

Revelation 22

Note to teacher: Find a piece of crystal glass to take to the class

Revelation 22.1-5

-This is really a continuation of *Rev. 21*

V1 – Who is the "he"? – Angel

-Where do we read about the water of life? *John 4.10-14*

-What do we associate with running water? Cleanliness, joy

-**"Fountains of water of life"** – *Rev. 7.17, 21.6, 22.17*

-**Clear as crystal?** Absolutely clear

-Demonstrate with a piece of real crystal glass (also, Crystal Lake, Illinois, was named after the original clarity of the water in the lake)

V2 – "Tree of life" – *Gen. 2.8, 3.22* – If Adam had eaten it regularly, he would have lived forever (but he and Eve were removed from the Garden because of their disobedience)

-**Fruit?** Yields every month

-**Leaves?** For healing

-**Why is there a need for healing?** Pains of this life

-**Tree over the river?** Branches touching – there were some people who will be saved from every nation and every language

V3 – **No curse?** No sins, no pain

V4 – We shall see God – **What is so special about that?** We haven't seen him yet

-**Name on forehead?** Earlier in *Rev.*

V5 – **Darkness?** = evil

-**Light?** = good

-The "revelation" of *Rev.* is over with v 5 – the rest of the chapter is exhortation and encouragement based on *Rev. 4.1-Rev. 22.5*

-The technical name for this section: Epilogue

Revelation 22.6-9

-A problem with red-letter editions – the words of angel or the words of Jesus – some confusion, but not really important

-Red letter editions are great, but sometimes it is a decision of the editorial committee as to what should actually be in red

V6 – **"He"** = angel

-**Time span in *Rev.*?** Shortly

V7 – Beatitude #6

-**"Quickly"** – See *Matt. 24.42-44* – when he comes, it will be quick

-**Why is there a blessing on the one who "heeds"?** Not enough just to believe (*Matt. 7.21-*

23)

V 8 – **Action of John?** He bowed down to the angel

- Why did he do it again?** Made the same mistake twice (common)
- Rebuked already in *Rev. 19.10*

V 9 – **Reply of the angel?** Worship only God (not angels, "saints," popes, "holy people," etc.)

Revelation 22.10-15 – The final message

V 10 – Some books of prophecy were sealed up (*Dan. 12.4*)

- Today, time capsules are put into some buildings
- Why should *Rev. not be sealed?*** Needed in first century and today

V 11 – **Meaning?** When death (or Jesus) comes, there will not be time to change our behavior

V 12 – **Basis of judgment?** Our deeds, what we have done (this disproves the denominational doctrine of faith-only)

V 13 – *Rev. 1.8* – seems to refer to God the Father

- Rev. 21.6* – also seems to refer to God the Father
- Rev. 22.13* – seems to refer to Jesus Christ (based on *Rev. 22.16*)
- Message of this usage of "*Alpha and Omega*"? Christianity is a monotheistic religion (based on one God), but that God has expressed himself in 3 forms (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)

V 14 – **Beatitude #7?**

- Wash?** Baptism and the act of cleansing our lives of sins
- Sins are forgiven by the blood of Jesus
- 12 gates to heaven

V 15 – **People excluded from heaven?** Dogs (not literally), but evil people

- Anything particularly shocking in this list?** Astrology, lying, etc.

Revelation 22.16-17

V 16 – Tribe of Judah, descendant of David through Mary, also the creator of David

- Bright morning star?** Venus (rises early in the morning in the east)

V 17 – The invitation – **Lessons?** Each individual must make the decision to "come"

- Spirit = Holy Spirit
- Bride = church of Christ (*Eph. 5*)

Revelation 22.18-21

V 18 – A severe warning – similar to *Deut. 4.2* and *Gal. 1.6-7*

V 19 – **Penalty for tampering with the Bible?** The plagues in the Bible will fall on the person who adds to or subtracts from the Bible

V 20 – Aramaic = Maranatha: *Come, Lord Jesus* (See *1 Cor. 16.22, Luke 22.16*)

-Can we pray for the Lord to come today? Thought question –if there is anything that keeps us from praying that prayer, we need to take care of that problem immediately

Total effect of *Rev.* on seven churches of Asia? Encouragement to hold on, not give in to pressure from the Empire

Ask the students: Read your favorite verse from *Revelation*

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