

# CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

## *Revelation 22:1-21*

This closing chapter of the Book of Revelation continues our thrilling “sightseeing tour” of the New Jerusalem, and reaffirms the fact that only those who possess the righteousness of Christ are granted admittance and residence.

### **I. THE RIVER OF THE WATER OF LIFE *Verses 1-7***

A. *Verse 1: And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.*

1. The angel showed John a pure river originating in the throne of God.
2. The throne is prominent in the concluding vision John saw. The river is pure... no germs, no disease, nor pollution. It is clean and clear as crystal.

B. *Verse 2: In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*

1. John continues his description of the new Paradise. There are those who symbolize the tree, the fruit, the leaves – but why should we spiritualize anything so clear, so understandable, as this verse? John saw the tree of life—rows of them. (The tree is referred to as singular, but there are many trees.) Each tree bears twelve different kinds of fruit, yields a harvest every thirty days, and the leaves are for the healing of the nations.
2. This is the same tree of life of which Adam would have eaten had he remained in the Garden of Eden. God drove them out in order to keep them from eating from the tree of life. Had Adam obeyed God and refrained from eating of the forbidden fruit, he would eventually have eaten of the tree of life and would be alive today. God did not forbid Adam and Eve to eat of the fruit of the tree of life; He commanded them not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. God knew that if Adam ate from the tree of life he would live forever in a body of sin – and thank God we will not carry these bodies throughout eternity; we will get a brand new body just like Jesus’ body (*1 John 3:1-3*).
3. This tree in the Paradise of God will bear abundantly of luscious fruit, and the leaves are for the healing of the nations. The saints of the heavenly city will eat its fruit, the nation will use its leaves. If we desire to drink of the water of life and eat of the fruit of the tree of life, we will do so. Scripture seems to indicate that we will not have to eat but that we can if we want to. After the resurrection of Jesus, He ate literal food, and I believe the tree of life is for our pleasure and enjoyment.

I find it hard to move on before reiterating what I feel are some very important points we have covered in just the first two verses this chapter thus far. So important that I would recommend one hold fast to them for future re-study or future sharing of this study!

The first two verses of **Chapter 22** establish the fact that, in our new glorified bodies, we, as inhabitants of the Holy City, will continue to enjoy the habit of eating. Why not? When we see Jesus, *we shall be like him (1 John 3:2)*. Since He ate in His glorified body (see **Luke 24:43**), why wouldn't we? Our text also describes the best drink we will ever enjoy— pure, refreshing water direct from the throne of God. Think of it! Distilled or chemically treated water is no longer necessary, for pollution has become nonexistent!

Not only do we have crystal clear water to drink, but we also enjoy delicious healthproducing fruit. In fact, the *tree of life* bears twelve manner of fruits and produces them monthly.

This is interesting. When Adam and Eve sinned by partaking of the *tree of knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:17)*, God drove them out of the Garden of Eden. He then stationed an angel before its entrance in order to keep them from eating the fruit of the *tree of life*, lest they eat and live eternally in their sinful state.

Now a new day has arrived. The saints are in the very presence of God, and may eat of *the tree of life* to their heart's content. Undoubtedly this tree plays a part in promoting one's endless existence, for even the leaves contain healing or health for the nations living under, or in the light of, the city. The word *health* is the proper translation, not *healing*. Since there is no sorrow, sickness, or pain, healing is unnecessary because eternal health is for all. In the heavenly city, doctors and nurses are permanently retired. Hallelujah!

C. **Verse 3:** *And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:*

1. The curse, which originated in the Garden of Eden and was partially removed during the Millennium, is now obliterated forever. What a refreshing thought of Paradise without a curse in it.
2. Paradise will contain the throne of God and of the Lamb, and His servants shall serve Him throughout eternity.

D. **Verse 4:** *And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.*

1. Think of it! We will observe the beauty of our Saviour's countenance daily as we live in His presence forever and ever.
  - a. When we look at the One who is altogether lovely and He, in turn, looks at us, He will observe His name indelibly inscribed upon our foreheads.



- b. Rather, it speaks of a series of events happening in rapid succession once they begin. In other words, when these things begin to come to pass (see **Luke 21:28**), the signs and events will fall into place so speedily—one after another—that a state of preparedness should be maintained.
- c. Hence, the admonition: *Blessed [or happy] is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.* Such an individual will be ready for the Lord's return. "*Behold I come quickly*" - Perhaps some may say, surely the Spirit must have been mistaken, because this verse talks about His coming. No, the Spirit is not mistaken. There is a reminder here that Jesus is coming again. Be prepared. What about your house, is it in order? Dear friend look about your home, your workplace for therein exists people who may not be ready for the soon appearing of the Lord! You have the precious "light of Jesus" within you, pass it along to others who exist in darkness. Be their light so they can find their way.

