

CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE STUDY
LESSON 609

Revelation 22

Intro to Chapter 22

- **What does it mean come full circle?**
- **Chapter 1 - Vs 3 "Blessed are those who read this prophecy"**
- **Chapter 22 – Vs 7 "Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book."**
- **How are we blessed?**

Intro to Chapter 22

- **Are we are blessed by reading about angels - pouring out bowl judgments on earth – etc?**
- **The blessing has to do with understanding God's game plan for our salvation - understanding our redemption and what God's eternal plan is for us**

Intro to Chapter 21

- **This chapter consists of two things:**
- **1st - A final description of life during "eternity"**
- **2nd - Final comments by Jesus saying in effect, "Blessed are the Revelation readers!"**
- **Most of the chapter gives us final reminders of key things that are important to those of us who have committed our lives to serving Christ**

Intro to Chapter 21

- **What Revelation does - more than anything else - is give us an eternal perspective**
- **It is a book about how life as we know it ends**
- **It helps us to see past the end of the day**
- **It gets us to see past the problems of the moment**
- **It gets us to see a glorious future over and above whatever situation we are facing at that moment**
- **That — I believe - is how Revelation is a blessing to the reader**

Intro to Chapter 21

- **Most of Revelation is about "judgment" on the earth prior to Jesus Second Coming**
- **The early chapters focused on God judging Christian churches**
- **Then - the judging nonbelievers**
- **Chapter 19 described the literal return of Jesus to earth occurs**
- **There is a final battle (more of a wipeout) between those who oppose Jesus' rule over the world**
- **Chapter 20 described a 1,000-year time frame where Jesus rules over the earth**

Intro to Chapter 21

- **Chapter 21 - that thousand-year period is over**
- **Chapters 21 and the first 5 verses of Chapter 22 describe life during the "forever" period of our existence**
- **Chapter 22 is an epilogue with final comments by Jesus and John - the writer of Revelation**

1. Describe the “river of the water of life” that the angel showed John. Vss 1-2
 - “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 ² 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.”
 - The river of Paradise
 - Clear as crystal
 - Pure
 - Flows down middle of street
 - On each side — trees of life — 12 manner of fruits [12x/yr]

Ezekiel 47: 7-12

“Then he led me back to the bank of the river. 7 When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river. 8 He said to me, “This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Dead Sea. When it empties into the sea, the salty water there becomes fresh. 9 Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. 10 Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets. The fish will be of many kinds—like the fish of the Mediterranean Sea. 11 But the swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt. 12 Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear fruit, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing.”

Water of life

3. *What is the curse of verse 3?*

- **“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.”**
- **There will be NO MORE CURSES**
- **There will be no more sinning**
- **“Original sin”**
- **Original curse - Genesis**

4. *What is being said in verse 4?*

- **“They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.”**
- **We will see the face of God and live**
- **Exodus 33. 20**
 - **“¹⁹ And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”**
- **God’s name is written on our foreheads**
- **1 Corinthians 13. 12** Paul said,
 - **“Now we see (God) but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face.”**

5. *What is the light that the Lord God will give them?*

- **“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.”**
- **There is NO MORE DARKNESS**
- **God is the light**
- **God is all the light we need**

6. *Compare Revelation 21. 5 with Revelation 22. 6.*

• 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.”**

• 21. 5

• **“He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”**

• **The absolute truth**

• **All that has been spoken - said**

7. *What is the warning in verse 7?*

- **“Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.”**
- **Life as we know it will end**
- **Blessed are those who believe**
- **Warning →**
- **Believe**
- **Blessing →**
- **Believe and Be Blessed**

9. *What is said in verses 8-9?*

- **“⁸ 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. ⁹ 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 attests to the Revelation**

- **He fell in worship**

- **He gave thanks**

- **John autographed the work with humility**

10. *What is the meaning of verses 10-12?*

- **“¹⁰ Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. 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.” ¹² “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.”**
- **These words are not for the future – but NOW**
- **There is VERY little time to repent**
- **What is to be done must be done quickly and soon**
- **Justice**

11. *What is the reward and/or consequences of verses 12-13?*

- **“¹² “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”**
- **Do it NOW or you lose**
- **5x in this chapter we are told “He is coming soon or that the time is near”**
- **Everything began with Jesus and it ends with Jesus**

Ephesians 2.

“⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast..”

What we do with our faith matters

12. *What does it mean - "blessed are those who wash their robes"*

- **"¹⁴ 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"**
- **That they may have right to the tree of life**
- **We have grace thru our obedience and thru Christ**
- **Remember that the tree of life symbolizes eternal life**

13. *Why did Jesus send His angel?*

- **“¹⁶ 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.”**
- **Jesus = Creator – Redeemer – Sustainer**
- **Jesus heritage → David**
- **Human and Divine**

14. *Who is to “come”?*

- **“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.**
- **All who believe**
- **The prophets – the apostles – the Church under the Old Testament & the New Testament**
- **EVERYONE**

15. *What is the warning in verses 18-19?*

- **“¹⁸ 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.”**

- **“If anyone adds”**

- **“If anyone takes away”**

- **Loss of the tree of life**

- **Loss of eternal life**

16. *What is being said in verses 20-21?*

- **“²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. ²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.”**
- **Jesus testifies to them**
- **He is coming - SOON**
- **Written to the 7 churches and all peoples**

A Few Closing Thoughts

- **Revelation promises a blessing to the reader and I hope it has blessed your life as much as mine**
- **May the grace of Lord Jesus continue to shine upon us!**

A Closing Prayer

Father, We thank You for Your grace. We thank You for the lessons You have taught us in this book. May these lessons not be wasted. Help us to have the eternal perspective as we go through our daily lives. May Your will be done and give us the discernment and boldness to complete Your will in our lives. No matter what is going on in our lives at the moment, help us, like to John to look up and say, Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!