

Open your Bible to the book of [Revelation](#) and the 22nd chapter. Like I mentioned before, we will conclude today our incredible journey and adventure through the book of [Revelation](#). We've been here for some time. The last few chapters we've kind of done at more survey style, not with as much depth, but the thing is God's Word says what it has to say to us and I'm confident the Holy Spirit will bring across to our hearts the things that are relevant and certainly in terms of application to our lives and the amazing reality that what we're seeing here today in chapter 22 and what we've seen to this point actually from chapters 4 on is still to happen in the future.

It's awesome to know as we studied last week in chapter 21 as we saw the description of the New Jerusalem and what that entails. It's impossible in our finite and limited understanding to really take that in and really comprehend how amazing this is really going to be for us. But this is real folks. Isn't it fairytale?

This isn't a figment of somebody's imagination. Well God's Word has to say about the future is real and again this is beyond our finite ability to really take it in. But when we are there, just like Paul said in [first Corinthians](#) chapter 13 that I look in a glass or a mirror darkly, and the reality was that historically speaking that back in those days when he penned the [first Corinthians](#) that they didn't have these nice mirrors that you walk into a bathroom now and it's just crystal clear back then that there were metals that were polished. And so you could see your reflection but it wasn't with the clarity we can now.

And that's kind of what Paul is saying that in our limited understanding we see truth. We understand stuff but we will not be able to see it with the clarity like we will then and to know the magnificence of Jesus in his presence. And it's amazing. Can you wait?

I don't know about you. I can't wait. But until that day comes when we are in his presence that this is culminating and God has brought to fruition his plans and purposes that he's concluded the 70th week of [Daniel's](#) we've already seen that. And he's brought about the situation where we go into eternity and that's what we're seeing in chapter 21 and 22.

We need to be faithfully living for him and powered by his grace and his spirit every day. And we'll jump in and we'll read through these verses with great speed and then we'll come back and highlight the important elements of what we see here in this particular chapter. Beginning in verse 1 there's a Holy Spirit and inspired [John](#) almost 2000 years ago in the other Nepatmos. It says this, then the angel showed me of river with the water of life clear as crystal flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

He flowed down the center of Main Street on each side of the river grew a tree of life bearing 12 crops of fruit with a fresh crop each month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations. No longer will there be a curse upon anything for the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there and his servants will worship him and they will see his face and his name will be written on their foreheads. There will be no more night, no need for lamps or sun.

For the Lord God will shine on them and they will reign forever and ever than the angel said to me, everything you have heard and seen is trustworthy and true. The Lord God who inspires his prophets has sent his angel to tell his servants what will happen. Jesus weighs in in verse 7 himself and he says, look, or behold, I am coming soon or quickly. The lesser are those who obey the words of the prophecy

written in this book, I [John](#), 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.

But he said, no, don't worship me. I am a servant of God just like you and your brothers the prophets as well as all who obey what is written in this book, worship only God, great emphasis is given there. Those ten goes on to state that he instructed me to not seal up the prophetic words in this book for the time is near. Let the one who is doing harm continue to do harm.

Let the one who is vile continue to be vile. Let the one who is righteous continue to live righteously. Let the one who is holy continue to be holy. And again, Jesus himself, look, or behold, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds.

I am the alpha, the omega, the first and the last and the beginning and the end. Blister those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. Outside of the city or the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshippers, now who love to live a lie.

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this message for the churches. I am both the source of David and the heir to his throne. I am the bright and morning star. For 17 says, the spirit and the bride say, come, let anyone who hears this say, come, let anyone who is thirsty, come, let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life.

And I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy written in this book, if anyone adds anything what is written here, God will add to that person the plagues describe in this book. And if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book. He who is the faithful witness to all these things says, yes, I am coming soon. Amen.

Come, Lord Jesus. In this final chapter, the final book of the Bible states this, may the grace, may the chorus of the Lord Jesus be with God's holy people. Wow. Pretty dramatic.

Well, let's jump back then. And let's work our way through here, looking at some of the important elements of what we see in this chapter today. Remember again, try to put yourself in [John](#)'s shoes if you possibly can. Again, for him, seeing this, being in a position, this is being revealed to him that was so overwhelming and all we can do in the theater of our minds is try to take this in and imagine what this would be like.

This angel, in the angel, showed him a river, showed me a river with water of life, clear as crystal flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. Now, we know that in the millennial kingdom of God, we see in the Old Testament, [Isaiah](#), [Zechariah](#), [Ezekiel](#), that there's references to a provision of God's river flowing from the temple area. And it states here then that there is to be a river of the water of life, clear as crystal flowing from the throne of God and from the Lamb. Some have speculated that this is perhaps speaking symbolically about God's provision and him providing and refreshing and all that we need in the state of eternity.

