

REVELATION 22:1-21

*We have seen the outside dimensions of the Lamb's wife, the new Heavenly city, Jerusalem. The city is 1500 miles square and is a **cube** shape. Now we begin to see the city's inside.

A. Revelation 22:1 - And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

1. A pure and mighty river flows out from God's throne and the Lamb's.

*Some think this **glowing** pure river will flow out from the city's 12 gates running throughout the city to the whole earth. Remember, there will be no more **sea**!

2. Dr. Henry Morris: "Evidently God will **continually** create the waters to refill this flowing river, and send this water forth to give **perpetual** life and cleansing to the city and uttermost parts of the earth."

3. Earth will be a well-watered paradise. As water flowed from the Lamb's side on the **cross**, so a pure sparkling river will flow from the Lamb on the throne and all may drink freely of the water of **life**, freely forever!

Revelation 22:17 - And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

B. Revelation 22:2 - 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 yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

1. Here is the **same** tree of life that had been in the Garden of Eden.

a. The fruit it bore possessed such remarkable life-preserving ingredients that God had to with**draw** it from man's use after Adam's sin (Genesis 3:22-25). But here it **returns** and is available again for all.

b. *The tree of life is so **big** that it evidently spans both sides of the river emanating from God's throne.

2. The tree of life bares **12** types of fruit, one different for each **month**. Evidently the tree of life also will perpetually be in bloom, or always in season.

3. Mentioning [every month] also tells us that **time** will continue. Evidently there will be some type of calendar marking periods of time.

4. Seemingly, there is a time period given to the cleansing-healing of the nations **after** being intertwined with **lost** people and their sin during the 1000 year kingdom.

5. Healing does not only refer to physical illness, but instead could refer to life-giving healthy **wholeness**. The leaves from the tree of life are likened to a supernatural **super** vitamin that gives good health, making one **immune** to illness.

Note: There will be many on earth living with **out** resurrected-glorified bodies. Those believers who made it through the Tribulation and Millennium. These leaves will give life throughout eternity, always **re**minding them that **God** is the source of life!

C. Revelation 22:3 - And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

1. Wonderful! The age-long curse upon earth and mankind will finally be gone, **re**moved forever. There will be no more sin, no death, no sickness, but everyone will thrive with full **en**ergy.
2. The removal of the curse and sin makes it possible for personal **ac**cess to God in the New Jerusalem.
3. [and his servants shall serve him:] From the beginning, man was created to serve and work. This was **not** a result of the curse. Life will not be just about resting and singing, but a life about teaching and serving. We will be carrying out **ta**sks for God.
*So it will not be just relaxing and catching rainbow **tr**out out of the river of life!
4. It will be a life that is **pro**ductive, teaching, and **lear**ning. All questions will be honored and answered. No doubt we will get to hear other's testimonies and **me**et Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Paul, etc.
*But also there will be **wo**rk to be done!
*Note: Perhaps we, with glorified bodies, in the Heavens, will also visit different galaxies to explore, and then share with others what we **sa**w and **lear**ned.

D. Revelation 22:4 - And they shall see his face; and his name *shall be* in their foreheads.

1. Can you **im**agine this?

Song: Face to face with Christ my Savior, Face to face what will it be?
When with rapture I behold Him, Jesus Christ who died for me.
Face to face! O blissful moment! Face to face to see and know;
Face to face with my Redeemer, Jesus Christ who loves me so.

Chorus: Face to face I shall behold Him, Far beyond the starry sky.
Face to face in all His glory, I shall see Him by and by.

Before, not see Him in His glory and live!

2. Christ's **na**me will be in our foreheads identifying us as His personal possession. There will be no doubt to whom we belong. We are His forever! This may be in the form of a **seal** or something **en**graved.

I Corinthians 6:19-20 - What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? I Cor. 6:20 - For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

E. Revelation 22:5 - And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

1. The wonderful light in the New Jerusalem is of **God** and will illuminate the **en**tire city. There will be no night, no darkness, with no clouds or storms.

2. *Contrast with the lost:

Revelation 14:11 - And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

1000 years → Transition → Eternity

3. God's kingdom is endless and we will reign with Christ forever. *We will have assigned areas, dominions to develop for His glory.