## II. THE BIBLE'S LAST MESSAGE. *Verses 8-17*

- A. *Verse 8: And John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.*
  - 1. Again John is reminding us that this isn't hearsay information. He saw and heard.
  - 2. When he saw and heard he was in such gratitude that he began to fall at the feet of the angel. Sometimes we become very grateful for the message and messages of God.
- B. *Verse 9: Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.*
  - 1. We are to worship God and Him only. He is a jealous God and refuses to take, second place.
  - 2. We are not to worship angels, saints, prophets, and oh yes, preachers. We can become disillusioned when we depend entirely on man.
  - 3. The angel reminded John that he was a fellow-servant.

**NOTE:** We poor mortals never learn, and evidently neither did John! John had already made the mistake of bowing before an angel and being rebuked in **Revelation 19:10**. Now he does it again! Fortunately, we have a God of love. He is willing to forgive the same mistake *seventy times seven* (**Matthew 18:22**). Only by His grace, love, compassion, and forgiveness are any of us able to continue. Thank you, Lord Jesus!

- C. **Verse 10:** *And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.*
1. Following God's revelation to Daniel, the prophet was told to *seal the book [until] the time of the end (Daniel 12:4)*.
  2. John, however, is forbidden to seal the Book of Revelation because *the time is at hand*, or has come.
  3. In the Greek, the word *time* is *kairos*, (καιρός) and means “opportune moment” or “correct season.” Most people are familiar with the standard translation of the Greek word translation *chronos* from which we get words such as chronological, etc. The best translation for *kairos* is season, ie: correct season!
  4. Thus, the angel is saying, “The time for the revealing of prophetic truth has come. People are to be made aware of the future. They must learn the history of the churches and the plan of the ages. Then, as they live in these periods of time, they will understand God's program. They will also realize that, once the events begin, they will speedily come to pass. Knowing this, they will prepare. Therefore, do not seal the prophecy of the sayings of this book.”
  5. Our study of the Book of Revelation has revealed that the Rapture, the Tribulation, and the Great White Throne Judgment will soon come to pass. As a result, some will realize that little time is left and will ask Christ to save them. Others will continue to harden their hearts. The decision is every individual's to make. One's acceptance or rejection of God's truth and the Lord Jesus Christ as one's personal Saviour will determine where one spends eternity and what one will be forever. Hence, the next statement...
- D. **Verse 11:** *He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.*
1. This verse indicates that the peoples formerly of earth, now in hell, are in a permanent state, which was fixed and determined at the second coming of Christ in the Revelation when all the wicked were judged and cast into the lake of fire. There will be no further opportunities for individuals to change in any way.
  2. Notice the two classes of bad and the two classes of good mentioned here:
    - a. The unrighteous as a class are contrasted with the righteous, and then the filthy are contrasted with the holy.
    - b. The wicked will remain wicked; the righteous will remain righteous.
    - c. All destinies are fixed by this point — all conditions are permanent. The eternal day has dawned.
  3. Choose this day what you shall be eternally!

- E. **Verses 12-13:** *And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. <sup>{13}</sup> I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.*
1. God's prophetic time clock is ticking, and every event will certainly and speedily come to pass.
  2. We are reminded of the certainty and the nearness of the return of Jesus... not returning simply to be cheered by expectant saints and sons, but coming with rewards, many and varied, to bestow upon each one according to the quality and character of stewardship rendered. No amount of service, regardless of the amount, will be overlooked or go unrewarded.
  3. The only one who can speak with eternal authority is speaking:
    - a. *the "Alpha and Omega"...*
    - b. Revelation is coming to a close just as it began, with the divine titles used in reference to Christ.
  4. How is He the beginning and the end? Explain it! I cannot! If I could I would be as wise as my God. I can't prove it but I know that it with the same surety as the beating of my heart. (**Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:1-2**) By my faith I know and that makes it all the more genuine.
  5. God is saying, "When I come, I will finish the work of redemption which I began, for I am the Alpha and Omega, *the author and finisher of [the] faith (Hebrews 12:2).*" If you receive the gospel invitation, you will be happy for...
- F. **Verses 14-15:** *Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. <sup>{15}</sup> For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.*
1. Greek authorities tell us that in the original language this should read, "*Blessed are they who have washed their robes,*" because the blessed are those who have trusted in the shed blood of the Son of God for the remission of sins.
  2. According to Dr. C. I. Scofield, a better rendering of **Verse 14** is, "*Blessed are they that wash their robes that they may have right to the tree of life.*" If one is seeking rights to the tree of life by commandment-keeping, he is planning to arrive in the eternal state by his works. This, of course, is impossible as we have learned through **Titus 3:5, Romans 4:5**, and numerous other texts.
  3. Dr. A. C. Gaebelein, Dr. H. A. Ironside, Dr. J. A. Seiss, and practically all noted Bible scholars also translate the verse, "*Blessed are they that wash their robes (in the blood of the Lamb) that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.*"

