



The Book of REVELATION

Chapter 22

The Spirit and the Bride Say, "Come!"

Go for God!

- > (v1-5) Let us Reign Forever & Ever!
- > (v6-14) Let us Receive Blessings & Rewards!
- > (v15-21) The Spirit & the Bride say "Come!"

> (v1-5) Let us Reign Forever & Ever!

~ The New Jerusalem will have:

- the throne of God & the Lamb - Jesus is referred to as the LAMB OF GOD - A phrase used by John the Baptist to describe Jesus (John 1:29,36). John publicly identified Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" Elsewhere in the New Testament Jesus is called a lamb (Acts 8:32; 1 Peter 1:19; Rev 5:6). The Book of Revelation speaks of Jesus as a lamb 28 times. John's reference to Jesus as the Lamb of God calls to mind the Old Testament sacrificial system. In the sacrifice God accepted the blood of animals as the means of atonement for sin. It is likely that John had many themes from the Old Testament in mind when he called Jesus the Lamb of God. These themes probably included the sin offering (Lev 4), the trespass offering (Lev 5), the sacrifice on the Day of Atonement (Lev 16), and the Passover sacrifice (Ex 12). But the strongest image from the Old Testament is the suffering servant who "was led as a lamb to the slaughter" (Isa 53:7) and who "bore the sins of many" (Isa 53:12). Thus, this vivid description of Jesus was a pointed announcement of the ATONEMENT He would bring about on man's behalf. (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

- a river of water of life – This is river of crystal-clear water, remember what Jesus said in John 7:37-39 - *On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

- the tree of life (twelve fruits & leaves for the healing of the nations (nations means all people) This is symbolic language since we are in eternity, there is no more months as we know today, the number twelve speaks of that which is fulfilled or fulfilling, whereas these leaves were for healing, this brings the idea of a forever oneness and healing for all glorified believers.

We can reflect on Psalm 1:1-3 - *Blessed is the man
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,*

*Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
He shall be like a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper.*

- no more curse – no sin, no disease, no death, no devil, AMEN!

- no night (the Lord God gives the light) – Again remember what Jesus promised in John 8:12 - "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

~ What will we do in this eternal city?

- We shall serve the Lamb & reign forever & ever!

(The word serve speaks of joyful service and worship! We will not live by the sweat of our brow, and we will not pay taxes, PTL! Jesus said in Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

And we shall reign with Him! – Jesus said in Revelation 3:21 - To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. Paul writes in 2 Timothy 2:12 - If we endure, we shall also reign with Him.

~ Dwight Pentecost in his book "Things To Come" gives further insight into what life will be like in the Eternal City? (nine insights)

- Insight #1 - A life of FELLOWSHIP with HIM! - 1 Corinthians 13:12a - For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. 1 John 3:2-3 - Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

- Insight #2 - A life of REST! - Revelation 14:13 - Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

- Insight #3 - A life of full KNOWLEDGE! - 1 Corinthians 13:12b - Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

- **Insight #4 - A life of HOLINESS!** - Revelation 21:27 - *But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.*

- **Insight #5 - A life of JOY!** - Revelation 21:4 – *“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”*

- **Insight #6 - A life of SERVICE!** - Revelation 22:3 - *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.*

- **Insight # 7 - A life of ABUNDANCE!** - Revelation 21:7 - *He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.*

- **Insight #8 - A life of GLORY!** - 2 Cor 4:17 - *For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory*
Colossians 3:4 - *When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.*

- **Insight #9 - A life of WORSHIP!** - Revelation 7:9-11 - *After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"*

Revelation 19:1 - *After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, “Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!”*

> **(v6-14) Let us Receive Blessings & Rewards!**

(v6) These words are **faithful & true.**

(v7) **How can we be A very BLESSED people?**

- By **KEEPING the words of the prophecy of this book. The word KEEP means to hold fast, to guard.**

(v8-9) **Should we worship angels?**

Absolutely not! We are told to WORSHIP GOD! Which is the Father, the Son our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit!

(v10) **Why is John told NOT to seal up the prophecy of this book?**

- Because the TIME IS AT HAND! Jesus told us to “watch and be ready!” (Mt. 24:42-44)

- Whereas Daniel is told in Daniel 12:4 - *"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."* Where we read *"knowledge shall increase"* is not speaking of man's knowledge (i.e. technology), it is knowledge revealed through the Word of God and the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, past, present, and future!

(v12) What are the REWARDS OF CHRIST? (Ref.- Matthew 25:14-30 – “Well done!”)

- 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 - *Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.*

2 Corinthians 5:9-10 - *Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*

(v13) Jesus is the ETERNAL Son of God!

(v14) How can we get doubly blessed?

- By doing His commandments! – Jesus said in Matthew 19:16-30 - *Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.*

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When His disciples heard it, they were greatly

astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

- John 15:10 - *If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.*

- 1 John 2:3-5 - *Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*

> (v15-21) The Spirit & the Bride say "Come!"

(v15) What does outside the city mean?

- These non-believers have been cast to Hell (Rev. 20:11-15)

- What are Dogs? - "those of low character" – non-believers, sinners.

- Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11- *Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.*

(v16) In His deity, Christ is David's *root*.

In His humanity, He is David's *offspring*.

(v17) The Spirit (Holy Spirit) & the bride (the church) say "COME!"

(v18-19) Don't add & don't take away from this book!

- (v18) - *If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book*

- (v19) - *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.*

(v20) "Surely I come quickly" – This final statement maintains the doctrine of the imminent return of Christ, calling all believers to look

forward to and be ready for the RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH! (Mt. 24:36 – 25:1-13; Jn. 14:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:13-18)

- Let us remember Revelation 1:3 - *BLESSED is he who READS and those who HEAR the words of this prophecy and KEEP those things which are written in it; for the time is near.*

(v21) *The GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL! AMEN!*

- The word GRACE is found 148 times in the Bible!

- *We are saved by grace!* - Ephesians 2:8-10 - *For by grace you have been saved faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

- *We are to grow in grace!* - 2 Peter 3:18 - *grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

- *We to be strong in grace!* - 2 Timothy 2:1-2 - *be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.*