

Revelation 22

Verses 1-2

- “The throne seems to be in the middle of the city and the river starts there. It then flows down through the middle of the great wide street of gold, which apparently winds down through the various levels of the city.”
– Stanley Horton

Verses 1-2

- “The river is a reminder that the inhabitants of the city are still dependent on God and the Lamb for life as they ever were”. – Stanley Horton
- “We will always be finite beings, dependent on God for life”. – Stanley Horton

Verses 1-2

- Tree most likely means trees.
- Healing of the nations – No one will ever need to be healed in the New Jerusalem or on the New Earth. Healing most likely means health. Again, it is a reminder that God is the source of life and life everlasting.

Verses 1-2

- Genesis 3:22-24 - ²² Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever” — ²³ therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

Verse 3

- “There shall be no more curse” – Sin brought the curse of God on the world, but through Jesus Christ the curse of sin is broken.
- While we must suffer the effects of sin still, there will be a day when the devil, sin and the curse they brought will be no more. This is what all creation groans for.

Verse 3

- Romans 8:18-25 - ¹⁸ Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. ¹⁹ For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. ²⁰ Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, ²¹ the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay.

Verse 3

- ²² For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us.

Verse 3

- ²⁴ We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. ²⁵ But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.) (NLT)

Verse 3

- “Some suppose we will spend all our time playing harps. That may be one aspect of life God has prepared, but He will have far more for us. God is infinite, and there will always be something new, fresh, and wonderful for us to do and enjoy in our service for Him.” – Stanley Horton.

Verse 4

- Exodus 33:19-23 - ¹⁹ Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” ²⁰ But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.” ²¹ And the Lord said, “Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. ²² So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. ²³ Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.”

Verse 4

- “His name shall be on their foreheads” – This simply means we are God’s chosen possession forever.

Verse 5

- Again, the Holy Spirit is emphasizing that God's glory will illuminate the New Heavens and New Earth.
- There is no night. There is no need of rest nor will there be any terror that lurks in the darkness.

Verses 6-7

- Here we have the beginning of the conclusion for the Book of Revelation.
- They are true and faithful as He is true and faithful.

Verses 6-7

- 2 Peter 3:8-9 - ⁸ But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Verses 6-7

- The Book of Revelation states in the beginning that there was a blessing to reading and hearing this Book. (Revelation 1:3)
- Jesus emphasizes, now that we read and heard the prophecies contained in Revelation, we must keep the word for in Revelation.
- You and I must live in readiness and obedience to everything we have read

Verse 10

- John is told not to seal, or keep secret, the word of prophecy found in Revelation.
- Daniel 12:4
- Revelation 10:4 - ⁴ Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."

Verse 11

- ¹¹ Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who is filthy (vile, impure), still be filthy; and the one who is righteous (just, upright), still be righteous; and the one who is holy, still be holy.” (AMP)

Verse 11

- Let every man make his choice now for there will come a time when you cannot undo the choices you have made.
- In light of everything John was shown, there is a call that reminds us that, “today is the day of salvation” and that we may not have a tomorrow. (2 Corinthians 6:1-2)

Verses 12-13

- For the fifth time Jesus declares, “I am coming quickly”.
- “According to his works”: For the saints, theologians call this the Judgment Seat of Christ where our works are judged. (1 Corinthians 3:9-15)
- For the unsaved, they will face the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20)

Verses 14-15

- Another blessing is promised for those who follow Christ's commands. The blessing, of course, is eternity with Jesus in the New Jerusalem.
- Dogs are considered unclean by Jewish law; therefore, the list represents all who are unclean as opposed to those who are righteous through the blood of Jesus Christ.

Verse 16

- ¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this message for the churches. I am both the source of David and the heir to his throne. I am the bright morning star.” (NLT)
- Isaiah 11

Verse 16

- Malachi 4:1-3 - “For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up,” Says the Lord of hosts, “That will leave them neither root nor branch. ² But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; And you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves. ³ You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do *this*,” says the Lord of hosts.

Verse 17

- The Holy Spirit says, “Come Lord Jesus” and the church who is or should be full of the Holy Spirit should echo the sentiment, “Come Lord Jesus”.
- Him who is thirsty; has a spiritual thirst. Jesus is still calling out to the sinner. (John 7:37-39)

Verses 18-19

- If you add anything, God's wrath will be poured out on you as we see in Revelation.
- If you remove anything, your name from the Book of Life. They will have no share in the Tree of Life or the New Jerusalem.

Verses 18-19

- This warning is first and foremost about the Book of Revelation. However, the Book of Revelation is part of God's revelation of Himself and His plan of salvation.
- To change one part of the Bible will ultimately change every part of the Bible

Verses 20-21

- Jesus, one last time, reminds us, that He will be coming back for His bride. It will not be by our timetable, but before the world knows it, Jesus will return.
- John ends with his desire that his Savior return quickly and that the grace of Jesus Christ would be with us as we walk this road, eagerly awaiting Jesus' return in a world full of evil.
- May we be faithful as John and the martyrs are and will be!