- a. The exact translation is “...that shall be their authority (ἐξουσίαν—right possessed by the authority given to one by Christ) to the tree”
  - b. The word “right” in the King James is the same word, in the original language, used in **John 1:12** translated power in the KJV. *Exousia* (ἐξουσίαν) first denotes freedom to act and then authority for the action. All believers hold their freedom to act from God (though some have abused it), and the price of that freedom was Calvary!
4. **Verse 15** does not mean that just outside the city limits are dogs, sorcerers, whoremongers, idolaters, etc. This verse refers to the same group and place as **Revelation 21:8**. There is no need to be confused about this verse. Those who are consecrated are happy, and happiness in this life will be rewarded with full joy and abundant reward on the other side.
  5. Those who reject the message of the blood and salvation by grace through faith in the completed work of Christ (see **Ephesians 2:8-9**) are reminded that they will never be allowed to partake of the tree-of-life!
  6. The crowd pictured in **Verse 15** is the one pictured in **Revelation 21:8**. The dogs are identical to the abominable of **Chapter 21**.
    - a. The abominable never lived it. <sup>{16}</sup>*They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. (Titus 1:16)*
    - b. The dogs went back to their dirt—their old sinful habits <sup>{22}</sup>*But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire. (2 Peter 2:22)*
  7. Both verses speak of individuals who lack the “new birth” experience—the one and only way a person can become a new creation in Christ Jesus (Note: **2 Corinthians 5:17** <sup>{17}</sup>*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.* There is absolutely no doubt about the destiny of those who reject God’s message and the truths revealed in the Book of Revelation, for...
- G. **Verse 16:** *I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.*
1. The instruction here in this verse clearly states that the churches must study this book and there is no excuse not to do so.
  2. Jesus Christ assures us that He is the root and offspring of David, He is the bright and morning star, and He will sit on the throne of David right here on this earth and reign in the by and by.
  3. Jesus Christ is the answer for man’s sin problems. He restores peace to the weary soul.

Before moving on to our next topic heading a couple of things are important enough that they need to be set aside from the outline!

The message of the revelation is true because Christ inaugurated and guarantees it. Who would dare question Him? In this verse, the Lord also calls himself the root and offspring of David. As the root, He is David's Lord—the preexistent God (see *Psalm 110:1*). As his offspring, He is David's son, the incarnate Christ (see *Matthew 22:41-46*).

*Psalm 110:1* <sup>{1}</sup>The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

*Matthew 22:41-46* <sup>{41}</sup>While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, <sup>{42}</sup>Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David. <sup>{43}</sup>He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, <sup>{44}</sup>The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? <sup>{45}</sup>If David then call him Lord, how is he his son? <sup>{46}</sup>And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.

This is a beautiful picture of the God-man, the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is also *the bright and morning star*. In fact, Peter calls Him *the day star* (**2 Peter 1:19**) <sup>{19}</sup>*We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.*(**2 Peter 1:19**)”

Now listen intently, for this is deeply moving. God so loves sinners that His compassionate heart must extend the gospel call one last time before the book closes. Oh, that modern-day ministers, men who possess massive television contracts, those who have the hearts of thousands at their beckoning call, those ministers everywhere, if they were as evangelistic as the Heavenly Father! Hear Him:

H. *Verse 17: And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*

1. In this text, God compassionately declares, “*Believe in Me.*” “*Come to Me.*” “*Invite Me into your heart and life.*” “*You have everything to gain and nothing to lose.*”
2. Everyone and everything is pulling for you:
  - a. The Holy Spirit is here pleading and calling.
  - b. The bride of Christ, the Church is preaching, praying and witnessing.
  - c. Everyone who hears and believes is pulling for you.
  - d. The glorious city in which the Bride dwells is saying, ‘Don’t you want me for your eternal home?’ Wouldn’t you rather live here than in hell. It’s not a hard decision, why do you make it so hard for yourself?

