

Chapter 22

Outline	1-5 River of Life and Tree of Life
	6-16 Promise of Return of Christ
	17-19 Final Invitation and Warning

Revelation 22:1-3 *Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.*

Where have you heard the water of Life and in what context? John 4:4-15 The river of the water of life is like crystal, why?

How about the tree of life? Gen 2:9 & Gen 3:22 (The Alter [blood atonement for sin] in Gen 2 and 4)

Will there be steak and lobster in Heaven? Why or Why not?

Why are leaves for healing of the nations if there is no sickness, death, pain, etc.? Ezekiel 47:12.
What is the logical explanation for the purpose of the leaves?

Possible explanations:

1. Preventive – like vitamins
2. for Healing of the those in other non-glorified bodies (Earthly nations and maybe other)
3. A figurative use of speech to show or explain perpetual health.

What is different from Garden of Eden and New Heaven and Earth?

Tree of Life – 12 fruits each month and leaves for healing for the nations. Some tie the fruits here to the fruits of the spirit.

Menu is varied but restricted to fruit. The vegetarian diet returns to same diet as in Garden Eden. (Gen 1:29-30)

Revelation 22:4–5 *They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.*

What will life be like without the curse of sin? Will His name be on your forehead literally?

No Curse not even a potential – Potential Sin was originally in the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden. Holy Spirit came right after the presence of sin. His role will change now.

No need for the sun because we have The Son. Remember when John spoke on this subject 1 John 1:5-7.

His servants shall give service. This same word that is used for service in connection with Jehovah as it is used in Heb 9:1, 6.

What will we do? One verse says we will Judge Angels. We will have the name of Christ on us. There is no night and no need for sleep in our new bodies. Adam was given dominion over the old creation.

No Curse	Perfect Sinlessness
Throne of God and the Lamb	Perfect Government
Servants serve Him	Perfect Service
See His Face	Perfect Communion
Name of foreheads	Perfect Resemblance
No Night	Perfect Blessedness
Reign Forever	Perfect Glory

Revelation 22:6 *The angel said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place.”*

How is it best translated must soon take place?

I come quickly. The whole time once it starts is but 7 years. The word used is not shortly or soon – it is quickly.

The book has Jesus’ Seal. The words are faithful and true. This signifies the importance of the words so that they may not be twist/spiritualized and loose meaning.

Revelation 22:7 *“Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.”*

Do you remember how John opened Chapter 1 of Revelation? Why is it repeated? What is the significance repeating something in the bible?

Revelation 22:8-9 *I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!”*

John reminds us he is an eye-witness to all that transpires. **What did John do that the angel had to correct him for? Are we ever guilty of the same thing?** Angel identifies himself as a fellow worshiper, and points worship to the Creator not creation.

Revelation 22:10 *Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near.”*

Why is John asked not seal up his book? Are others in the bible asked to seal up their books? Why and how could Jesus say the time is near when John wrote the book nearly 2000 yrs. ago (est. 95 AD)? Don’t seal up the words because the fulfillment is near? To Seal would indicate that the prophecy would be postponed and opened only at the right time. Daniel was told to seal his. This book includes the church age and is now upon us.

Revelation 22:11 *Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy.”*

Let him continue who is doing wrong or vile! Does that sound harsh? Why do you suppose the strong and frank language at this point? The condition of man and the righteous are not static. The will both continue in either darkness or light.

Revelation 22:12 -16 “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. “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. Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

Come quickly again. Blood washed. What is meant by blessed are those who have washed their robes? Dogs were scavengers in those days hence the reference. He ends as he begins with I am the alpha and Omega. Jesus' words – **What is meant by: come soon? Reward is with me? Everyone will be given according to what was done.**

Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.

The invitation and who it is from is clear notice the language. **Why is the language sprinkled with terms like Hearers, Thirsty, wishes, come and take? What does this tell us? How is that important to us when evangelizing?**

Revelation 22:18-19 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. 19 And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll.

Why the stern warning? Based on the world's view of Revelation, do you think some people today could be subjecting themselves to God's plagues and losing their share of the city and tree of life?

Revelation 22:20-21 He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen.

Come Quickly! How many times has “soon” been used in this chapter? Why? What's the impact on us today? Do we act as if Jesus is coming soon?