It's probably twofold. I don't see any reason to assume that this is just speaking about it symbolically. Why wouldn't there be this river flowing with the water of life? We hear in God's word of the river, the water of life, speaking of the Spirit of God.

But here we are then in the very presence of God, spending eternity, and perhaps there is this amazing river that flows with the water of life. And it's clear that any water we could possibly even imagine, just as we saw the description of the New Jerusalem and the streets of gold. And it was crystal clear. We can't even imagine gold like that.

And all I can think of is what Paul said when he said that, I have not seen a river's head and there was an entrance into the hearts or minds of man what God has prepared for those that love him. With Holy Spirit indwelling us, God gives us insight. He shares spiritual truth with us. But still again in our finite states, we can't even begin to imagine how amazing this setting would be.

But this is what we see here. And again, it's flowing from where the throne of God and from the Lamb, from His very presence to those who are living in eternity with Him. First it said, it flowed down the center of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life bearing 12 crops of fruit with a fresh crop each month.

The leaves were used to become medicine or use for medicine to heal the nations. Well, that's some interesting stuff. And as it speaks of this river flowing, it flows down the center of the main street. And again we saw the description of the main street in chapter 21.

And it says that on each side of the river grew a tree of life. Now it's interesting to note that in the Greek language that when it speaks of the tree of life, it speaks like there could be a plural element to this. Not only the two, but there could be these trees that line the scene that we're seeing here. Now, as we conclude the state of the book of [Revelation](#), you're probably thinking that back in the book of [Genesis](#) at the beginning, that there was also the mention of the tree of life.

There was also mention of another tree, right? The tree of the knowledge of good and evil. There's no mention of that here. Praise God for that.

All we have in this setting is the tree of life. God's provision for sustaining us with eternal life forever and ever and ever. You probably heard this stated before, but in its clearest element in terms of what the Greek language has to say about what forever means. Guess what it means.

Forever. Eternal. It never ends. Can you imagine what awaits those who know the Lord Jesus Christ that have been born again by a spirit they're part of his family?

This is absolutely incredible. Seeing this scene, knowing that God provides for our sustenance and eternity, it goes on to say that on each side of this river, a tree of life, and it did what? It was bearing 12 crops of fruit with a fresh crop each month. Now, what is that?

You know, I've heard that they've been able to engineer trees that can produce a couple of different fruits now. So we know that something that even man and his manipulation can kind of do that, of course, man can't create. God is the only one that can create something out of nothing. But if man can manipulate a tree in such a way that can produce a couple of different fruits, then certainly God can have trees that bear 12 different types of fruit or crops one each month.

Isn't that interesting? You know what is really being stated here? We don't know exactly, but as part of God's plan and the reality is that his provision is perfect, he can complete in the scope of things eternally. And it's interesting to note again, there's one for each month.

Some have wondered, will an eternity, will there even be time? And if there isn't any time, why does it speak about months specifically? Well, again, when we get there, we'll know. We'll know complete.

We know in part now about some of the stuff we'll know there. If there is such thing as an eternal aspect of time, it will certainly be different than what time is like now. Because we see the ravages of time. We know that with time there's the laws of entropy, all of that.

This will be a dynamic beyond what we even understand as human beings in our finite existence now. It's going to be absolutely amazing that God will have this for us. And you know what's interesting to note too, that if they produce these unique fruits or crops for us, can you imagine how delicious the food would be for these trees? We've eaten food now.

We've eaten fresh fruit off of trees now that we think, wow, that's amazing. We imagine what it would be like then. And the reality is, is that we, in our glorified bodies, may not need the food at all to sustain us. We know that the word God tells us that Jesus after his resurrection, he appeared to the disciples, he ate with them a couple of times.

We know that even says in the Old Testament, [Genesis](#), that when the angels appeared to Abraham, the Lord was among them, by the way, that he fed them, they ate. But I don't think Jesus needs that food to sustain his glorified resurrected body. If we don't need it, it must just be something that God provides for us, that has a spiritual application, but it's something that's a wonderful experience for us, that just magnifies God's provision for us eternally. It's amazing.

Because I want to say that the leaves were used then as medicine to heal the nations. Well, boy, that's interesting. Why would the nations need to be healed? And by the way, nations, ethnos, speaks of other people groups who are part of God's family eternally.

Only there's neither male nor female, there's nor bond nor free, there's none of that. Okay? The reality is, we're one, as part of the family of God, but those who've come out of all these people groups around the world are there representing God's family and the body of Christ in this scene. And the word healing, by the way, speaks more of the real word for that in the Greek languages is where we get therapy.