- e. Your own spiritual thirst is crying out, ‘I want to be satisfied.’” Then why not come and drink?
  - (1) The water of life is free.
  - (2) It is without cost or obligation for everyone, and *whosoever will* may come!
- f. If you have rejected this invitation, if you have considered the message of the Book of Revelation unimportant, or if you are among those who believe that the Book of Revelation is not part of the canon of Scripture—or that it is but a collection of riddles, simply a symbolic hoax perpetrating a myth—beware! For God himself warns one and all...

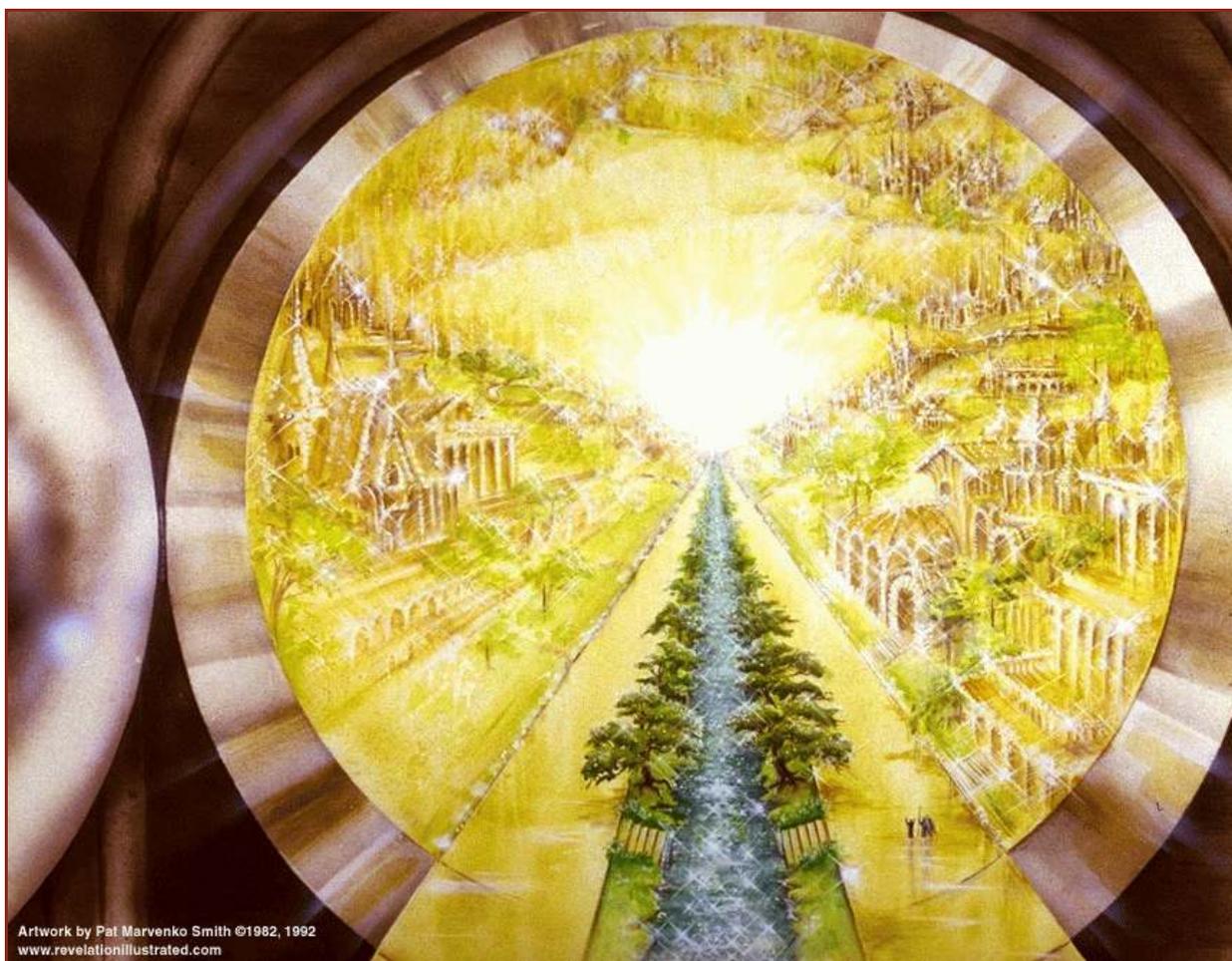
### III. A SOLEMN WARNING *Verses 18-19*

