Revelation 22:1-21 River of Life – Tree of Life – Great Invitation – Bride & Spirit

River of Life – Tree of Life

- And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.
- ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. 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 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.
- ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

Time Is Near

- ⁶ Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.
- ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."
- 8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.
- 9 Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."
- 10 And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. 11 He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

Jesus is coming and His rewards are with Him

- ¹² "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.
- 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."
- 14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

excluded

15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

Jesus Testifies to the Churches

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Great Invitation – Spirit & Bride

17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Final Warning – Do not add or subtract to this message

18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, 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 shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

I Am Coming Quickly

20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."

John's Response

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

River of Life – Tree of Life

- And he showed me a pure **river of water of life**, clear as crystal, proceeding **from the throne of God and of the Lamb**. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the **tree of life**, which bore twelve fruits, each tree **yielding its fruit every month**. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. [Revelation 22:1-2]
 - ♦ The River of Life from the Throne of God and of the Lamb with the Trees of Life is the original and final fulfillment of the River that flowed from the temple and Trees of Healing on each side of the River during the Kingdom age, the thousand year reign of Christ on the old earth. [Ezekiel 47:1-12]
 - ♦ The Leaves for the healing of the nations, is confirmation that there will be no sickness, aging, or death forever on the New Earth. [Revelation 21:4, 22:2]
- 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. They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. [Revelation 22:3-4]
 - ♦ This Earth will never be touched with a curse because it will never be touched by sin.
 - ♦ The Throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the City.
 - ♦ The Servants of the Lord will serve Him and see His Face. [Revelation 22:4, 1 Corinthians 13:12]
 - ♦ The Name of the Lord will be on their foreheads indicating that they are His Own Special People and God is their God in Spirit and in Truth. [Revelation 21:3, 22:4]
- There **shall be no night there**: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And **they shall reign forever and ever**. [Revelation 22:5]
 - → Again it is confirmed that all the light needed is provided by the Lord God in Eternal Day.

 [Revelation 21:23-25, 22:5]
 - ♦ They shall reign forever and ever, Kingdom without end. [Revelation 22:5, Isaiah 9:6-7, Luke 1:33]
 - ♦ In their glorified bodies, the Saints will never tire and need rest to recuperate.

Time Is Near

- Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.

 [Revelation 22:6]
 - ❖ The Revelation is reliable, directly from the Angel of the Lord who was sent to John to show what lies ahead.
 - ♦ The "things which must shortly take place," was written over 2,000 years ago, and some stumble over the time interval between then and now.
 - However when you take into consideration the importance of expecting an imminent fulfillment, it causes you to strive to be found worthy if it happens tonight.
 - Thus with imminent expectation, all the generations who have come and gone throughout the time, were each living their lives to the best of their ability, standing faithfully on the Word of God, as they endured whatever came their way.
 - By this imminent expectation, they were encouraged to keep the faith to the very end.
 - ♦ By faithful endurance in the Faith to the end, they rest on the full assurance of Salvation, in keeping with the promises of God through Christ Jesus, as taught by Christ and the Apostles.
 - ♦ Jesus said: He that endures to the end will be saved. [Matthew 10:22, 24:13, Mark 13:13]
- [†] "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." [Revelation 22:7]
 - ♦ The reference to Jesus coming quickly, speaks of the suddenness as lightning at His coming. [Matthew 24:27, Luke 17:24]
 - ❖ Those who are living according to the teachings of this Book of Revelation will certainly be blessed in the Kingdom of God and on the New Earth.

Worship God, not Angels

- Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.
 - Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." [Revelation 22:8-9]
 - ♦ John assures us that this book of Revelation is exactly as he witnessed in the vision, and therefore the message is reliable from an eyewitness account.
 - ♦ Again John fell to worship at the feet of the Angel. [Revelation 22:8, 19:10]
 - → Again the Angel commanded John not to worship him, but to worship God. [Revelation 19:10, 22:9]
 - ♦ The Angel counted himself a fellow servant of God along with the prophets of Israel, and with the Tribulation Saints.
- ♣ And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, **for the time is at hand**.
 - He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still." [Revelation 22:10-11]
 - ♦ When Daniel received the vision of the time of the end he was told to seal up the vision because the vision was for a time in the distant future. [Daniel 8:26]
 - ♦ Daniel's vision spoke of 483 years from the time the command was issued to rebuild Jerusalem to the triumphal entry of Jesus.
 - ❖ The understanding of the vision was withheld for that period of time, until it was made known by the teachings of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ But now the Revelation is given to John and the vision is not to be sealed up, because the time is at hand.
- ♦ The vision of the revelation to John is not to be sealed, because God wants us to understand its message throughout the Church age to prepare His people for His Kingdom.
- ❖ This knowledge of the flow of End Time events is meant to provide motivation for choosing to live for Christ when we have the right to reject Him.
- ❖ Therefore the choice is clearly open for the hearer to make in his acceptance or rejecting of the message.
- ♦ All will be judged according to the choice they make.
- ♦ When Judgment Day arrives, it is too late to attempt to change your destiny, because at that time it is set and fixed.
- ♦ Let the wicked be wicked, and the righteous be righteous.