And it speaks more like a sustaining element of God's presence more than really if there's somebody that needs a healing that God is sustaining that perfect state. It's kind of almost like a therapeutic element. And I can only imagine being in Jesus' presence, the joy that some people experience will certainly be therapeutic to us in a way that we can't imagine now. Verse 3 says, no longer, whether it be a curse upon anything, pretty straightforward, guys.

So the throne of God, none of the Lamb will be there and His servants will worship Him. Again, the throne of God and of the Lamb. And we will be in His presence. And it says that His servants will worship Him.

Do you know what? If you've had this vision that we're going to spend eternity on clouds playing harps, that cracks me up, that imagery that some people have. Or if you've assumed that in eternity we're just going to veg forever and we're going to rest from all of our labors that have just overwhelmed us now, no, we're going to serve the Lord in eternity. And it's going to be amazing.

And unlike the hardship of labor now, because of the fallen state, this world exists in, the fallen state that we exist in, in service to God then it will be nothing but absolute joy. It will not be a burden. It will be a pleasure to serve the Lord and to be His servants and to serve our God and our King and this environment. And we will worship Him, obviously.

Wow. But it's a privilege for us to worship individually. I hope you do it every day and I come to get the corporately. And I pray that you are worshiping in spirit and truth.

But can you imagine what it's going to be like to worship Him then? Absolutely amazing. Verse 4 says, and they will see His face and His name will be written on their foreheads again to behold Him, to see Him face to face, folks. Can't even begin to imagine what that's going to be like.

To behold Him, as [John](#) said in 1 [John](#) chapter 3 that we will see Him, we will see Him as He is and then we will be like Him having glorified resurrected bodies. But we just being His redeemed creation, Him being God Almighty in the flesh, always fully God, fully man, what will that be like? You will be holding Him in His glory and we will be so compelled to fall down on our faces and to worship Him. We will see Him face to face.

You guys have seen some of those works of art. I'm sure one beautiful one that I think of is the one where Jesus has His arms stretched out wide and He's got the nails scars. And I asked Jesus how much He loved me, He said this much. And He held that His arms.

We see that and then the painting has Jesus embracing that person. Can you imagine being face to face with God in the flesh, having Him look into your eyes and into embrace you? I can't even imagine. Wow.

It's going to be amazing folks. What waits for us who know Him. And it says, and His name will be written on their foreheads. Well, is this a real thing?

We know back in the book of [Revelation](#) earlier on that the anti-Christ during the tribulation now will force those who barreleations to Him to take a [Mark](#). And it says we'll be on their wrist or on their forehead. Whether that's a symbolic thing, whether it's something because of technologies that do exist today with the chipping and also with the inks that they can actually use to track with as well. You know, if that's a physical thing that will exist then during the tribulation hours or relates to the anti-Christ, we're not sure.

But we do know the Greek language seems to state that it will be real. But we also know that as Christians in [Ephesians](#) chapter 1, when we accept Jesus, we are sealed with the Holy Spirit, meaning that He identifies us as His. So there is a seal upon us, but you and I don't go around with some kind of a [Mark](#) on our foreheads now physically. But I guarantee you this God knows His own.

And I guarantee you this, when you meet another believer and if they really love the Lord and they're walking with Jesus, it doesn't take long that you know that. And you

sense the presence of God in their life and you sense their love and their passions for the things of God. So whether this is speaking symbolically and it's a spiritual thing or if there is some kind of an identification on our foreheads, what remains to be seen. But we'll know then, even though we know in part now, we'll know then.

Verse 5 says, there will be no more night. No need for lamps or sun, right? For the Lord God will shine on them and they will reign forever and ever. Wow, no more night.

We will literally be in the glory of God's presence and that glory will illuminate our existence and eternity. There will never be darkness again. And some people might be wondering, well, what we need it to be, you know, we have to go into our rooms in the New Jerusalem to sleep. We have to pull down the blinds with dark.

Well the reality is you probably won't need to sleep to begin with because you'll have a body that doesn't need rest. We have to sleep now while for our bodies to, you know, get back on track to get the rest and he's for the torn down muscles and cells to rejuvenate. We won't need that. That won't be an issue anymore.

So this is interesting to note, there will be no more night and it says there's no need for lamps or the sun. Now we know today looking up at the ceiling here. That's artificial lighting. But if it wasn't here right now and be a little bit darker in here, it's the most thank the Lord for technologies and we have artificial lighting.

