

# CHAPTER 22

## Revelation 22:1–5

**[1] 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. [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.**

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John says that from the throne of God flows a river as bright as crystal.

The river runs through the middle of the street of the city and on either side of the river is tree of life with twelve kinds of fruit. This tree is singularly called the Tree of Life, a reference to the book of Genesis.

Before Adam and Eve sinned, they had access to this tree in the Garden of Eden. In the New Jerusalem it would appear that there is a connection between this tree and physical immortality. And it would make sense because it is sustained directly from the throne of God.

So each time that one eats of this tree, they are reminded of where true life comes from, God Himself. The tree also produces fruit on a monthly schedule, meaning that at least months will be counted in the New Jerusalem. Because we are perfect, we will see God face to face. Imagine that for a minute, you will see God face to face.

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## Revelation 22:6–15

**[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.” [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.**

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Jesus finishes up this book in a personal way stating that these words are true and trustworthy. We can trust the words of this book, John saw things that were to come and we can trust them as we can trust the words of the prophets of the Old Testament. Jesus says I am coming soon. Obviously these words were written 2,000 years ago, but today Jesus is nearer to coming back than He was then. We need to always look to the future with our eyes on His coming. Anticipating that He is coming one day soon.

In verse 10, unlike Daniel, John is to not seal up these words. Daniel was told to seal up his prophecy, but John is told to reveal these words to all the earth. The end of this section is the final altar call of sorts in the Bible. It is the final call for repentance. It is a reminder for all that read it to repent while salvation may be found. Jesus reminds us that He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

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Everything in our lives begins and ends with Jesus. He is the beginning of our salvation, and He will one day be the end of our salvation. In other words, we will receive the full consummation of what we received in earnest through the Holy Spirit when we first called Him Lord of our life. Jesus seems to indicate that the Lake of Fire is somewhere outside of this city because He indicates that the unrighteous will not be able to enter the gates and that they will be outside of the gates.

### **Revelation 22:16–21**

**[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. [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.**

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Jesus testifies one last time that these words are true. And He bids us one final time to come, anyone who is thirsty. If they are seeking nourishment, they can find it in Him.

Jesus also warns about adding to Scripture. Anyone who makes changes to this book will have the plagues of this book added to them and they will not share in the New Jerusalem. Undermining the Word of God is a trait of the unbeliever.

Jesus concludes this chapter by saying that He is coming soon. And then the benediction to Come Lord Jesus! And the final word is Amen.

Amen is symbolic of let it be. I think I would add a double Amen to this chapter. We all seek out Jesus' return!