Jesus is coming and His rewards are with Him

- ♥ "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. [Revelation 22:12]
 - ♦ The reference to Jesus coming quickly, speaks of the suddenness as lightning at His coming. [Matthew 24:27, Luke 17:24]
 - ♦ Isaiah spoke of His coming, His reward is with Him and His work before Him. [Isaiah 40:911, 62:11-12]
 - ♦ This is a reference to the Judgment Seat of Christ when He purges the earth of all that offend God as He is establishing His Kingdom. [2 Corinthians 5:10, Romans 14:10-12, 11:16-18, Matthew 13:36-43, 16:27, 25:31-46, Revelation 22:12, Mark 8:38, Luke 9:26, Daniel 7:26, Malachi 3:1-5, 18, 4:1, Isaiah 1:24-31, 66:14b-19, Ezekiel 20:33-38, Joel 3:12-14, 1 Peter 4:17-18]
- ↑ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

 [Revelation 22:13]
 - ♦ Yahweh identified Himself as the First and the Last saying, there is no other. [Isaiah 41:4, 44:6, 48:12]
 - → Jesus identified Himself as Alpha, Omega, Beginning, End, First and Last. [Revelation 1:8, 11, 17, 2:8, 21:6, 22:13]
 - ♦ This identifies Jesus as Yahweh.
- ♥ Blessed are those who **do His commandments**, that they may have the **right to the tree of life**, and may **enter through the gates into the city**. [Revelation 22:14]
 - ❖ Qualifications for the right to the Tree of life and access to the New Jerusalem is found in obedience to His commandments.

Excluded From the Eternal Home of the Saved:

- ♥ But outside are **dogs** and **sorcerers** and **sexually immoral** and **murderers** and **idolaters**, and **whoever loves and practices a lie**. [Revelation 22:15]
 - **♦ Dogs** are dogs.
 - ♦ **Sorcerers** are those using witchcraft to make predictions to deceive the people.
 - ♦ **Sexually immoral** includes every form of sexual perversion, including: Adultery, harlotry, sodomy, homosexuality, bestiality, and every forbidden sexual practice. [Leviticus 18:1-30]
 - ♦ **Murderers** include every deliberate cause of death including abortion.
 - **♦ Liars** include every form of deceit.
 - ♦ All the above are in the **Lake of Fire**, and therefore will certainly be banned from the Holy City New Jerusalem and from the New Earth. [Revelation 21:8]

Jesus Testifies to the Churches

Type "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." [Revelation 22:16]

- ♦ Clearly, even Jesus Himself claims to be a descendent from David, which would confirm Him to be Messiah ben-David.
- ♦ Jesus sent His angel to bring this message to the Churches.
- ♦ The Bright and Morning Star.

Great Invitation – Spirit & Bride

- And the **Spirit** and the **bride** say, "**Come**!" And **let him who hears** say, "Come!" And **let him who thirsts** come. **Whoever desires**, let him take the water of life freely. [Revelation 22:17]
 - ♦ The **Holy Spirit** and the **City Bride** invite all who will, to come for Eternal Life.
 - ♦ The invitation is to the Churches. [Revelation 1:4, 11, 22:16]
 - ♦ The invitation is open for everyone. The choice is up to the individual. The City is waiting, and calling for the believers to come to Jesus for Salvation so they may be able to inter the New Jerusalem to be among the People of the Lord.

Final Warning – Do not add or subtract to this message

For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book:

If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and **if anyone takes away** from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. [Revelation 22:18-19]

- ♦ Do not add to the message of the book of Revelation, nor subtract from it.
- ♦ God means exactly what He revealed in the Book, and it is all certain to come to pass...
- ♦ The Church needs to take the Word of God as true and reliable, and respond in belief and repentance.
- ❖ In His Great mercy and grace, God told us before hand what He intends to do, to prepare His people for the time of the end and strengthen them when it is coming down around their person.

I Am Coming Quickly

- The who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." [Revelation 22:20]
 - ♦ The repetition of this promise confirms the accuracy of the statement.
 - ♦ Jesus is coming quickly, just as He said.

John's Response

- **♣** Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! [Revelation 22:20]
 - ♦ How can anyone not be eager to see the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ?
- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. [Revelation 22:21]