

## REVELATION CHAPTER 22 BIBLE STUDY NOTES

*"There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God,  
The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved..."*

**Psalms 46:4-5**

**A**s we come to the closing chapter in the Book of Revelation, we get a continued look into the New Jerusalem, God's Holy City, which shall dwell upon this earth after it [the earth] is purified from all sin after the one thousand years. It is this city which the saints shall enter into, Sabbath after Sabbath and month after month, where they will worship and give all praise and glory unto God, their Creator, **Isaiah 66:22-23**. This is a reward suited only for those who have overcome this current sinful life by the blood of the Lamb and have been made spotless and clothed in the robe of His righteousness. Satan and sin shall be no more, and God shall dwell with His people; He shall be our God and we shall be His people and we will dwell with Him for all eternity.

What an experience this shall be, of which human words are not able to fully describe or the human mind capable of fully comprehending. Truly, eyes have not seen, nor have ears heard, neither has entered into the hearts of man, the things that God has prepared for those that love Him, **1 Corinthians 2:9**.

Let us strive by the grace of God to be a part of this holy throng who shall inherit the earth and dwell with our Saviour into all eternity. Jesus is coming soon; great changes are quickly taking place in our world and final movements will be RAPID ones.

**vs. 1-2**

*"And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."*

The angel continues to reveal unto John in vision the Holy City of God, the New Jerusalem, and in the midst of this city is seen the river of life and the tree of life.

We see the first reference to the tree of life in **Genesis 2**, in which by the partaking of this fruit, our first parents, Adam & Eve, were to eat of if they had passed the test of obedience. This fruit would have prolonged the life of man, which was God's original plan, but because of their sin, they were separated from the presence of God, never to partake of the fruit of the tree of life until all was renewed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus. **Genesis 3:22-24**, **Isaiah 59:1-2**.

We also see a river in the midst of the garden which went forth throughout the garden of Eden and parted into four parts, comparable to the river of life in **Revelation 22**.

One may ask then, if the garden and the river were on earth during the days of Adam & Eve, how did they then get to the New Jerusalem which was first in Heaven. It is very probable that after the separation of man from the

presence of God in Eden, that God took the garden back to Heaven, especially before the events of the flood so as to preserve it. This would then explain how the tree of life and the river of life have thus been preserved over the course of time.

The imagery we get if one can imagine is this:

God's glorious throne at the head of this golden street, **Revelation 21:21**, proceeding from God's throne is the river of life, clear as crystal, clearer than any body of water which we now have upon this corrupt earth. On either side of the river is the tree of life, glorious and majestic in nature, standing high with its overarching branches, lush with fresh succulent fruit. It is of this fruit that Adam and all of his saved descendants shall partake of month by month, as Isaiah tells us that we shall all go before the presence of the Lord from month to month in the New Creation, **Isaiah 66:22-23**. It is no coincidence here that the tree of life bears its fruit each month and the saints of God shall also come before Him in the New Jerusalem also each month. God does not work in coincidences.

Concerning the leaves of the tree, one author writes, *"Its leaves are for the healing of the nations: literally, **the service of the nations**. This cannot be understood as implying that any will enter the city in a diseased or deformed condition to need healing; for then the conclusion would follow that there will always be persons there in that condition, as we have no reason to understand that the service of the leaves, whatever it is, will not be perpetual, like the use of the fruit; but the idea of disease and deformity in the immortal state is contrary to the express declarations of other scriptures."* **Daniel & the Revelation, pg. 766.1, Uriah Smith**

**vs. 3-4**

*"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. They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads."*

The curse of sin shall be no more. Satan and his sympathisers have been destroyed, both the root and the branch have been consumed in the lake of fire, **Malachi 4:1**; "...affliction shall not raise its head a second time." **Nahum 1:9**

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."* **Matthew 5:8**

The saints of God have been victorious, they have overcome by the blood of the Lamb. They have been clothed in the robe of His [Christ's] righteousness and have received the Father's name in their foreheads, **Revelation 14:1**. For this, they have received the crown of life which God has promised unto them, **James 1:12**, and they receive the right to see His [the Father's] face, for they are pure in heart; they are not clothed in filthy, defiled garments, but they are clothed in the robe of Christ's righteousness, **Revelation 19:7-8**.

