



Book of Revelation: Maranatha

Scripture: Revelation 22:1-21

Date: 10162022

Bible Version: NKJV

BOTTOM LINE: There is a standing invitation to come to Jesus.

The River (vs. 1)

And showed me a pure river of water of life - In the Old Testament, a river was symbolic of provision and peace. This water would be clear and would demonstrate that it is not polluted. It is pure.

Proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb - The source of this provision and peace is from the throne of God.

The Tree of Life (vs. 2)

The tree of life, -In Genesis 3 we see the tree of life. Here, at the end of the Book of Revelation, we see it once more. Seeing it now would visually remind us that all things have been restored.

which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month - We can note that there will be fruit. We have to remember that Jesus enjoyed food in His resurrection body (Luke 24, John 21). Furthermore, Revelation 19 describes the gathering of Jesus and His people as a marriage supper. With the reference to a month, we see a time reference. We can see that in some way time will be marked, but unlike now, the Kingdom of God will not be subject to it.

The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. - In ancient Greek, the word healing can also mean health-giving. In some way, we can understand that these leaves will provide health.

Daily Life (vv. 3-5)

There shall be no more curse - From the fall of man to the Millennium, the effects of the curse will be present. Here, in eternity, the curse will be gone.

His servants shall serve Him - Heaven won't be a picture of people sitting in lounge chairs relaxing.

Heaven will be a place of work and service for God's people. However, this is a picture of the pure blessedness of service rather than arduous, curse-stained toil. - David Guzik

They shall see His face - We will not only be in the presence of God, we will see His face.

We will be able to see His face because:

1. There will be no more sin.
2. All the gods/idols in our life will be gone.
3. All of the things that take our focus away from Him will be gone.

His name shall be on their foreheads - We will be identified by our relationship with God.

There shall be no night there...For the Lord God gives them light - Darkness will not exist. God will be our light and we will reign with Him forevermore.

As the Bible opens with the story of 'Paradise Lost', so here closes with the story of 'Paradise Regained'. - Charles Erdman

Parting Words (vv. 6-7)

These words [are] faithful and true - The angel that accompanied John reminds him that the words of this book are faithful and true.

Behold, I am coming quickly - Jesus reminds John that He is coming quickly. The original language indicates that this word means suddenly.

God wants to keep all generations expectant, watching, and ready for His return. - David Guzik

Blessed [is] he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book - A reminder of Revelation 1:3, there is a blessing for those who read, hear, and keep this prophecy.

The main intent of prophecy is to lead us to trust and obey God, and apply His truth to the way we live. - David Guzik

Correction (vv. 8-9)

I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things - This would be the second time that John would fall down to worship an angel. The first time was in Revelation 19:10. No created being should ever be worshiped.

See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant - This angel reminded John not to worship him. John, who was trusted to write this revelation down still made mistakes.

Our God is a God of second chances.

It is striking that even someone who had received all these visions may go astray. Supernatural visions and revelations does not mean that someone is correct in their doctrine, teaching, or practice. - David Guzik

A Warning (vv. 10-11)

Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand - We need to share this prophecy with others. We don't need to seal it up. Why? Because the time is at hand. There will be no second chance.

The path to Heaven can only be accessed through Jesus Christ.

A Declaration (vv. 12-13)

I am coming quickly - Jesus expresses with urgency that He is coming quickly.

My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work - This is not to suggest that salvation is works based. This is to reinforce that because of our faith, we will have works (James 2:20).

I am the Alpha and the Omega - Jesus reminds us that He is the Alpha and the Omega. The beginning and the end. This same term is applied to God in Rev. 1:8, and 21:6. Here it applies to Christ.

Blessing and a Curse (vv. 14-15)

Blessed are those who do His commandments - Obedience to God yields a blessing in our lives.

They may have the right to the tree of life...may enter through the gates into the city - Only those in Christ Jesus have right to the tree of life.

But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters - The idea of a dog would give the idea of an immoral person. No immoral person will be found in Heaven

Authority of Christ (vs. 16)

I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. - Jesus declares that He has sent His angel to testify; That is, to give witness.

I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star - Jesus now declares his Authority. Jesus is the root of David and the morning star.

The Morning Star shines and welcomes the new day, just as Jesus does.

An Invitation (vs. 17-21)

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!...let him who hears say, "Come... let him who thirsts come - Jesus gives an invitation to come to Him.

This is an open invitation to receive salvation from Jesus. He will not exclude anyone who comes to Him. An invitation is both an opportunity

and a responsibility. If we decline an invitation, we only have ourselves to blame. - David Guzik

Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely - The living water of the Lord is free for the taking. Anyone who desires it can have it.

If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book - We have a warning not to add to this book. It was customary in ancient times to include this kind of warning. It usually applied to those who would copy this book. Here, the warning applies to believers who would hear this book.

Surely I am coming quickly - Jesus reminds us that He is coming quickly.

Even so, come, Lord Jesus - The Aramaic expression used here is Maranatha. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all - John closes this book just like he opened up, with a word of grace.

The only excuse you will have for not going to heaven is your pride.

Excuses that we make for not taking the water of life:

1. I don't fully understand the entire Bible. It does not say whoever understands... 'whoever desires'
2. I don't feel bad for the things I have done wrong. It does not say whoever feels bad... 'whoever desires'
3. I don't feel worthy. It does not say whoever is worthy... 'whoever desires'

Anyone who comes, anyone who desires, they shall take the water of life freely.

3D Guide

DO.

BOTTOM LINE: There is a standing invitation to come to Jesus.



DIG DEEPER

1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



DISCUSS.

1. What are your thoughts on the invitation from Jesus from this block of scripture?
2. What are some excuses that people make that prevent them from putting their faith in Jesus Christ?
3. What are some ways you can apply this scripture to your life?

DO.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on blueletterbible.com or with their app.