

Revelation 22: A Glimpse of Heaven

¹ 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. 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. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ 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 forever and ever.

⁶ The angel said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place.”

⁷ “Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book.”

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, “Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. Worship God!”

¹⁰ Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, because the time is near. ¹¹ Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy.”

At this point in the future, there simply is no more time.

¹² “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. 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, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

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.”

There is a life ahead that lasts forever with Jesus.

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. ¹⁸ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. ¹⁹ And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. ²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.

Where is Jesus?

He is **beckoning** all people to himself.

Definition: “making a gesture with the hand, arm, or head to encourage someone to come nearer or follow.”

Where is the hope? Everywhere.

This is good news and it must be given to **as many as possible.**

What we need from you:

1. **Your heart.** Join with us on our mission and be here for the next 5 weeks as we prepare for it.
2. **Your prayers.** “God, what do you want for my life? Do you want me to share Jesus with others? Lord, show me what that means for me.”

Our Mission

To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may know the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.

Small Group Questions

- 1) After this series on Revelation, has your perception of this book changed? In what ways? What are your big takeaways?
- 2) Chapter 22 gives us a glimpse of the new heaven and new earth. As you read verses 1-5 what strikes you about this imagery?
- 3) Revelation 22:17 is the last invitation of this prophecy. Read verse 17, and answer this question: in light of this invitation, what is my response?
- 4) As a final challenge, Todd asked for two things: **your heart** (be present at our weekend gatherings for the next 5 weeks) and **your prayers** (ask God to show you how to share with others). Are you willing to take this challenge?
- 5) Pray for one another, especially regarding the challenge above.