Upon those that had part in the first resurrection, the second death has no power. *While God is to the wicked a consuming fire, He is to His people both a sun and a shield.* **Revelation 20:6; Psalm 84:11**.

**vs. 5-6**

*"There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place."*

We are not to understand that the new earth has no sun or moon but instead that the New Jerusalem itself, *the City of God*, has no need of the sun nor of the moon or any other form of light. For God Himself, the brightest of all lights in the universe shall provide the light that is needed in the city. It is the city specifically, John tells us, that has no need of the light given by the sun or the moon or any other light, other than the light of God. With the light of the Father and the light of the Son, as well as the light and glory of the saints & the angels in the city, what need be there of the sun?

***"The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honour into it."*** **Revelation 21:23-24**

Isaiah does also tell us in **Isaiah 66:22-23**, that there shall be weeks and months in the New Earth, for this to occur, we would indeed need the light of the sun and the moon, for how else would we be able to track the days. However, it is by entering into the City of God, Sabbath to Sabbath and month to month, that God Himself, because of His immense glory, shall be all the light that we need in the City.

The angel confirms that all the words that he has spoken unto John are true. They have been spoken from the mouth of God and it is impossible for God to lie, for He is not a man. **Numbers 23:19, Hebrews 6:18**. He is perfect in all His ways and has never fallen to sin, He Himself is the very epitome of the word truth.

The Father spoke to the Son, the Son spoke to the angel, and the angel spoke unto John, the things which must shortly come to pass. We can always trust the Word of God.

*"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw."* **Revelation 1:1-2**

*"The Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place."* **Revelation 22:6**

**vs. 7**

*"Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."*

The Book of Revelation was written for the Church of the New Testament, from the days of the Apostles to our generation in these last days. However, it speaks with the most potency to our times, for it is in these days that we are living in, that we see the final stages of prophecy unfolding.

We see the wars and the rumours of wars, we see the pestilences and diseases, the famines and the earthquakes in diverse places. We also see now more so than ever nation rising against nation [*race against race*] and kingdom

rising against kingdom and men's hearts are failing them for fear for all these things that are falling upon the earth. **Matthew 24:6-7, Luke 21:26**. Mankind has become lovers of themselves rather than lovers of God, they have fallen to covetousness, boasting, pride and the youth are ever more wayward, disobedient to their parents and to their elders. They have become unholy and unthankful, without the love of Christ in their hearts totally despising those things that are good and of God, they have a form of godliness, professing to believe in God but they deny the overcoming power that they can claim through His Son, Christ Jesus . **2 Timothy 3:1-5**. Mankind in this last generation has become totally immoral, with every imagination of their heart being only evil continually, **Genesis 6:5**. These last days are no different from the days of Noah before the flood and says Jesus to His disciples, *"But as in the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be."*

**Matthew 24:37**

As we see all of these things transpiring in the world on such a larger scale and with more frequency than in any other time in history, let us take heed to the words of Jesus to His disciples:

*"So likewise, ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, **This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.** Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."* **Matthew 24:33-35**

**vs.8-9**

*"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. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God."*

After hearing all the words and seeing the visions, John fell down in amazement before the angel to worship him. However, and rightly so, the angel quickly stops him and admonishes Him that He is to worship God and God alone.

It is God who has created all things, and for His pleasure they were and are created, therefore, let us give Him all glory and honour that is due His Holy name. **Revelation 4:11**. Let us have no other gods before Him, **Exodus 20:2-3**.

**vs. 10**

*"And he saith unto me, **Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book:** for the time is at hand."*

Woe unto them that say the Book of Revelation is a sealed book and is not able to be understood. God has pronounced a blessing upon all who read, hear and keep the things that are written in this Book. **Revelation 1:3**. Those who advocate otherwise are blind and have fallen into a deep sleep and as a result they shall be caught off guard during these last days when certain pivotal events shall come to pass.

*"For the LORD hath poured out upon you **the spirit of deep sleep and hath closed your eyes:** the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered and the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed..."* **Isaiah 29:10-11**

There is a popular theology in the world today that the Book of Revelation is sealed and not for our time, but this could not be further from the truth. From our study over the last twenty-two chapters, we have clearly seen that this Book applies more to this last generation than any other time in this earth's history. Let not Satan deceive into believing otherwise, for he seeks to keep the Church ignorant of major Biblical end time events that pertain to our salvation.