- A. ***Verses 18-19:*** <sup>18</sup>*For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: <sup>19</sup>And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*
- 1. These verses warns that judgment and fury shall be poured out upon all who tamper with Revelation.
  - a. ***Verse 18*** warns concerning adding to the book.
  - b. ***Verse 19*** warns the man who shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy.
- 2. This does surely mean that the “free” grace of God would be taken away from the offender. However, a true child of God’s will never attempt to tamper with His word.
- 3. Some do not take this warning very serious, many even disregard the entire writing of John as a dream scape. To be sure this is a strong judgmental warning!
  - a. With this serious admonition from Jehovah our Great God we are to first to take the Book of Revelation seriously! (Along with all Holy Writ see ***2 Timothy 3:16-17***)
  - b. God means what He says and says what He means. One is not to meddle with or handle lightly the truths which mean so much to the God of heaven and earth, for...(***Verse 20***)

#### IV. THE LAST PROMISE AND THE LAST PRAYER OF THE BIBLE! *Verses 20-21*

*Verses 20-21: He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. <sup>{21}</sup>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

1. In *Verse 20* the statement “*He which testifieth these things*” points back to all the things contained in Revelation. Thus the Lord assures us that the entire book of Revelation was dictated by Jesus Christ to John.
  2. God’s last promise as the Book of Revelation closes is, *Surely, I come quickly*. When one sees the beginning of these events and the rapid succession of signs following speedily, Jesus will come quickly— or suddenly.
- B. The response of His people is: *Amen*.
1. This expression literally means, *so be it (Jeremiah 11:5)*.  
*<sup>{5}</sup>That I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day. Then answered I, and said, So be it, O LORD. (Jeremiah 11:5)*
  2. And then they immediately add, “*Even so, come, Lord Jesus.*”
  3. The final message to the Church is that our Lord will return. Until this glorious event takes place and He calls us to himself *in the twinkling of an eye*, my prayer for every born–again child of God reflects the benediction of this blessed book: “*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*” ***Revelation 22:21***



**THROUGH THE GATE OF THE ETERNAL CITY**  
*(Revelation 21:21-27; 22:1-6)*

## “Welcome Home”

<sup>134</sup> ... Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: **Matthew 25:32 -34**

<sup>11</sup> Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>12</sup> In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>13</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. **John 14:1-3**



## BENEDICTION

To my study friends!

From the on-set, till it's conclusion, the writing of this study has become a fearful, overbearing burden to walk reverently and to be fearful when approaching our Heavenly Father, through His Son, Christ Jesus, even if it is just the opening of His Word, let it be done in reverence.

When a man, such as I, takes it upon himself to write a study guide such as "Revelation Unveiled" to which this to be made a part of and then one unties the mooring, sets sail on a ship of faith, that ship will continually be away from the home port. Once it is launched there is no returning to port. So, when that effort, in response to the leadership of the Holy Spirit, no matter how innocent and genuine it is, once launched, that ship may never return to it's place of origin. The journey of that ship that I discuss with each of you who are my study partners is known to you by now as "***Revelation Unveiled***" and until God brings all things to their pre-destined completion and end that ship will sail and with the use of the "World-Wide-Web" that ship has sailed beyond my wildest imagination, across the sea to other nations. What have I contributed to this study? Not so much in the grand scheme of our meager existence:

What of my knowledge when compared to our Heavenly Father, He who is all knowledge? It would be akin to me taking a water dropper, filling it with as much as I could possibly contribute of myself (*my contribution being the metaphor fort water, water being the metaphor of knowledge in this case*), rushing toward the east coast of North Carolina, rushing to prevent any evaporation, hurriedly running down to on the beach and while standing in the outward pull of a recent wave that has just broken on shore, I then take the dropper, with however much remains, and squeezing that dropper for all I could, those few drops of my knowledge would be swallowed up by the vastness of God's omniscience.

I have just presented an overly simplified example of how absurd it is for anyone to think they can just have their way with the Lord's Word. I think back at the zeal I had while in college. I was going to strike out and re-invent the way people understood the Bible. But then I come to realize that in doing so I would be guilty of either adding to or taking away, or perhaps both. I think back how this outline began. It was an assignment in a class on Prophetic Literature. We were learning out to organize our thoughts on paper. You know about those assignments that we all hated to do. Here I am today finally putting meat on the bones of that old outline that I turned in back in 1969. I have come full circle since then for the lesson I have learned in completing this work is that rather than contributing anything I have received!

I began my new life eternal one day when a vast wave from the River of Life filled my empty cup. I drank from that cup and I have never thirsted since. On the single-most important day of my life, that Sunday morning at Carroll Memorial Baptist Church, I took that child-like step of faith in June of 1966.