But when you walk outside today and you look up at the sun, you realize that's artificial lighting. God created it and it provides real light but compared to the glorious light that he will project on us, that's a cheap imitation, folks. It does the [Job](#) for what God created it for but we will be in his glorious presence and the Lord God will shine on them and that's speaking of all who are there, who are part of his kingdom and they will reign forever and ever. Can you again imagine that?

That he is the king of kings and Lord of lords but he is giving us the amazing privilege of ruling and reigning with him in eternity. And frankly guys, there's not a lot stated in his word about what we will be doing in eternity. That is an adventure that awaits us and I can't wait for it. But again, it's not going to be something that's that we're just kind of hanging out all the time.

It's going to be a proactive existence eternally that's going to be amazing and whatever that encompasses and entails, we'll be part of that ruling and reigning with him forever. In verse 6 it says, then the angel said to me, everything you have heard and seen is trustworthy and true, folks. Everything that you have heard, everything that you have seen, everything that you study from the beginning of the book of [Genesis](#) to maps, which is right after [Revelation](#). I wouldn't say so much to the maps but from [Genesis](#) 1 to 1, to [Revelation](#) 22, the closing verse verse 21 is the living word of God, guys, and it is trustworthy and it is true.

Let me affirm that for you now. If you ever doubt the validity and the veracity of God's word, check it out. Prove all things whole fast to that which is good because it is real. You can trust it.

You can depend on it. God's word is yes and amen. It is true and that angel affirms this to [John](#). It goes on to say the latter half of that verse, the Lord God.

I love that. Query awesome, they awesome. In the Greek is the same as Yahweh, Elohim, in the Old Testament. The Lord God who inspires His prophet, speaking

about prophetic work of the Holy Spirit inspiring, the prophets has sent His angel to tell His servants what will happen soon.

And again, now we are going to see more by the way of this coming soon, this happening soon element with what Jesus says in verse 7. Jesus says, look or behold, I am coming quickly or soon. Blessed are those who obey the words of the prophecy written in this book. And Jesus says, look or behold, He says, look, pay attention folks.

Take this in, the prophetic word of God, everything that is written here is for you and I now to take it in and to understand what is going to happen in the future so that it has impact in your life and in my life now. We just don't read these accounts and go, gee, that is nice. Isn't that swell? That is just grand.

Now this is real and it is to have an impact in your life and my life now. This should compel us knowing this is what the future holds. How should that impact the way you and I are living our lives now? And we'll see an important aspect of that as we move on.

But when he says, by the way, look, I am coming soon, that word soon. And some have interpreted that as meaning that [John](#) was saying, that Jesus was saying, that after this book was penned that these things would happen quickly soon after that. And that is not really what the essence of this word, talk who is the Greek word means. It means in its context here that when these prophetic elements begin to happen, they will happen quickly with great rapidity.

Folks, if you are watching events in the world of day, if you have any knowledge of God's word and the prophetic word of God, you realize so much what is happening but is happening in the world of day is stage setting and things are happening very, very quickly. We're relating to End Times Bible prophecy. It's absolutely staggering. It was happening with Jerusalem, with Israel, with the Middle East, with all the terminology about global governance and all the situations occurring by the way with the economic situations.

All these things are setting a stage for what we see here in the book of [Revelation](#) coming to fruition. It's absolutely amazing. So Jesus is basically saying, look, I am coming soon. And you know what, from his perspective, he is the one who said, look, to me, a day is a thousand years, a thousand years is a day.

From God's prophetic position outside of time and space, it is quick. For us as human beings, we think, well, gee, it's been almost two thousand years. That's not quick. Well, in the scheme of things, it is still quick, folks.

It is still quick. And again, what did Jesus say after that? Blessed. Happy.

Joyous are those who do what? Obey. Obey the words of the prophecy written in this book. We know that that's speaking in this context about the book of [Revelation](#), but by extension that principle applies to every word that's in God's word, from [Genesis](#) to [Revelation](#).

Blessed are those who obey the words of prophecy written in this book. First eight [John](#) says, I [John](#), and the one who heard and saw these things. So he communicates that reality. And when I heard and I saw them, what does he do?

I fell down the worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me. Wow. I hope we understand the significance of this. This is the second time [John](#) has done this.

He did it back in chapter 19, verse 10. He's so overwhelmed, folks, by what he's taking in, what God is showing him, what is happening before his eyes, that he's just provoked to worship. And what does he do? He worships the angel.

And this other angel already told him, don't do that. Don't do it. I am just a servant like you and your brothers and sisters in the Lord. Those are part of the body of Christ.

Don't worship me. Worship God. Worship him alone. Period.

But you know what that tells us? How easy man can be moved by experience? [John](#)'s not a lightweight, folks. Here, he's not an novice in the faith.

