

## Revelation 22:1-21

**Vs1:** God's throne is over the River of Life, clear as crystal.

**Vs2:** "street" singular can mean "streets" plural. This new city is 1500 miles square. The Tree of Life gives 12 different fruits every month, and the leaves of this tree heal the nations. There's a street on either side of the river, then the Tree of Life. There will still be seasons and time on Earth. There still will be the heavens, stars, sun, 12 months in the year. The leaves were for the healing of the nations, and that means our nations are made of human flesh and blood. The leaves are meant to keep them healthy, so they come eat the leaves and then go on their way.

**Genesis 3:22**...man now has become just like us, says God. The reason God told Adam and Eve not to touch that Tree of Knowledge is because man didn't know that evil existed until he ate of that tree. Ghosts and such are out there, but we're not to mess with them. We're to leave them alone. And to prevent man from eating of the Tree of Life, too, God drove man out of the Garden of Eden. God did not want man to live in this condition of sin forever, so he took the Tree of Life away from Adam and Eve so they couldn't eat and live forever in such an awful state. It would mean unending suffering and torture for all if man were to eat of the Tree of Life and live forever in his current state.

**Rev 22:2:** the Tree of Life is being brought back.

**Vs3-4:** all the curses of this earth that we live with today – death, destruction, evil – it will all be removed. Everyone will know who belongs to the Lord, and that you are the Lord's child.

**Vs5:** they shall reign forever. There will no more time, and we will glow with The Lamb's light and rule forever. "Of the increase of His kingdom there shall be no end." His kingdom will expand forever and ever. As His kingdom increases, so shall your rule. We're just given hints of this in the bible, not details. It will be so great and so wonderful that we will lose our focus down here if we constantly focused on the afterlife.

**Vs6:** 'shortly', in God's time, well, 1000 years in man's time is 1 day God's time.

**Vs7:** those who study the bible and keep its teachings are blessed, happy.

**Vs8:** this revelation is so grand for John to see, that he just fell down in a state of ecstasy that he fell down and worshipped the feet of the angel. We don't worship angels – we worship God. Angels are servants of God, like messengers. Angels will be our messengers if we live a faithful life now.

**Vs9:** the angel told John to worship God, plain and simple.

**Vs10:** he told John to go out and tell everyone, don't hide it now. Now is the time of the end.

**Vs11:** this is saying that at this point in time, when John is writing, everything has been set in stone. The way people are, that's the way they're going to be. They're not going to change. The life they chose, that's what they'll have for eternity.

**Vs12:** depending on how you serve Christ in your life, that will be your reward and how you live in heaven. It will determine your position in heaven. The more works you do, the closer you'll be to Christ in eternity. Once you're saved, you'll never lose your salvation, no matter what. But works determine your position and rewards in heaven.

**Vs13:** Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, first and last.

**Vs14:** if you have washed your robe in the Blood of the Lamb, you may eat from the Tree of Life and enter through the gates into the New Jerusalem.

**Vs15:** the dogs referred to here are not referring to animals, pets. It is referring to homosexuals. Sorcerers and whoremongers etc. refer to evil people, impure men. They are not going to be let in the New Holy Jerusalem, period.

**Vs16-17:** talking about having a desire for the spiritual gifts of God.

**Vs18-19:** here is a dire warning: if any man changes the message of this book, they will be punished severely. It's a particular warning about the Book of Revelation, and a general warning about the entire Bible, all of God's Word.

**Vs20-21:** If a man reads, understands, and believes the Book of Revelation and the Word of God, God will come quickly.

**Vs21:** The End, so be it.

Next week we'll start studying the Book of Zechariah. It's probably the most prophetic book of the Old Testament. It goes into some details that the Book of Revelation left out. It tells us what God's plan for Israel is; past, present, and future.