

REVELATION – CHAPTER 22

Vs 1 The River of the Water of Life
If chapter 22 is referring to the Eternal state and not the Millennium, then that which is described is similar to Ezk 47:1-12 and Zech 14:8 (which is the Millennial Sea) but not the same.
The dual Throne of God must reflect 1 Cor 15:28.

Vs 2 The River of Life is said to flow down the middle of the street (singular) Rev 21:21 – street (singular) with the branches of the Tree of Life overhanging both sides of the River, having been planted in the Middle of the River.

Some believe there will be trees (plural) planted on both sides of the River, similar to that which we find in Ezk 47:12.

Assuming that this Tree is the same as the one found in Gen 3:22,24, two observations could be made:

1. Physical death would have been impossible if Adam and Eve had eaten from the Tree
2. Everlasting life required the eating of the fruit.

It must be noted that Adam and Eve were in a natural state and the occupants of the new earth are in a resurrected state.

The leaves of the tree are for “health giving” or to promote life in the New Jerusalem and are not for correcting ill health, which does not exist.

Again, “Nations” is a translation of the word for Gentiles.

Vs 3 Unlike the Millennial Earth, where the effects of sin will still be experienced from the standpoint of judgment, no such situation will exist in Eternity to come.
All will have been raised or translated and all judgments will be behind the participants.
Thus, there is no more curse, death, etc.

Service to the King and not rebellion will be the experience of all!

NOTE: We will not only be "Sons of God", and His "bride",
We will also be Bondservants and we will serve Him.

Vs 4-5 The Final Picture

1. We will see His face.
That which was true in the original creation must be different in the new.
Ex 33:20
2. His Name will be on our foreheads – we clearly belong to Him.
Rev 7:3; 14:1; 3:12
3. There will no longer be any night.
No more 1 John 2:8-11; Eph 6:12
4. Daylight
5. Reign forever and ever.
6. The age of Christ being our mediator is over.
No advocate is needed.
All things have been made new.

A.T. Piersom summarizes verses 3-5 as follows:

Perfect Restoration – There shall be no more curse.

Perfect Administration – The Throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it.

Perfect Subordination – His bond-servants will serve Him.

Perfect Transformation – They will see His face.

Perfect Identification – His Name will be on their foreheads.

Perfect Illumination – No longer any night...no need for

Perfect Exultation – They will reign forever and ever

EPILOGUE

Vs 6

The angel tells John "These revelations are faithful and true".
The God of the prophets sent His angel Rev 1:1
to show His servants, through the Apostle John, the events
which will shortly come to pass (must take place).

Vs 7

When the action comes, which is recorded in this book, it will

be sudden.
Blessed is he who...Rev 1:3
Note that the 1st and the 6th Beatitudes are the same.

Vs 8-9 The Revelations received by John overwhelm him and he begins to worship the wrong created being.
He is corrected – WORSHIP GOD!!!

Vs 10 Unlike Dan 12:4, the words of this book are to remain open,
With a blessing received for all who heed it! Rev 1:3 and 22:7
God will not conceal it!

We are living “in the time”.
The Church Age can be ended at any moment.
There are no more phases to God’s program.
The next and final act will be the Tribulation Period and all will progress naturally until That Day arrives.

Vs 11 If the prophecies of this book of Revelation are rejected, there is no other message from God.
If the warnings of this book are not sufficient, there is no more that God has to say.
The wicked must continue in their wickedness and be judged.
The holy and righteous must continue with their way.

Vs 12 “The Blessed Hope” and assurance of Reward is given.
2 Pet 3:10-13.
The Believer will receive his reward “then” and not before.
Heb 11:39-40; 2 Cor 5:10-11

Vs 13-16 Though the means of communication is an angel, it is Christ Who has been speaking; Christ Who is the Alpha and Omega – The Almighty.

The final Beatitude of the book of Revelation is given:
Those who wash their robes:
1. have a right to the Tree of Life
2. may enter by the gates into the City

Vs 15 The lost are described for the third time, Rev 21:8,27, and here.
NOTE: The issue is not that these individuals have at some time committed sins, but rather that these terms describe their character; a description which fits every human who has not been washed.

Vs 16 "I" - Jesus, is the source of the truths contained in this book.
They are a message to the Church.
He is:
1. the Root and Descendant of David Isa 11
2. the Bright and Morning Star Num 24:15-17

NOTE: This is the first time that the word "churches" appears since the seven letters.

Vs 17 The Invitation – offered by the Holy Spirit and the Church to the age in which this revelation has come – an Invitation
1. To the one who will listen
2. To the one who is thirsty
3. To any who wishes – take and drink

Vs 18-20 The Final Testimony of Christ

I – the One who is coming quickly – testifies to everyone who hears

I – also issue a warning to anyone who "adds to" or "takes away from" the words of this book

Though there are other warnings found in the Scriptures which are warning people of the same thing Deut 4:2; 12:32,
This Warning, coming where it does and clearly from Whom it does, makes it a truly solemn warning!

In context and in light of all the other clear teachings of the Scripture, this passage would be directed to the unsaved and how they handle it, not the saved.

Vs 20 Again a Promise – Jesus Is Coming Quickly for the recipients of this "book" - the rapture would be Christ's focus.

The Apostle John will be a part of that event. John's response to Jesus' promise – Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Vs 21 John's benediction is pronounced on the recipients of the letter.
It has been written and sent to the churches.
All therefore, is limited by context to those who belong to the
churches which the book of Revelation was intended for.

The Grace of the Lord Jesus be with all believers!!!!