#### **vs.11-12**

*"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.  
And behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."*

Verse 11 points us to the fact that probation has at this time referred to closed for mankind. It is now that Jesus is interceding for all of us in the Most Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary; all those who profess the name of God, **Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 5:8-10; Hebrews 24-27; Hebrews 8:1-2; Hebrews 9:11-12,24.**

As we see in the ceremony of the earthly sanctuary on the day of atonement, **Leviticus 16**, the high priest made intercession for the people and the sanctuary and all those who had sought forgiveness of their sins were cleansed. It was after this time, that all those who had refused to afflict their souls and repent of their sins during this time of judgment, were cut off from the people of God after the sanctuary was cleansed.

As it was at that time, so it is in ours. Jesus is making intercession for all of us who profess the name of God. He is pleading with the Father not to look upon us as sinners, but to look upon Him and His righteousness in their behalf. He is cleansing the Sanctuary and His people from the record of sin and blotting out their sins which they have confessed to Him. However, as it was in the days of Aaron, the high priest will at the end of this cleansing, step foot out of the sanctuary. Likewise, Jesus, will cease His work of intercession at the appointed time, there shall be no more mercy left to plead for the unrepentant sinner and it is at this time then shall He say, *"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."* All mankind would have made his or her own decision for who they will submit to, whether Christ or whether Satan. All will be sealed, the righteous with the seal of God and the unrepentant with the mark of the beast.

Immediately after the close of probation for all man, when Jesus ceases His work of intercession for all mankind, He utters the words, *"behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."*

He shall bring every work into judgement and give to every man according to the works done upon this earth, **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14**. All mankind will receive his reward. The righteous shall receive the crown of life which He has promised to them that love Him, **James 1:12**. They shall be clothed in white raiment, **Revelation 19:7-8** and shall have the right to enter into the gates of the Heavenly City, that is, **the New Jerusalem**. But the wicked shall receive of the seven last plagues, which is the wrath of God, **Revelation 14:9-10, Revelation 15:1,7**, they shall be destroyed by the brightness of His coming, **2 Thessalonians 2:8** and shall be cast into the lake of fire, which is the second death, **Revelation 20:14**.

**vs.13-14**

**"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.** 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."

"Christ here applies to himself the appellation of Alpha and Omega. As applied to him, the expression must be taken in a more limited sense than when applied to the Father, as in **chapter 1:8. Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, of the great plan of salvation. Verse 14**, as before noticed, is the language of Christ. The commandments of which he speaks are his Father's. Reference can be had only to the ten commandments as delivered on Mount Sinai. He pronounces a blessing upon those who keep them. Thus, in the closing chapter of the word of God, and near the very close of the last testimony which the faithful and true Witness there left for his people, he solemnly pronounces a blessing upon those who keep the commandments of God. **Let those who believe in the abolition of the law [of God], candidly consider the decisive bearing of this important fact.**"  
**Daniel & the Revelation, pg. 769.2, Uriah Smith**

"Who has performed and done it, Calling the generations from the beginning? **'I, the LORD, am the first. And with the last I am He.'**" **Isaiah 41:4**

"Listen to Me, O Jacob and Israel, My called: **I am He; I am the First, I am also the Last.** Indeed, My hand has laid the foundation of the earth and My right hand has stretched out the heavens..."  
**Isaiah 48:12-13**

It is Christ, whose hands have laid the foundations of the world, **Hebrews 1:1-2**, it is He who is the Beginning and the End of the plan of salvation, it is He who is the First and the Last in the plan of redemption for mankind. He who has the Son of God has life and he who has not the Son of God, does not have life. **1 John 5:12.** We all must decide as to who we will serve and obey, there is no middle ground as Satan has deceived many into believing.

**vs.15**

*"But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie."*

Within the City of God shall the redeemed enter in. Those who have made a covenant with God, and have His Law written in their hearts. They have been washed and made pure in the Blood of the Lamb, and every stain of defilement has been blotted out from the Heavenly records. Their names have been written in the Lamb's Book of Life and they *"shall dwell in the House of the Lord, forever"*.

