## **Revelation Chapter 22**

## Context

The first word of this chapter is "**Then**", meaning that it begins in the same context as chapter 21 ends. So, what was happening in chapter 21? From verse 9 to the end of the chapter, "one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls, who were laden with the seven last plagues" was showing John(in vision) "**the bride, the wife of the Lamb**", which **is the new Jerusalem**. Here is a study on Rev21 => http://sidnash.org/docs/Rev21.html

In the beginning of chapter 22, it seems that the same angel is continuing to give John more views of the new Jerusalem. This, being **the last chapter of Revelation**, **concludes with warnings**, **invitations**, **blessings**, **and grace**.

Revelation 22:1-2 Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb{Jesus}. 2 It flowed down the center of the street...

Revelation 7:17 for the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life: and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Revelation 22:2 ... And on this side of the river and on that was **the tree of life**, bearing twelve manner of fruits, yielding its fruit every month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations.

Revelation 2:7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches. **To him that overcometh, to him will I give to eat of the tree of life**, which is in the Paradise of God.

How to **overcome** => <a href="http://sidnash.org/Bible/WillPower/">http://sidnash.org/Bible/WillPower/</a>

Revelation 22:3-4 And there shall be no curse any more: and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there: and his servants will worship him; 4 and they shall see his{Father God's} face; and his{Father} name shall be on their foreheads.

<u>John 12:26</u> **If any man serve me**, let him follow me; and **where I am, there shall also my servant be**: if any man serve me, him will the Father honor.

<u>John 14:2-3</u> In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that **where I am, there ye may be also**.

<u>Ezekiel 37:27</u> My{Father Jehovah's} tabernacle also shall be with them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

**Verse 4 says that the saved will see Father Jehovah's face** in the new Jerusalem. This, humans have never been able to do before, because of our sins =>

- In <u>1 Timothy 6:11-16</u>, Paul tells us that Father Jehovah "gives life to all things", "who is the blessed and only Potentate", "who only hath immortality, dwelling in light unapproachable; whom no man hath seen, nor can see..."
- In <u>John 1:18</u>, Jesus said, "**No man hath seen God at any time**; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."
- 1 John 4:12 No man hath beheld God at any time: if we love one another, God abideth in us, and his love is perfected in us:
- Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Regarding "his{Father} name shall be on their foreheads" in verse 4 =>

• Revelation 14:1 Then I saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with him were 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.

- Revelation 3:12 All who are overcomers will become pillars in the Temple of my God, and they will never have to leave it. And I will write on them the name of my God, and they will be citizens in the city of my God—the new Jerusalem that comes down from heaven from my God. And I will also write on them my new name.
- Who Is "my God", that Jesus spoke of? => <a href="http://sidnash.org/t/TheGodOfJesus.html">http://sidnash.org/t/TheGodOfJesus.html</a>

Revelation 22:5 And there shall be night no more; and they need no light of lamp, neither light of sun; for the Lord God shall give them light: and they{His servants, according to verse 3} shall reign for ever and ever.

This appears to be the end of the prophecy of new Jerusalem and the new Earth. Here are some more texts that seem to also speak of this time in the future =>

<u>Isaiah 60:19-20</u> The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but **Jehovah will be unto thee an everlasting light**, and thy God thy glory. 20 Thy sun shall no more go down, neither shall thy moon withdraw itself; for **Jehovah will be thine everlasting light**, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

<u>Daniel 7:18-27</u> But **the saints of the Most High shall** receive the kingdom, and **possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.** ... 27 And the kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, **shall be given to the people of the saints** of the Most High: his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

2 Timothy 2:12 if we endure, we shall also reign with him: if we shall deny him, he also will deny us:

Revelation 22:6-7 Then the angel said to me, Everything you have heard and seen is trustworthy and true. The Lord God{Jesus, see below}, who inspires his prophets, has sent his angel to tell his servants what will happen soon. 7 Look, I am coming soon! Blessed are they who keep the words of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show unto his servants, even the things which must shortly come to pass: and he{Jesus} sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John;

Revelation 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things for the churches...