F. Revelation 22:6 - And he said unto me, These sayings *are* faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

1. This angel feels it is necessary to reiterate again to John that everything he had seen and been told about was absolutely true and will be fulfilled.

*Angel: "John, these coming events are amazing, but you are not dreaming. All you have seen is accurate of coming future events!"

2. [and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants]

*God had moved through His holy prophets in the scriptures to predict certain events which have and which will come to pass literally.

Isaiah 46:9-11 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Isaiah 46:11 - Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

3. [the things which must shortly be done.]

*All the events in Revelation that had been promised - shown to His prophets under inspiration will be completed - fulfilled in a relatively short period of time.

Rapture ↑ | gap | 7 years | gap | 1000 years | White Throne | Eternity

G. Revelation 22:7 - Behold, I come quickly: *blessed is* he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

1. [Behold, I come quickly] *The angel here quotes a phrase used by Christ that it would not be long before He would make haste in His return.

2. [blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book]

a. This goes with:

Revelation 1:1, 3 - The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John: Rev. 1:3 - Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

*The fact that Christ's return would be sooner than later should cause them to be obedient to the commandments of Revelation.

**It will help the Israelites during the Tribulation.

- b. Remember, this is about Prophecy, so it is mainly for the Jewish people about the Jewish message. They are to guard and hold fast the prophecies, predictions, or foretelling of John's book.

H. Revelation 22:8 - And I John saw these things, and heard *them*. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.

1. John is so overwhelmed with all he had seen, he, in humbleness and reverence, falls to the ground to worship (Rev. 19:10).
2. *This was a normal reaction - response where he could not help himself in showing his submission to God's person and plans.
3. **John collapses in wonder and worship of God's awesomeness and sovereignty! The text does not say he worshipped the angel, but this was inappropriate and needed to be corrected.

I. Revelation 22:9 - Then saith he unto me, See *thou do it* not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

1. The angel knows that God alone receives worship. Even the appearance of worship toward anything or anyone outside of God must be avoided.
2. This angel (Rev. 19:10) reminds John again to bow down and worship only God, no one else (Today's worship of angels!). The angel tells John that he (angel) was a created being like John and that he (angel) was also a servant of Israel.

J. Revelation 22:10 - And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

1. Remember when Daniel was told to seal up the prophecies of the end times (Dan. 12:4, 8-9) because the last days were not ready to begin.
2. But here time was short for the Tribulation to begin. This book of prophecy was needed to remain opened - unsealed so it could be read, studied, and followed.
*The book of Revelation is to be left open for all to read, especially the Jews. However, here it shows that all believers can see the end of God's story for them.

K. Revelation 22:11 - He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

1. Here these warning words have no reference to the future or eternal state. They are given by Christ (vs. 11-ff) as a present statement. Christ says, "John, that will be future, but what I am saying at this moment...this is for now."
2. Christ is telling believers to proclaim the prophecy of Revelation. If some hear and believe, then they, as believers, will be blessed eternally.

*However, the wicked (majority) **rarely** respond to God's loving invitation. Lost people are in rebellion or unbelief and will just **stay** there.

Daniel 12:10 - Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

L. Revelation 22:12-13 - And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. Rev. 22:13 - I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

1. Christ is telling John to tell others to serve and be **ready** because His return was soon. They were to live with **expectancy** and assurance that Jesus' return was sooner than later. [**Us today: I Thess. 1:9-10]
2. Salvation is **apart** from works, but rewards are according to **works**. As the wicked will be **condemned** according to their works and unbelief, the righteous will be **rewarded** in accordance with their works.
3. As the Jews obey, persevere, **hold** the course, their reward would be **certain** because of Messiah's return.
4. God, in verse 13, reaffirms a couple of His attributes of His deity assuring what He says He will do. He will fulfill it. So once the last days begin, you will only have a short time before Jesus returns.

*And if faithful, you will be honored by God Himself.

Revelation 1:17-18 - And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: Rev. 1:18 - *I am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Isaiah 41:4; 44:6; 48:12 - Who hath wrought and done *it*, calling the generations from the beginning? I the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he. Isa. 44:6 - Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me *there is no God*. Isa. 48:12 - Harken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I am he; I am the first, I also am the last.

