

A Season in Revelation
with Dr. Paige Patterson

Session 31

- ◆ Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016
- ◆ Revelation 22:1-21
 - ◆ The River of Life, Jesus is Coming

Session 31

- ◆ 1 - Vision of the Son of Man
- ◆ 2-3 - Messages to the churches
- ◆ 4 - Throne Room
- ◆ 5 - The Scroll and the Lamb
- ◆ 6 - The Seven Seals (only goes through 6 seals)
- ◆ 7 - Interlude - 144,000 sealed, The Great Multitude

Session 31

- ◆ 8 - 7th Seal, the Golden Censer and the Seven Trumpets
- ◆ 9 - Continues the Trumpets (through 6)
- ◆ 10 - Interlude - Angel and the Little School
- ◆ 11 - The Two Witnesses & 7th Trumpet
- ◆ 12 - The Woman and the Dragon, Satan thrown to Earth

Session 31

- ◆ 13 - The First and Second Beasts
- ◆ 14 - The Lamb and the 144,000, the Messages of the Three Angels, & The Harvest of the Earth
- ◆ 15 - The 7 Angels and 7 Plagues
- ◆ 16 - The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath
- ◆ 17 - The Great Prostitute and the Beast
- ◆ 18 - Fall of Babylon

Session 31

- ◆ 19 - The Return of Christ
- ◆ 20 - 1,000 Year Reign, Defeat of Satan, Great White Throne Judgement
- ◆ 21 - The New Heavens and New Earth, The New Jerusalem
- ◆ 22 - The River of Life, Jesus is Coming

Chapter 22

- ◆ Where are we in history?
- ◆ Entering into the eternal state with Jesus and God the Father.

Chapter 22

- ♦ **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.**

Chapter 22

♦ 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.”

Chapter 22

- ♦ **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.**

Chapter 22

♦ 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.

Chapter 22

Similarities to Genesis

Genesis	Revelation
Heavens and Earth Created (1:1)	New Heavens and Earth (21:1)
Sun created (1:16)	No need of sun (21:23)
The night established (1:5)	No night (21:25; 22:5)
The seas created (1:10)	No Seas (21:1)
The curse announced (3:14-17)	No more curse (22:3)
Death enters history (3:19)	No more death (21:4)
Man driven from paradise (3:24)	Man restored to paradise (22:14)
Sorrow and pain begin (3:17)	No more sorrow/pain (21:4)

Chapter 22

- ◆ Verses 6-21 of this chapter form the epilogue to the book of Revelation. Having taken the reader through the amazing sweep of future history all the way into the eternal state, all that is left for John to record is this divine postscript. (MacAurthur)
 - ◆ Verses 6-12 describe the responses expected of every believer to John's revelation.
 - ◆ Verses 12-21 target unbelievers, warning them to change now while the opportunity is still available.

Chapter 22

- ◆ "Up to this chapter, the New Jerusalem seems to be all mineral and no vegetable. Its appearance is as the dazzling display of a fabulous jewelry store; we wonder if there is no soft grass to sit upon, no green trees to enjoy, and no water to drink or food to eat. However, here are introduced the elements which add a rich softness to this city of elaborate beauty." (Wiersbe)

Chapter 22

♦ Verse 1-2 - The River of Life

- ♦ “Bright as crystal...flowing from the throne...middle of the city”
- John described the river he saw as “bright” or “clear as crystal”; it was a shimmering, sparkling stream of unpolluted water.⁹⁰⁸ This river proceeded “from the throne” that belongs to “God” and “the Lamb” (cf. v. 3; 3:21; Isa. 35:6-9; Ezek. 47:1; Zech. 14:8; Heb. 1:3). This throne evidently stood at the head of the main street of the city (v. 2), so that, looking down this street, the throne (not the river) appeared to be in its middle. (Constable)
- ♦ The water of life is not water as we know it; It’s pure, unobstructed flow symbolizes the constant flow of everlasting life from God’s throne to his people. (MacAurther)

Chapter 22

♦ Verse 1-2 - The Tree of Life

- ♦ “On either side of the river the Tree of Life” - The tree of life is the celestial counterpart to the tree of life in Eden. It provides for those that are immortal.
 - ♦ “the term ‘tree of life’ is collective, just like ‘avenue’ and ‘river’. The idea is not that there is just one single tree. No, there is an entire park; whole rows of trees alongside the river, between the river and avenue.” (Hendrickson)
- ♦ “12 Kinds of fruit...yielding each month” - no good explanation can be made - some how this tree provides some form of nourishment for those in heaven.

