

Revelation 22 - Back to the Tree of Life

The River of the Water of Life

Rev 22:1-21 ESV Then the angel showed me **the river of the water of life**, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, **the tree of life** with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

The river of the water of life

- We saw in the last chapter it has to do with salvation
- It flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb

The tree of life

- The tree of life on either side, with 12 kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month
- Rev 2:7 ESV He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers **I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'**
- Gen 2:9-10 ESV And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. **The tree of life was in the midst of the garden**, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.
- **God did not want man to live in a fallen state forever** - Gen 3:22-24 ESV Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever--" 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. 24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way **to guard the way to the tree of life.**
- Rev 22:14 ESV Blessed are those who wash their robes, **so that they may have the right to the tree of life** and that they may enter the city by the gates.
- Rev 22:19 ESV and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, **God will take away his share in the tree of life** and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

The leaves were for the healing of the nations

Healing -- therapeia

from GK From G2323; attendance (specifically medical, that is, cure); figuratively and collectively domestics: - healing, household.

- Mat 24:45 ESV "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master has set over his **household**, to give them their food at the proper time?"
- Luk 9:11 ESV When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of **healing**.
- Luk 12:42 ESV And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his **household**, to give them their portion of food at the proper time?"

FROM therapyoo'o

From the same as G2324; to wait upon menially, that is, (figuratively) **to adore (God)**, or (specifically) **to relieve (of disease)**: - cure, heal, worship.

- Act 17:25 ESV nor is he **served [kjb Worshipped]** by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

It is interesting that at this time, the tree of life is opened again to mankind, it is for healing, and the word is linked as a root to the worship of God

Perhaps it is linked to this idea

Luk 12:37 ESV Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.

Rev 21:4 ESV **He will wipe away every tear from their eyes**, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

3 **No longer will there be anything accursed**, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. 4 **They will see his face**, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and **they will reign forever and ever**.

Finally all accursed things are gone forever

Gen 3:17-19 ESV And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' **cursed is the ground because of you**; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; 18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

- God and the Lamb will be with his servant who will worship him

We shall see His face

- 1Jn 3:2-3 ESV Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that **when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.** 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.
- 1Co 13:9-12 ESV For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. **Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.**
- His name will be on our foreheads

They will reign forever and ever

- We reign with Christ for a thousand years during the millennium - it is not necessarily reigning OVER anyone, just as is the case here

The truth of this prophecy

6 And he said to me, "**These words are trustworthy and true.** And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place." 7 "And behold, I am coming soon. **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 them to me, 9 but he said to me, "You must not do that! **I am a fellow servant** with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. **Worship God.**"

- John is falling down to worship an angel again...our worship is for God alone
- Rev 19:9-10 ESV And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God." 10 Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "**You must not do that! I am a fellow servant** with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. **Worship God.**" For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

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 evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.**" 12 "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for 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,** so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. 15 **Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.**

- In essence, men choose their eternal destiny...
- The words here are words regarding judgment - "I am bringing my recompense to repay"
- Some may continue to go on a path of their choice [evil doer or filthy] - but know this - the the time of the end is near
- Blessed rather are those who wash their robes...and can partake of the tree of life
- Outside are those who do not know the LORD

16 "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about 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 price.**

- There is a longing in the Spirit and hopefully a growing longing in His Bride for His coming
- May we thirst for HIM

18 **I warn everyone** who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away 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, **"Surely I am coming soon."** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!** 21 **The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.** Amen.

- He leaves us with a warning about adding to or taking away from the words of the prophecy
- He leaves us with a promise of His coming
- He leaves us with a cry that should ring in the heart of the Bride - Come
- He leaves us with a promise of grace