Regarding Jesus, "who inspires his prophets" in vs. 6 =>

<u>1 Peter 1:11-12</u> searching what time or what manner of time **the Spirit**{words( <u>Jn6:63</u> )} **of Christ which was in them** did point unto, when it{**the Spirit**} testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glories that should follow them. 12 To whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto you, did they minister these things, which now have been announced unto you through them that preached the gospel unto you **by the Holy Spirit sent forth from heaven**{ <u>Acts2:32-33;Gal4:6</u> }; which things angels desire to look into.

<u>2 Peter 1:21</u> For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but **men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit**.

<u>2 Peter 3:2</u> that ye should remember the **words which were spoken** before by the holy prophets, and the commandment **of the Lord and Saviour through your apostles**:

Revelation 19:10 ... the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. (In other words, the teachings of Jesus is what inspired the prophets to prophesy)

Revelation 22:8-10 And I John am he that heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel that showed me these things. 9 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! 10 Then he instructed me, Do not seal up the prophetic words in this book, for the time is near.

**Two key points** here from John's angel/instructor:

- 1. "Worship only God!"
- 2. Unlike the book of Daniel, which was to be sealed until these last times, the Book of **Revelation** was to remain unsealed, "for the time is near."

It is likely at this juncture that the angel finishes talking to John and Jesus starts, since we see Him speaking concluding His remarks in verse 16. Now, in verse 11, we see Jesus speaking of the time shortly before His return =>

Revelation 22:11-15 Let those who are 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. 12 Look, I{Jesus} am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. 14 Blessed are they that wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. 15 Outside the city are the dogs—the sorcerers{witchcrafters/drug pushers}, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshipers, and all who love to live a lie.

In verse 11, Jesus seems to be speaking of a close of probation occurring sometime prior to His return, in verse 12. This likely occurs when the living righteous receive the seal of God, referred to in <a href="Rev7:1-3">Rev7:1-3</a> and <a href="Rev14:1">Rev14:1</a>. Apparently, those living who don't receive the seal of God, must receive the mark of the Beast of <a href="Rev13:11-18">Rev13:11-18</a>. I'm not aware of a 3rd group of people, but if there is, I'd like to see it in the Bible. Here in verse 12, Jesus also says that He will be "bringing [His] reward with [him] to repay all people according to their deeds." In order to do that, the destiny of the living must have already been determined before Jesus left Heaven. This is the meaning of the "close of probation".

Revelation 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things for the churches. I am both the source, and the offspring, of David. I am the bright morning star.

Regarding Jesus being "the source" "of David", remember that God created all things through His Son, Jesus, our Messiah => http://sidnash.org/b/tvD

Regarding Jesus being "the offspring" "of David", see Matthew 1:1-17

This is a confirmation from Jesus Himself that He is "The Lord God" spoken of by the angel in verse 6. Remember also that "... the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy"( Rev19:10 ). Remember that the book of Revelation starts by telling us God gave this testimony to Jesus who gave it to His angel who gave it to John, who gave it to all of us who read this book. After this, John said, "Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of the prophecy, and keep the things that are written therein: for the time is at hand."

Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And he that heareth, let him say, Come. And he that is thirsty, let him come: he that will, let him take the water of life freely.

## Who is "the bride"?

The angel told John in <u>Rev21:9</u> that the "bride" is "the wife of the Lamb." Then, in verse 10, the angel shows John "the holy city Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God". From this, I would think that the "bride" is a reference to the saints that must be inside "the holy city Jerusalem..."

## Who is "the Spirit"?

• Revelation 7:17 for the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life...

Who is "the Lamb"? Jesus! See <u>John1:29,36;Rev7:14;12:11;13:8;14:1;21:14;</u>

More about the identity of the Holy Spirit => <a href="http://sidnash.org/docs/HolySpirit&Angels.html">http://sidnash.org/docs/HolySpirit&Angels.html</a>

Revelation 22:18-19 I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto them, God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book: 19 and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, which are written in this book.

Revelation 22:20-21 He{Jesus through His angel(vs. 16)} who testifies of these things says, Yes: I am coming soon! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus. 21 May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's holy people. Amen.