He's an old man here now, probably almost 90 years old. He's the only one of the 12 apostles that dies of a natural death. That's not martyr. We know Judas, of course, was a traitor.

The rest died as martyrs for the cause of Christ. The emperor of Rome tried to have him killed, tried to boil him in oil, didn't work. So out of superstition, he was scared, oh, I'm not going to mess with [John](#). So let's put him in a place where he's not influencing the world.

Let's put him in exile on the island of Patmos. And that's where God gave him this [Revelation](#). And so as a seasoned disciple of Jesus, one of the 12, and not only one of the 12, he was one of the three Peter, [James](#), and [John](#). And then beyond that, there seemingly was a unique relationship between [John](#) and Jesus.

Because he was the one he kept saying in the book that he wrote, in the gospel he wrote, the one whom Jesus loved. And the reason it says that, for some reason there was this incredibly unique dynamic of intimacy with them too. So [John](#) knew Jesus. And he knew the word.

He was seasoned. And wow, he falls on his face to worship an angel because he's so overwhelmed. Folks were living in a day and age because of what the Bible says about the end times. People want experience.

How many people want experience and feel good stuff stirred up and they want truth? We're living in a day and age where people are seeking after false signs and are seeking after false miracles and the enemy is given it to them. And that the heat is just going to get turned up. It's going to become more and more and more.

There are authentic miracles. There are authentic things that God does. But it's always consistent with His word. It always glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ.

And it never causes a person to do anything but worship Him. Do you know that in the church today there are those who welcome adoration of angels? I know. I've heard of churches.

There's a church in Salt Lake. During the worship there's some ladies running up and down the thing where the angel cost you with stuff on it. It's like, what in the world is that all about? But you would be amazed at what's going on.

Folks, part of what God warns about the apostasy in the last days is that there would be a falling away within the body of Christ. There would be those who are supposed to be part of the body of Christ who move away from sound teaching and sound doctrine. And they move to experience more than truth. You know what we are?

Emotional creatures? Got it. Creators that way? So we don't want to undermine that, but there's a balance here.

And we don't wait truth based on what we feel or what we experience. For too many are people out looking for a word from God, but they're going to people for a word from God. You got a word from the Lord, for me, brother? Yeah, get in the word of God and study it.

Let the Holy Spirit speak to your heart about the truth of God's word. And if the Lord wants to speak your heart about something, and it's a real word of God from somebody, it will always be consistent with the word of God. Let's be students of the word of God, the truth of God's word. Guard your heart, folks, for the season we're living in.

[John](#) worshiped this angel, and the angel turns him around, right? First line again, but he said, no, don't worship me. I am a servant of God, just like you and your brothers in the prophets, as well as all who obey what is written in this book, worship only God. First hand, Vinnie instructed me, do not seal up the prophetic words in this book for the time is near.

Wow, do you know that through church history, there are so many people who avoid this book? There are so many people because of their approach to the study, the book of [Revelation](#), who don't believe that it's literal. They think, well, there's nothing really there. It's just symbolic anyway, and it's just too deep and mysterious for us to know.

Well the name itself, [Revelation](#), [Revelation](#), Apocal, Loops, that means a revealing, a disclosure. God wants us to understand what's going on here. Of course we thoughtfully work our way through it as we study it, and we interpret it as it communicates to us what it's saying. We don't want to interject anything into it, but he's saying here to [John](#), don't seal up the prophetic words in this book.

Get it out there so that it makes a difference. Remember back in [Daniel](#) in chapter 12, the Lord had told [Daniel](#), I'm showing him some stuff about what the world would be like in the last days. He said, but as it relates to the rest of this [Daniel](#), seal up the book until the time of the end. Well guess what?

God is unsealing this prophetic truth of what's happening in the world today. It's absolutely amazing. Verse 11 says, let the one who was doing harm continue to do harm, let the one who was vile continue to be vile, let the one who was righteous continue to live righteously, and let the one who was holy continue to be holy. You know what?

In an internal state, those of us who have been made the righteousness of God and Christ, Jesus who are clothed with the righteousness of Jesus, that will be an eternal reality. For those who have rejected the truth of God, of course this issue has been settled at the great white throne judgment before this time, and that's what will be their state eternally. They will continue to do harm. They will continue to live in the vile nature of their sins because they've never been made new.

You've never been made new creations in Christ. And also the other element of this is it's a warning to whatever audience would study this out and read it. To make them realize, look, if you continue in a lifestyle, if you've never accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior and you continue to be a sinner and you've not been saved by grace, then this is what will happen. And for those who have made the righteousness of God and Christ, Jesus live rightfully.

