

## Revelation 22

### The River and the Tree of Life

And he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, 2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him

They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. 5 And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illuminate them; and they will reign forever and ever.

6 And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show His bond-servants the things which must soon take place. 7 "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. 9 And he \*said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brothers the prophets, and of those who [g]keep the words of this book. Worship God!"

### The Final Message

10 And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. 11 Let the one who does wrong still do wrong, and the one who is filthy still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous still practice righteousness, and the one who is holy still keep himself holy."

12 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to reward each one as his work deserves. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life, and may enter the city by the gates. 15 Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral persons, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you of these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." 17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires, take the water of life without cost.

18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

20 He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. 21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Paul's observations and insights

What does it mean to you when John says 'the river of life'.

What is the tree of life?

Where is God at this point?

Who is the lamb and where is He?

How can the tree of life be on both sides of the river bank?

How can a tree bear twelve kinds of fruit?

Why is it twelve and why every month?

What does 'the leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations' imply?

Life will be very different on earth at this time. Can you imagine what it will be like?

What is the reason for them having His name written on their foreheads?

In that place, at that time, the reality of light will come from God as there will be no sun and moon.

John references the words 'faithful and true', is he referring to anyone in particular?

What does it mean to heed to a prophecy?

John is rebuked by the angel for bowing down and worshipping him. Why?

When we worship anything other than God we are out of alignment to God's purposes.

Time is running out. All who will be good continue, all who will be bad continue, the judgement is coming.

Who is speaking at this time saying, 'He is the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end'?

How does one wash their robes?

Who is the gate?

Where can the place called 'outside' be found?

All who are bad are outside the gate.

Jesus reveals Himself as the one who is speaking.

We gain an insight into pure, holy, heavenly worship – 'come Lord Jesus, come.'

The curse of deception, with regards to this book of revelation, brings the possibility of losing access to the tree of life all over again.

Grace is the last holy declaration.

Amen, that means yes, is the last word of the bible!