance of Jesus as our saviour gives us the right to the Tree of Life that we may enter through the gates into the city by means of grace. Those in the city have their robes washed in the blood of the Lamb, they are the redeemed of all ages, outside are dogs and sorcerers, murderers, and all who makes a lie. Those who know no better than to make trouble, kill, pull down, destroy and make the lives of everyone a misery.

Verse 16

I, Jesus have sent My Angel to testify unto you these things in the churches, I am the Root and the Offspring of David the Bright and Morning Star.

Christ Himself is closing the Book of Revelation and testifying to the truth of what has been written. The Book has been sent to the messenger or Pastor of the Churches.

If we look at verse 17 we can see all who God wanted to know about the teachings of the Book of Revelation.

There is an invitation from the Spirit and the Bride.

Often Jesus said 'he who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches'.

He who is athirst, speaks of a spiritual cry from the heart of a man for complete satisfaction in his life.

Whosoever will can take the water of life and it is free, it has been paid for by Jesus.

Verse 18

For I testify unto every man who hears the words of the Prophecy of this Book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this Book and if any man shall take away from the words of the Book of this Prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life and out of the Holy City, and from the things which are written in this Book

The last few verses of this very important Book are a warning to us all on how to treat the end-time message. Firstly the Book is given to the Messenger or Pastor of the Churches. We started off looking at the spiritual state of the churches in Asia as God saw them, and we recognised that our churches of today are in similar decline. The commission given to the Pastors in the time of John made little or no difference to the spiritual state of the churches. That same commission given to our Pastors and leaders of our churches today has the same effect, even acknowledged by Pastors and leaders themselves, but very little is done about it. We have been dealing with our eternal state in heaven or in hell. When was the last time you heard this subject preached in your church?

Secondly, God Himself warns that if His Word is messed about with, altered, added to, miss interpreted, or treated lightly He will add the plagues to the lives of the culprits. I really don't think this warning is taken seriously at all. There are dozens of new versions, new interpretations, New Bibles for children, New Bibles for the student, Study Bibles for Pastors. There are more than 60 English-language versions of the Bible available today, some are word for word, some are meaning to meaning, some are paraphrased which are probably the most dangerous in the light of what God said. I am not going into detail about these different Bibles but they all have been removed from the original because the original supposed to be difficult to understand! It is far too late to call back all 60 new type of Bible out there and it is not what I say, which some may think I have a 'bee in my bonnet'! It is what God said, so maybe some soul searching needs to be done.

Verse 19

If any man shall take away from the words of this Book of this Prophecy, God shall take his part out of the Book of Life and out of the Holy City and from the things which are written in this Book.

I am going to stop right here and leave you, the reader to make your mind up as to how much you want to weaken God's word to satisfy your conscience.

God bless you richly. I trust the Holy Spirit will help you read and

understand our study together; I don't expect everyone to agree with what it written but if our hearts are right towards God He will read the desires of our heart and bless us accordingly.

My grateful thanks to my friend Graham Towse who has an excellent knowledge of the Bible and has read and checked these studies. I also thank him for his encouragement and his valued support.

Bill@Holdstock.com
More Studies on Google;
www.wordlightmypath.com