We should live every day and power by His grace and spirit to live for Him because again, every day counts. Jesus again makes a statement in verse 12 and he reiterates what he said in verse 7, look, behold I am coming soon, same thing, talk to us that word, though when he does come these things will happen quickly. What does he say this time? Look, I'm coming soon bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds.

Well, somebody might be thinking, well, jeep, past right, I didn't think you were saved by works or deeds. It's no one Jesus is saying. You're not saved by deeds or works. You're saved by grace who faith.

That not of yourselves, it's a gift of God, not of works, but God fully expects that we, as believers, are serving Him. And when we serve Him, that means we're obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit and the Spirit provokes us to good works, to being His hands and feet and to living for Him. And when He returns, He will reward those who have been faithful to serving. And that's what the great right throne judgment is about in dealing with people rejected Jesus because they're not covered by the blood of Jesus.

God reviews their works and they receive their due penalty. And the reality is there are degrees of punishment for the people reject Jesus. If they've not been born again, then they will be separated from God forever. But those who have been very vile, their condemnation is even greater.

Just like for those who know Jesus that there is greater reward for those who've been faithful to God, all of us who know Jesus Christ will stand before the judgment seat of Christ, the Bain-Messee. It's a good place to be because you're in heaven. But then God will look at your life and we're you faithful to serve Him. And again, that's what is in view here.

And if you want to read some verses that will help you understand that, go to [1 Corinthians](#) chapter 3. We don't have time now. Read through that also, [2 Corinthians](#) chapter 5 verses 10 and 11 give us a lot of insight there. But as to what Jesus is saying here, when he does come, he says, I am bringing my reward.

For those who've done the study that we've had several times here, a life God rewards, you remember the Dr. Bruce Wilkinson talked about that. When it says reward, that required misdoers means a wage. I think about [Romans](#) chapter 6, verse 23, for the wages of sin is death.

But the gift of God is eternal life to Christ Jesus our Lord. It says that the wages of sin is death. What does that mean? That when we do certain things, we're going to get paid for it.

For those who reject Jesus, they'll get paid for that. But if we're faithful to serve the Lord, there will be a repayment. There will be a payment, a wage given to you. That's your reward for serving Him faithfully.

Then it goes on to say, not only with that word, misdoss, but that's what it says to me, repay to give back. Apple did of my is the language. It says, I will repay. I will give back to you according to your deeds.

And you will be thankful that you faithfully served Him when you stand before Him. And then Jesus, look what He says about Himself. I am, by the way, you know, in the Greek language, that's a Goyne. That's the same thing you see in [John](#) 8, 58 where Jesus says before Abraham was I am, which correlates back to the Old Testament with Jesus before in the burning bush with Moses.

And He said, I am that I am. Yahweh, the self-existent one. Jesus says, I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Some have said, well, He says He's the beginning and the end.

It means that, gee, if I interpret that, there was a beginning for Him and an ending. That's not what Jesus is saying. Jesus is God. His name Yahweh means He's eternal, self-existing.

There's no beginning in man. He's saying His relates to His interaction with humanity, His creation. He started it. He will end it.

He is the Alpha and the Omega. And He's everything in between, folks. Is He your Alpha and your Omega? Is He your ABCD?

You have G all the way down the Alpha? That is the All of it? He says, I am the Alpha and the Omega. The first and the last beginning and the end.

I started it. I will finish it. He was chapter 12, verse 2, says, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and the finisher of our faith. He will be going to good work and you will see it to fruition according to [Philippians](#), chapter 1, verse 6, praise God for them.

He goes on to say in verse 14, blessed are those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit in the tree of life, basically saying those who have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Because the robes of righteousness are symbolic of purity and we only are purified by the blood of Jesus. So those who wash their robes have been cleansed by the blood of the Lamb.

We will have the privilege of being in that city, the New Jerusalem, taking the fruit of the tree of life. Verse 15 says, but outside the city are the dogs. The sorcerers, sexually immoral. The murderers, idol worshipers, not all who love to live a lie.

It's not saying that outside of this there's a bunch of people begging on the gates. You know, the New Jerusalem, you know. No, these people have already been consigned to the lake of fire, folks. We've already seen that.

It's speaking again to any contemporary audience that's studying this. Look, you don't want to go to this place. But anybody who has rejected Jesus will be outside of this and they're referred to as dogs. In the Hebrew language, that was something that made a very big impact because the Hebrew was looked at Gentiles as dogs.

Paul used that wording when he talked about a Pharisees and people who were Judaizers who were trying to get people to get circumcised as part of the process of knowing Jesus, that it was knowing Jesus and fulfilling the law. And Paul said, no. He said those people were dogs, strong language. So sorcerers, people who guess what?