M. Revelation 22:14 - 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.

1. Those of John's day, over to those who go into the Tribulation/Millennium, who **keep** His commandments, will demonstrate that they are **true** believers.
2. Thus they will be rewarded by being permitted to be part of those who are **in** the New Jerusalem having access to the tree of life.

I John 2:3-4 - And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. I John 2:4 - He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

N. Revelation 22:15 - For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Now the angel contrasts with the lost Jews and Gentiles. In the 1000 year kingdom, sin will be present, and those outside the city, the household of God, will live outside as evildoers. Likewise, no sinners or wicked will have any place in the new Heaven, new earth, or new Heavenly Jerusalem.

Final Remarks

O. Revelation 22:16 - I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

1. [I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches.]
 - a. This was specifically to the kingdom churches of John's day. John understood from Paul (Romans 9-11) that the kingdom program had been temporarily set aside; however, he thought (I believe) the mystery program with Paul would not take too long for God to complete. I think John still thought the kingdom program would re-start soon.
 - b. The Jewish churches here will be those assemblies that will be on earth during the fulfillment of the prophecies of this book. They are the churches of Revelation 2-3 specifically!
2. [...I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.]
 - a. Interestingly, there are seven I am's in the Hebrew scriptures and seven in the Greek scriptures.
 - b. These titles are exclusively Jewish. It is saying the Owner of these titles - names is Christ. He will, at His coming, confirm and fulfill all the promises made to Israel through David. He is powerful enough, for He is God!
 - c. Christ is the [root] that David came through, and Christ is the offspring that came through David. *David came from Christ and Christ came from David. **Christ is both David's Lord (God) and David's Son (man).
 - (1) Son (Isaiah 11:1)
 - (2) Lord (John 8:58) - Acts, David says "My Lord."

3. [and the bright and morning star.]

Les Feldick: "When do you see the morning star?" Answer: "Just at the end of darkness and the beginning of a new day."

*Here you have the closing of human history as we know it. Then it is the beginning of God's eternal day with the "I am" as "the bright and morning star".

P. Revelation 22:17 - And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

1. God's invitation is for all to come and experience the tree of life again.
2. Israel had lost her position as God's bride because of her idolatrous whoredoms. But here, once again, God has recovered His Israel, making Jerusalem His bride. Here she, with the Spirit, are inviting believers to come into God's presence.

Q. Revelation 22:18 - For I testify unto every man that heareth 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:

1. This is in regards to the book of Revelation, but God also warns of this in other parts of the Bible.
Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32 - Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. Deu. 12:32 - What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.
Proverbs 30:5-6 - Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.
Prov. 30:6 - Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.
2. The solemn warning if one tampers with God's Word, is that God will add plagues into his life. That is the way the Law operates in the Prophetic Program. *This is serious for the Jewish people.

R. Revelation 22:19 - 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

1. Wow! For one to add to or subtract from God's Word, Israel's Prophecy Program, means that he will be removed from their covenant blessings and even from being allowed to enter the New Jerusalem.
2. The fact that this involves Israel's program leaves us (the Body of Christ) out of its curse!
* | But there is application to us today concerning messing with God's Word. Many new versions
* | change Bible doctrine so that it is becoming difficult to prove the difference between truth and
* | error. The market is flooded with new versions.

S. Revelation 22:20-21 - He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. Rev. 22:21 - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

1. In verse 20, the final announcement of Christ's coming, the fulfilling of all His future promises made to Israel, is stated by Christ Himself. He is saying it will not be long, He will be back, and John agrees.
2. Throughout the Bible, God has always given grace. God's great demonstration of grace is when His Son came to earth to live among His brethren.
John 1:14, 16-17 - And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John 1:16 - And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. John 1:17 - For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
3. But we today are blessed by being allowed to be living in the Dispensation of the Grace of God. Our privilege, our gospel of the grace message, was unrealized in other dispensations.

Acts 20:24b - "which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6, 9 - Eph 3:2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: Eph. 3:3 - How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Eph. 3:5 - Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; Eph. 3:6 - That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Eph. 3:9 - And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

[Amen]