Chapter 22

- ◆ Verse 3-5 - “no longer a curse”
 - ◆ “No longer a curse” - what happened? Christ’s sacrifice lifted the curse!
 - ◆ Galatians 3:13 - 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.
 - ◆ Romans 8:22-25 - is now fulfilled.

Chapter 22

- ◆ **Verse 3-5 - “no longer a curse”**
 - ◆ “Throne of God and the Lamb” - notice the trinitarian language John uses.
 - ◆ “Servants will worship him” - that will be our primary purpose as believers.
 - ◆ “They will see his face...name on foreheads” -Moses the great lawgiver, was not allowed to see the face of God because God had declared, “Man shall not see me and live (Ex. 33:20). 1 John 3:2, “we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”
 - ◆ “No light will be needed” - same as 21:23-34

Chapter 22

- ◆ **Verses 6-21 - Post Script**

- ◆ Verses 6-7 - John affirms the message:

- ◆ These words are “trustworthy and true”

- ◆ The “God of the spirits of the prophets” has sent this message through the angel to me.

- ◆ **2 Peter 1:21** - 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

- ◆ Christ speaks, “Behold I am coming soon. Blessed is the one that keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

- ◆ Matthew 24

Chapter 22

- ♦ **Verses 8-11 - John Falls Down Again**
 - ♦ John falls before the angel and worships again; the angel corrects him and makes him get back up.
 - ♦ “I am a fellow servant with you...Worship God.”
 - ♦ “Do not seal up the prophecy” - he is to share it with the churches immediately, which he does.
 - ♦ “Let the evildoer still do evil...filthy still be filthy, righteous/righteous, Holy/holy...”
 - ♦ Since the end time is now at hand, people are certain to reap the consequences of the kinds of lives they have led unless they repent...which will be offered again in a few verses.

Chapter 22

- ◆ **Verse 12** - “Recompense...Alpha and Omega”
 - ◆ Second Announcement of the Return of Christ - when he comes he will bring “recompense” (reward for service)
 - ◆ **Romans 2:6-8** - 6 He will render to each one according to his works: 7 to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; 8 but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.
- ◆ **Alpha and Omega** - Rev. 1:6

Chapter 22

- ◆ **Verse 14-15 - “Wash their robes...outside are dogs”**
 - ◆ Blessed are those who wash their robes - symbolizes those that are saved through faith in Christ.
 - ◆ They may enter into the city and have access to the Tree of Life.
 - ◆ Outside (Lake of Fire) - unbelievers, dogs, sorcerers, sexually immoral...etc.
 - ◆ Deuteronomy 23:17-18 - 18 You shall not bring the fee of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of the Lord your God in payment for any vow, for both of these are an abomination to the Lord your God.
 - ◆ Philippians 3:2 - 2 Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh.

Chapter 22

- ◆ **Verses 16 - “I am the root and descendent of David”**
 - ◆ Christ speaks to John:
 - ◆ Jesus has sent His angel to John
 - ◆ Testify for the benefit of the church
 - ◆ “I am the root and the descendent of David, the bright morning star.”
 - ◆ Rev 5:5 - “the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David.
 - ◆ “Morning star” - promise that the tribulation is over and the new eschaton has began - Rev. 2:28, 2 Peter 1:9. He is the star that would come forth from Jacob (Num. 24:17).

Chapter 22

- ◆ **Verses 17 - “Come” Final Invitation to Salvation**
 - ◆ Bride and Spirit say, “Come”
 - ◆ Come - one who hears
 - ◆ Come - one who is thirsty
 - ◆ Come - anyone who desires to take the water of life without price.
 - ◆ **John 7:37-38** - 37 On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”

Chapter 22

♦ Verse 18-19 - Christ's Warning

- ♦ Do not add or take away from this prophecy.
 - ♦ If you add - God will strike them with the plagues described (Duet. 4:2, 12:32)
 - ♦ If you take away - God will take away his share in the tree of life and the holy city
- ♦ "He is not concerned about possible mechanical errors in transmission or mistakes of judgment in interpreting his message, but in deliberate distortions and perversions of it." (Ladd)
- ♦ The Book of Revelation opened with a blessing on all who obey its instructions (1:3), and it closes with a strong curse on all who disobey it. (Constable)

Chapter 22

- ◆ **Verses 20-21 - Christ's Promise to Return**
- ◆ 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.

Final Studies

- ◆ Wednesday, January 4th, Final Study in Revelation
- ◆ Wednesday, January 11th, Begin CBCVBV, Romans with Dr. John Stott