To continue in a state of sin, they're being covered by the blood of Jesus and by the way, sorcerers or people who experience events dealing with new age stuff, opening themselves out to spirits, and by the way, one of the gateways they open those door to are the use of drugs, pharmacaya, drug use, folks. That's practicing sorcery because you open doors to the enemy. And again, the list that that encompasses. And praise God again for those who are part of the body of Christ, that's not our destiny.

But the people that we know, do you know that I know that don't know Jesus? This will be their future if they don't know Jesus. And how will they know unless we go? How will they learn unless somebody tells them, according to [Romans](#), let us be the ones that God uses to share with them the truth and the love of Jesus and the gospel.

Verse 16 says, I Jesus, he speaking again, I have sent my angel to give you this message for the churches. I am both the source of David and the year of his throne. I am the bright morning star. So Jesus again is the source right of this message to the churches.

It's probably speaking of a reference back to the letters of the seven churches earlier on and to the original churches in the body of Christ, but it speaks to the body of Christ the whole and the various churches and existence. Now this message was for them and the message is for us now. He says, I am both the source of David speaking of his divine nature as God, right? Is he not the one who gave David life when David was pinning the songs?

He said in Psalm 139, I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Then understanding that God is the one who created him. So Jesus gave life to David. He's a source of David, but when it says he's the heir to his throne, he's speaking about his messianic fulfillment, his role as Messiah and Jesus will be seated on the throne of David for that thousand year millennial reign of Christ.

And guess what? David will have a part in ruling over Israel in that time frame as well. How cruel is that? And then Jesus says, I am the bright morning star.

That's powerful. And we see the connection with Old Testament prophecy. For 17, we begin to work our way to the conclusion. The spirit and the bride, the Holy Spirit and the bride.

Who's going to be the bride? Who and I, whoever's part of the body of Christ, the spirit and the bride say, come, it's like an extinguent invitation, come. Let anyone who hears this say, come, let anyone who is thirsty, come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life.

That's what we need to be going out and being Jesus's hands and feet and saying to people, come, come to know Jesus, come to him who will give you freely the rivers of living water. And who are thirsty because without Jesus they are thirsty and they're trying to fulfill and fill their lives with everything they can think of to quench that thirst. And only Jesus can satisfy that thirst. Verse 18 says, and I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy written in this book.

So that's powerful, right? I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of prophecy written in this book. If anyone adds anything to what is written here, God will add to that person the plague is described in this book. Now in his context, folks,

and there's great debate about this in his context, [John](#) is speaking about the book of [Revelation](#), but here's the reality.

We know that in [Deuteronomy](#) we know in [Numbers](#), we know in [Proverbs](#) that God has said the same thing. It wouldn't make sense that God would say, okay, as it relates to [Deuteronomy](#) and [Proverbs](#) and [Numbers](#) and [Revelation](#), no mess with it, don't add or take away from it, but you know the rest of her have added. That makes no sense at all. We know that the principle applies to God's word from [Genesis Revelation](#).

You do not add to or take away from the truth of God's word. It is his word. But he's giving a stern warning as it relates to what we've studied here in this book. And remember in chapter 1, by the way, it said that there is a blessing to those who study and read this and apply it to their lives, a special blessing who do this study of the book of [Revelation](#).

But God says for those who are willing to do that add to, there will be plagues, heaped upon them. That tells me that those people who've done that won't be saved anyway. They wouldn't be saved. They can't be saved and do something that's stupid.

So they're going to experience the plagues during the tribulation hour. And perhaps as a result of experiencing those plagues, if they have been part of that process, they will repent and accept Jesus as a Messiah then. In verse 19 it says, and if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person's share in the tree of life and the holy city and the holy city that is described in this book. Wow, that's, isn't that interesting?

Notice we studied through God's word. We seem to see that it intimates that from God's perspective that everybody's name was in the Lamb's book of life. And once you cross that line, meaning once you die according to [Hebrews](#) 9:27 is a pointer of the man once died then the judgment, if a person crosses that line and they step out of time into eternity and they're not born again, then their name will be blotted out. They will not spend eternity with God.

It's done. And that seemingly says what we're seeing here. If anyone removes any of the words in this book of life, God removed that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city that is described in this book. It's interesting to think that if a person does violate God's principles, they won't have any part of this.

They won't enter into this eternal reality that we who know Jesus will experience. Isn't that amazing? And finally, the last two verses of this amazing journey that we've been on says this in verse 20, he who is the faithful witness to all these things says, and who is going to say it by the way, who is the faithful witness to all these things? Jesus says, yes, I am coming soon.

Notice the exclamation point there. So you have to say it like this. Yes, I am coming soon. Amen, come Lord Jesus.