Dear friend, have you come to a place in your life where you can specifically know and recount a precise moment, a moment when God's invitation was clearly given and your response to that invitation was accepted?

There are many members of thousands upon thousands of churches around the

world. Recent polling indicated that in some parts of America, there are more members, on existing roles kept by churches, than there are actual people. In other words, many people move from church to church uniting on statements of faith never having their names removed from their former church. Church membership cannot save a person. Going to church, week in and week out, does not a Christian make! If that were the case, therein one could say, "I have worked hard all my life to be the best Christian that I know how to be." (Sound familiar? I here such statements as this in the community of the church!) So here they are, the "church" (*not the true Church of Christ*) they have earned their way with certificates of completion of this study or that study acquiring the much sought after prize, being esteemed by their counterparts of the local assembly as "Super Church Member, in key leadership." On the other side of the church membership coin we see the exact opposite, true believers, faithful not to man or his programs but rather true to their relationship with their beloved Saviour, Christ Jesus. They are those who work steadfastly in the background not seeking the approval of any man but rather serving at the pleasure of their Saviour. It's a two side coin, it is the parable of the wheat and tares (*Matthew 13:25*) when Christ prophesied of the "Church Age," the parable of the Kingdom. The tares are ones who have been brought up believing in the traditions and rules of men. They perhaps have been in church all their lives. By some twisted way of attrition they are slowly absorbed into the church membership never once going by way of Calvary's tree. They have become what they are by not observing the Acts of the Apostles, but rather the acts of others that they perceive to be true saints of God. It is sad because they have fallen into the snare of Lucifer, the deceiver, who has them believing a lie (*sound familiar Genesis 1:1-3:24*). So it is, our churches are full of tares! The sad state of the modern-day church is that we never challenge the decision that people make when they desire to unite with the church. By taking this apathetic approach, Satan has found his way of over sowing the church, the wheat, with his tares. At first glance they look alike. They sound alike. They sing the wondrous hymns such as "Amazing Grace...*I once was lost, but...*" Their true lives can never go beyond that beginning phrase, if the truth were fully know. The can't sing "*but now I'm found*"...for if truth is to be applied they are never found and many need to find the truth. The simple church members are just as lost as any murderer, whoremonger, drug addict. They exist right in our very churches today. They hold offices. They teach the gospel to students of Sunday school classes. Some are Pastors, some are deacons, yes, many are ordained by men but be sure it was not of God.

As a pastor I bear a greater degree of responsibility than that of a layperson. The teachings of our Lord are clearly set out in His Word—with our responsibilities we pastors are charged to guard the sanctity of the Church. To be willing to lay down our life if necessary to prevent the body of Christ from becoming corrupted by these tares—we have the very souls of men in the grip of this world. A great tug-of-war against principalities of the air (*the devil and his army*).

Here we are in the glorious days of the church knowing and waiting upon the soon to be appearance of the Saviour. The painful truth must be applied with temperance and prayer, yes prayer. It has been reported that we have as many as 75% of all church members are L-O-S-T, yes lost. Church roles are made up of all sorts, some are sweet plain ordinary "good folk" never wanting to hurt anyone avoiding all confrontation regardless of whether it is scriptural or necessary. Then we have the trouble makers who seem to have a steady diet of sour milk, molded bread, and their glasses are never half-full

but always half empty. Instead of feeding of the Manna from God (*His sacred Word*) the choose to feed on the molded bread (*the teachings of men and their programs*). True believers diets consist of the Manna from God and their glasses are filled with the “Living Water” that flows from Emmanuel’s veins. So we have this two-sided coin in the church. Each side seems to look the same but only God is able to bring the judgment, we who are believers are to remain true to His Word, keep the faith and work till Jesus comes. Only the fruit of Christian faith will distinguish the difference between the wheat (*that bears fruit, the grain*) and the tares (*that is impotent, and cannot bear the fruit of the Spirit of God*) and so we as believers must bear fruit. By not doing so the church has begun to look to the world that there is no difference to be seen. The cannot see the true spirit of God at work unless the Saints of God return to their Saviour and reach to lost, the preach the true Word of God, without apology, in season or out of season.