But the wicked shall remain wicked and by implication shall be defiled by the stain of their sins. Says the Apostle John, *"there shall by no means enter it [the City] anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie"*,  
**Revelation 21:27.**

*"So, the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And **the winepress was trampled outside the city**, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for **one thousand six hundred** [1600] furlongs." **Revelation 14:19-20***

*"Sixteen hundred is a square number; four by four by one hundred. The four quarters, north, south, east, and west...of the world (**the completeness and universality of the world-wide destruction being hereby indicated**)."*  
Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible.

The destruction of all the wicked shall take place as God rains fire and brimstone down from Heaven upon the wicked as they surround the City of God, hoping in vain to destroy it and the Saints, as they are led on by Satan, **Revelation 20:7-10**. It is these "*dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie*" that shall be "*trampled outside the city.*"

Notice the comparison in the Old Testament when God spoke to His Church just before they were to enter into the promised land and compare it to John's testimony to the Church now before we enter into the true Promised Land. Notice that in the Old Testament, no "*dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie*" were not to be found amongst God's people:

*"**When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you**, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. **For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD**, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you. **You shall be blameless before the LORD your God**. For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you." **Deuteronomy 18:9-14***

**vs.16**

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

Christ confirms the testimony which John received. The Father spoke unto Jesus and Jesus spoke unto the angel and the angel was sent to testify unto John that he may record all that he saw. This is the love of God that He gives us the gift of prophecy in the Church, which is the testimony of Jesus, that when these things shall come to pass, we might believe. **Revelation 19:10, John 14:29**.

As the root grows before the visible plant, so is Christ the Root of David for **He is the LORD** and existed before all things. Simultaneously, as the child comes after the parent, so is Christ the Offspring of David for **He is the SON OF MAN**.

See also: **Ezekiel 34:23; Ezekiel 37:24, Psalm 132:11; 2 Peter 1:19; Numbers 24:17.**

**vs.17**

*"And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."*

Jesus invites us all, regardless of our past, regardless of our shortcomings, to come unto Him. He shall give us rest; He shall give us of the waters of everlasting life which flow freely from Him.

Says Jesus, *"whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him, shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."* **John 4:14**

The gift of salvation is a free gift, giving from the Father, through His Son Jesus Christ. We are as an unclean thing, and our righteousness is as filthy rags, we can do nothing in our own strength to gain our own salvation. Our only hope is believe on the righteous merits of the Blood of Christ that was shed upon Calvary for each and every one of us and accept Him as our Lord, Saviour and King.

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."* **Ephesians 2:8-9**

*"Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters and you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for what is not bread and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me and eat what is good and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you—The sure mercies of David."* **Isaiah 55:1-3**

**vs.18-19**

*"For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."*

Let all take heed to these solemn words spoken, salvation is at stake.  
God's Word endures forever.

**vs.20-21**

*"He who testifies to these things says, "Surely, **I am coming quickly.**" Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."*

*"The word of God is given to instruct us in reference to the plan of salvation. The second coming of Christ is to be the climax and completion of that great scheme. It is most appropriate, therefore, that the book should close*



with the solemn announcement, "Surely I come quickly." Be it ours to join with fervent hearts in the response of the apostle, "Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." **Daniel & the Revelation, pg. 774.4, Uriah Smith.**

Can you not discern the times? The prophecies of Scripture are unfolding before our very eyes. The nations are in tumult, the seas and the waves are roaring, earthquakes, pestilences and many grave calamities are upon the land, the Church is in apostasy, Babylon is fallen is fallen and all the world is wondering after the beast, blindly heading to their destruction. "Come out her [Babylon] My People". **Revelation 18:4**

Let us rise up and awake out of slumber for the call has gone forth, the Bridegroom cometh and He cometh quickly. He is coming a second time not to bear the sins of the world, but to save His people who have faithfully and earnestly waited for Him. and to destroy the wicked, they that rejected His call of mercy.

Come to Christ and accept Him as Lord for it is in Him and in Him only that we have eternal life.

I pray that these collection of Bible Study Notes on the Book Revelation have touched your heart reader and that you have been blessed.

Our Lord Cometh and we shall soon be going home.

*"And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? **This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.**"*

**Acts 1:10-11**