The River of Life

Jesus is Coming!

Revelation 22:1-21
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Jesus Is Coming!

Text:

Revelation 22:1-21,

1. And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.
2. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
3. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:
4. And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads
5. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.
6. And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.
7. Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.
8. And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.
9. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.
10. And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.
11. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.
12. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.
13. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.
14. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.
15. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.
16. I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.
17. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.
18. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:
19. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.
20. He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.
21. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. (AKJV)
Commentary:

The River of Life

Revelation 22:1-5, And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever. (AKJV)

I. Flowing from the Throne of God.

A. Bright as crystal. Indicating the sparkling beauty and purity of the stream.

1. Revelation 8:10-12, And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter. And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. (AKJV)
B. Flowing through the middle of the street of the city.

II. The Tree of Life on both Sides of the River.

A. The tree of life that had been so long gone is now before all those who have gone on to their reward.

1. Genesis 3:22-24, And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. (AKJV)

2. Whereas man could have found life in the tree of life, we know that it was removed so that he could find his life in another tree.

3. The tree upon which our Lord was crucified is now the tree of life.

4. 1 Peter 2:24, Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. (AKJV)

B. Twelve kinds of fruit yielding its fruit each month.

1. Some versions have a marginal note: “twelve crops of fruit,” . . .

2. Suggesting the abundant supply and not so much the variety.
C. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. The idea being conveyed is simply that we will never be sick or ailing, but will always be in good health in heaven.

III. In the Presence of God.

A. His servants will worship God and the Lamb.

B. Nothing accursed will be there.

1. Because of man’s sin, there was separation between him and God; consequently, no fellowship.

2. In heaven all this has been removed and fellowship is once again attained.

C. They will see the face of God and have His name on their foreheads.

1. Exodus 33:20, 23, And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen. (AKJV)

2. Matthew 5:8, Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. (AKJV)

3. Hebrews 12:14, Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: (AKJV)

4. Roper had some useful words: the name of God written on the forehead represents the idea that God has impacted the mind of the individual.
a. Galatians 2:20, I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. (AKJV)

D. God is its light.

E. No night there.

F. They will reign forever.

Final Words

Revelation 22:6-21, And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book. And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God. And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in
the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. (AKJV)

I. The Truth of these Words.

II. Jesus is coming quickly.

A. Blessed is the one who keeps the prophecy of this book.

B. Jesus is the beginning and end and will repay all those according to their deeds.

1. 2 Corinthians 5:10, For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. (AKJV)

2. Galatians 6:7, Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. (AKJV)

C. Come, Lord Jesus!

III. John is Exhorted to Worship God.
A. In Revelation 19:10, John worshipped the angel and here does so again. As he was exhorted to not do so then, he is now so advised again.

B. No way to know why John did what he did this second time; perhaps he was just overwhelmed and fell down naturally to honor the messenger.

C. What is of note about this is that the angel corrected John.

   1. If a man were to worship God’s messengers, can we conclude that God’s messenger would be sure to stop the action and correct man?

   2. Yes!

D. No angel of God’s would allow another creature to bow down in worship before him

IV. Do not Seal the Words of the Book.

V. Those who have Washed Their Robes.

VI. Jesus Testifies to the Words.

VII. Come.

VIII. The Words of this Prophecy.

IX. Amen.
Questions

on

Revelation 22:1-21

1. Then the ______________ showed me the ______________ of ______________________ of __________________, as __________________ as ______________, ______________ from the ______________ of _________________ and of the __________________ down the __________________ of the _______________________________. (NIV)

2. On each side of the ______________ stood the ______________ of _________________, bearing ______________ ______________ of ________________, yielding its ______________ every ______________. (NIV)

3. Where is the tree of life first mentioned in the Bible? ______________

4. And the ______________ of the ______________ are for the ______________ of the _______________. (NIV)

5. No longer will there be any ______________. What was the curse under which the nations had lived? ______________
6. The ____________ of ____________ and of the ____________ will be in the ____________, and his ____________ will serve him. (NIV)

7. They will see his ____________, and his ____________ will be on their ____________. There will be no more ____________. They will not need the ____________ of a ____________ or the ____________ of the ____________, for the ____________ ____________ will give them ____________. And they will ____________ for ____________ and ____________. (NIV)

8. The ____________ said to me (__________), “These words are ____________ and ____________ ____________. The ____________, the ____________ of the ____________, sent his ____________ to show his ____________ the things that must ____________ take place.” (NIV)

9. “Behold, I (____________________) am ____________ ____________! ____________ is he who ____________ the ____________ of the ____________ in this ____________.” (NIV)

10. I, ____________, am the one who ____________ and ____________ these things. And when I had ____________ and ____________ them, I ____________ ____________ to ____________ at the ____________ of the ____________ who had shown them to me. (NIV)

11. But he said to me, “Do ____________ do it! I am a ____________ ____________ with you and with your ____________ the ____________ and of all who ____________ the ____________ of
12. Then he told me, “Do not ________________ up the ____________
of the _________________ of this _______________,
because the _________________ is _________________.”
(NIV)

13. Revelation was written about 1,900 years ago. How could it be said then, “. . .the time is near”? ____________________ ________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

14 Let him who does ________________ continue to do ___________;
let him who is ________________ continue to be ________________;
let him who does ________________ continue to do ___________;
and let him who is ________________ continue to be ________________.
(NIV)

15. How could an angel of God say, “Let him who does wrong continue
to do wrong” and “let him who is vile continue to be vile?” __________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

16. “Behold, I (_________) am _______________ ___________! My _______________________ is with me, and I will give to ____________
according to what he has _________________.
(NIV)
17. I am the __________________ and the __________________, the __________________ and the __________________, the __________________ and the __________________.” (NIV)

18. “__________________ are those who _____________ ____________, that they may have the _____________ to the _____________ of __________________ and may go through the __________________ into the ___________________. (NIV)

19. Outside are the _________________, those who practice ____________________________, the _________________, the ____________________________, the ____________________________ and everyone who ____________________________ and ___________________________________________ (NIV)

20. “I, __________________, have sent my _________________ to give you this _________________ for the _________________. I am the _____________________ and the ______________ ______ of __________________, and the ________________ _____ __________ ________________.” (NIV)

21. The __________________ and the __________________ say, “___________________!” And let him who ________________ say, “___________________!” Whoever is ______________________, let him come; and whoever ____________________________, let him take the _________________ ________________ of the ______________ of ______________________. (NIV)

22. I (_______) warn everyone who __________________ the words of the _________________ of this ________________: If anyone _________________ anything to them, ________________ will _________________ to him the _________________ described in this _________________. (NIV)
23. And if anyone takes _______________ away from this _______________ of _______________, _______________ will _______________ _______________ from him his _______________ in the _______________ of _______________, and in the _______________ _______________, which are _______________ in this _______________.” (NIV)

25. Are these injunctions against adding and/or taking words away applicable to the book of Revelation only or to the entire Bible? Explain. ___________________________________________ 
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

26. What does the name of God being written on the forehead really mean? ____________________________________________ 
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

27. What connections exist among the original tree of life, the cross of Christ and the heavenly tree of life? _______________________________ 
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
28. What does the statement, “Do not seal the words of this book”, mean to you? What other passages contain the same message?

29. How have the saints washed their robes?

30. What is God’s attitude toward sin?

31. What is the big message of Revelation?

32. Write all the beatitudes, blessings found in Revelation.
33. What diseases do nations have that can be healed with the leaves of the tree of life? 

34. What is the function of the river of life? 

35. Are you ready for Jesus to come?

Come Lord Jesus!