When it comes right down to the finer points, a Bible-based, Christ-led pulpit must return. Today the pulpits lie silent in the matter of eschatology and prophetic teaching. The are silent regarding the complete Gospel of Jesus Christ. You must understand that Christ spoke a great deal about Heaven but He continually warned many about the condemnation of sin and Hell. We must teach the love of Christ along with the condemnation of sin. Pulpits today seem to be no more than a place for a motivational speaker who stands before thousands giving talking points on the positive matters that they choose and pick out of the scripture all the while avoiding the scripture that might offend the sinner. Without conviction of sin there can be no decision to turn away from it. There is no excuse for the pulpit to remain impotent regarding the true revelation of God’s Holy Word. Come alive my fellow pastors, preach and teach the whole Word of God. Take a step of faith and allow God to bring His revelation to you. The Holy Spirit is present each and every day in my study. He is there to console me, to encourage me, and to give me the revelation of His word. <sup>15</sup>*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.* <sup>16</sup>*In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.* (**Proverbs 3:5-6**) It is time to quit relying in prepackaged ministry with all it’s seducing factors that seem to amaze people who can follow along while a giant screen spoon feeds the congregation with some power-point presentation. Men of God need to return to the roots of their faith and stop relying of the worldly tools of the trade to reach people. God’s Word is pure and simple in it’s proclamation is simple—we evangelize by witnessing. There is nothing in God’s word that says a lost person has to come to God’s house. We, the saints, are to leave the house of God and take the pure unadulterated Word to a lost and dying world. We don’t have to complete study courses to accomplish this. We have to learn to depend upon the Holy Spirit for His guidance and He will give the words to utter in the presence of lost people. Faith, that same child-like faith that you had when you acted upon the invitation of accept Christ is all that is needed. God will do the rest. A simple faith, acted upon in prayer, Bible study that is pure of the revelations of God if approached in faith. In faith the possibilities are limitless—for *all things are possible with God*—claim it today in Jesus name! It is my humble prayer that the pulpit return to it’s original state, that of being God’s sacred desk, with His Word, not man’s, along a selfless man standing behind that sacred desk who is give over completely to the leadership of the Holy Spirit, plain and simple!

Again, if the pulpit continues to remain silent on the matter of the soon appearing of our blessed Saviour, silent on the matter of the whole Gospel message, then the church will continue in it’s downward decline. The silence is so loud that it has become the

greatest contributing factor to the suppression of or even the invalidation of the Word of God by the Devil and his legions that God must surely bring judgment upon this world. My fellow servants we must remain vigilant in our study of this sacred writing. We must continue to keep the book of Revelation relevant. We are on crying in the wilderness, *Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand!*

If the pulpit of your church is silent on these matters then challenge your pastor to begin anew. The pulpit is for the purpose of putting forth for the sake of truth what is truth—to denounce as error, to condemn, repudiate, or emasculate what many men do today. The Book Revelation is not a popular book of study in many a church today but when it is studied men take upon themselves a greater degree of responsibility to hold fast to its teachings. If, after it is studied, men choose to disobey the warnings therein, what God Himself hath set forth, then it becomes one of those high crimes, not only against God, but against the souls of men, which cannot go unpunished. So I stand before you my fellow laborers with my hand outstretched to God seeking His counsel and leadership.

You see when the task of writing this study guide was placed upon my heart, by the Holy Spirit, I groaned in my spirit. Why? Because I knew the brevity of life was before me and the souls of hundreds could find this study and make use of it. When anyone receives teaching from a teacher, that teacher becomes the steward of the student's quest for knowledge. Let me explain what I mean. First of all, when someone makes a decision regarding their spiritual welfare and their relationship with the Father is damaged in any way then that is laid to my charge. For if I erred in my teaching then I will have to answer for myself and the actions of others, who have studied this material, their spiritual estate, if damaged, I am held doubly responsible. This spiritual symbiotic connection will exist through the time right down to that day when I stand before Christ, at the Bema Seat and give account. So you begin to see what should be on the mind of anyone undertaking the responsibility of writing and teaching such a work as "Revelation Unveiled" that I am now about to conclude.

Secondly, with regard to "Revelation Unveiled" I am still enraptured by the content of Revelation along with other apocalyptic teachings found in the Word of God. So it is with an honest and ever-prayerful heart, along with these solemn awful warnings ever before my eyes, that I have endeavored to ascertain and indicate in this study guide what our gracious Lord and Master, Christ Jesus, has placed in His holy Word—to make it known and defend it throughout the ages. If I have read into this Book anything which He has not put there, or read and omitted anything that He has placed there, it would be with the profoundest sorrow I would retract, spend the rest of my life acquiring any books that I have handed out in studies to destroy and surely to remove all material from the internet and try as I might to prevent any further contamination of God's Holy Writ. For if I have gone beyond the limits of God's leadership in what is written herein, or curtailed in any way the depth and measure of what Jesus by His Holy Spirit and angel has signified for the learning of the Churches, then I need not be concerned with the condemnation of men to heap upon me the burden of censure which I would deserve. God will surely judge me now and in that day! If feebleness, or rashness, or excessive confidence in my own understanding has distorted anything, I can only regret my fault, repent and pray that God send a man more competent to unfold to us the mighty truths which here stand written.