Can you say that today? Do you long for his return? Can you say amen, come Lord Jesus? Absolutely.

I can't wait. But in the time that we have remaining before he comes, let us be found faithful to serve him, to live for him, to make sure that each day is one that we glorify him and that we are available to serve him. So that when we stand before him, we

will hear him say, well done, good and faithful servants. And folks, in this last verse, it gives us one of the keys to being able to live that way again.

And let me reiterate something that I have stated time and time again. And if Jesus gives us that much more time, you'll hear it again because we need to hear it. Folks, it's not up to you and I to try to strive. We need to set our hearts and minds on Jesus.

Yes, we need to purpose our lives towards him and the things of God. But if you're going to try to live for God on your own strength, you're going to fall flat on your face. And that's why people do become discouraged. That's why people say, I just don't, it's just too hard.

I don't get it. I don't know how to do this. All God requires of you is to come humbly before him and say, Lord, I don't get it. But I know this is what your word says.

Help me to get it and help me to understand it's not in my strength, but it's in my weakness that your strength is revealed because your grace is sufficient for me. Your grace is all that I need. And that's what [John](#) says in verse 21, may the grace, folks, get that may the grace of the Lord Jesus. Whose grace is it?

The Lord Jesus. He's our author and the finish of our faith. He is our source of life. He is all that we need.

He is the great I am. May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with who God's holy people, those who have been sanctified and set apart for him. May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you today, each and every one of you. We conclude the stay in the book of [Revelation](#).

I pray that as we spend a little time in ministry opportunity here, we're going to play a couple worship songs. One will be an opportunity if you need prayer to come and get prayer. Their elders are even out of the loop today. There's so many gone.

We've got just what two of our deacons, one of them in the worship team. Jake, if you'll make yourself available for prayer and actually what we're going to ask you to do is actually position yourself outside in the foyer. We just don't have a lot of room up here and I know one of the issues is when people have come forward for prayer before with a worship going on. It's hard to hear.

And so with limited space here, either out in the foyer or if you want to go up in the coffee house, that's fine too. It'll probably be quieter. So where do you want to go out in the foyer? Jake will make himself available out there.

Chris, my wife, Chris, will you go out and make yourself available as well? Ladies, if you need prayer during this time of ministry, just go and just let God speak your heart for the rest of you. Let's worship the Lord. Ask God to drive home the truth of what we've studied in His word this morning and through this amazing adventure in the book of [Revelation](#).

This asks God to expand our understanding about the grace of God because this is the truth. And this is something I pray every day, folks, I say, God, pour out your grace upon me and in me. Pour out your spirit upon me and in me and through me because guys, I learned a long time ago. I can't.

I can't. I can't do it just as a human being. I can't do it as a husband. I can't do it as a father.

I certainly can't do it as a pastor teaching and doing what he's calling me to do as a pastor. I can't. But he can. And I can do all things who Christ who strengthens me and by His grace, all of us will cross that line, that finish line, having run the race, having fought the good fight, empowered by His spirit.

And prayerfully we hear Him say, well done. Well done. It's great. Father in Jesus' name, thank you.

Thank you for this amazing study that we've gone through. So much depth in the book of [Revelation](#), so much to take in, so much to work away through and to interpret properly. Father so much of it obviously has prophetic relevance, relevance to the future. We believe the not too distant future.

And Father, there's been much application here as well. And certainly as we conclude this study, there's so much here relevant to us today in terms of application to. We know again that these prophetic events are on the near horizon. And because we know that.

And even if we were a hundred years out and if each of us would die before you return, that wouldn't lessen the importance of us living for you every day. Being of used to you to reach our world and the people that we have influence in and over Lord in this world, our friends and family and neighbors and co-workers, Father you as a reminder, it's again not by might nor by power but by my strength, by my spirit says the Lord. You are the one who supplies and it is by your grace. So drive that truth home.

And Father, though we have concluded this study in the book of [Revelation](#) to last book in sequence in the word, Father we look anxiously forward to the next study. Father I know we're going to spend time in the book of [Acts](#) next weekend. So I return home from the pastor's conference and then Father we look forward to a study in the book of [Jude](#). The importance of defending the faith in this day and age and then Father we look forward to again, adventuring onward in your word and various books in the word of God.

Holy Spirit continue just to move this morning as we keep our eyes closed, we keep our focus on you, you have a undivided attention. Father if there are those who need prayer and need to go back and have that prayer then compel them to do that. Father if they want somebody next to them to pray for them, compel them to ask them to do that as well. Holy Spirit direct this time so we continue in ministry and worship, just have your way.

Lord with our focus on you, pour out your spirit in Jesus name. Thank you Lord.