According to the grace and light given me, I have spoken. And before God, angels and men, I am compelled to protest, especially, against all that modern interpretation

which dwarfs this book into an overwrought and undetermined showing of a few meager chapters of the Church's history this side of the day of judgment. If I err, God forgive me! If I have truly done accordingly to God's leadership, then I pray that God will bless my feeble testimony! In either case, God speed His everlasting truth, Christ Jesus to bring about our redemption!

Yet one other point remains to be noticed. It is Christ's own final summation of the contents of this Book. From the beginning we are told that it was to show the Unveiling of the Revelation of Jesus! The whole series of visions fit together as so many successive acts and administrations in the closing up of this present world, and the introduction of the eternal order, according to God's eternal purpose. And so here, in the last words of the Book, the Saviour himself sums up the all-comprehending substance of the whole in this one brief sentence: "*He who testifieth these things saith, YEA, I COME QUICKLY.*"

Have you ever looked carefully into the subject, without being struck with the overwhelming prominence which the Scriptures everywhere assign to the coming again of the Lord Jesus? The New Testament has more references to the coming of the Lord than it has pages. Of all the seven or eight thousand (7,000-8,000) verses of which it is composed, one out of every **twenty-five** points forward with eager signaling to the appearing again of the Lord Jesus. Again and again it is set forth as the great hope of the Church. There is not a Christian grace or virtue for the enforcement of which appeal is not made to it. Nor is there another subject upon which more stress is laid in all the Word of God. To many, indeed, it is anything but welcome.

Unfortunately there are professing Christians who would rather not hear about it, and who, if they could have their way, would erase it from the Word of God, and silence all preaching concerning it. But the religion of such is much aside from the Scriptures, and occasion is urgent for them to rise up and re-examine themselves and relay their foundations upon the solid rock. *Christian faith and hope have no outcome but in the glorious Apocalypse of Jesus.* And only when we come to understand that the coming again of Christ is the fulfilment of the things described in this Book, can we appreciate why so much is referred to that coming, and why the venerable Apostle should here, at the end of His Book, bow his gray-haired head, and say, and write, his solemn "*AMEN. EVEN SO COME, LORD JESUS.*"

The truth is, my friends, that there is no greater or gladder promise in all the Book of God, than this last word of Jesus to His people, "*Yea, I come quickly.*" So what of this promise?

Well it is:

THE PROMISES OF PROMISES—

THE CROWN OF CONSUMMATION OF ALL PROMISE—

THE CORONATION OF ALL EVANGELIC HOPES—

THE SUM OF ALL PROPHECY AND PRAYER.

So we finally arrived to what is considered the end of all teaching through the "Plenary Verbal Inspiration" of God to all His penmen, transcribers, translators, all who have touched "The Word" from the beginning of all there was or ever will be. God, through the ages has inspired men to write, and they did! But after the writing, what then? God has kept His word, fitly joined together. It has seen much in the way of man's design methods. These designs can

be seen in the hands-on working of leather binders, production of papers like onion skin, all for the purpose of marketing these wonderful teachings of the Almighty. These renowned men have taken it upon themselves by the oversight of God to keep these teachings together so that we now have a method of study today. Even as this great nation was being founded, settlers only had few books and they brought with them the authorized version of 1611 and many a child has learned to read and write using the Holy Word of God.

Nature and grace alike proclaim a glorified Messiah, come again from heaven in his almightiness, as indispensable to complete their appointed course. Nature calls for him thus to come, to rectify her unwilling disorders, to repair her shattered structures, to restore her oppressed energies, to vindicate her voice of conscience long despised, here sublime testimony to the Creator so long question and overlooked. But grace sends forth a still mightier call. If the whole creation groans and travails together in pain for the manifestation of the sons of God, how much more those sons of God themselves?

And why should not this be our spirit? Compare the sordidness of this world with the crystal purity and splendour of the New Jerusalem. Think of the dust, and dearth, and soil and toil of earth, in comparison with that River and Tree of Life which refresh, and adorn, and satisfy the dwellers in those eternal mansions. Consider the ill mixtures, defects weariness, vexations, darkness, and disabilities of life here, alongside of the perfections and sublimities which mark the society and estate of those who walk those streets of gold. Why should we wish to suffer, and toil, and sigh amid the miseries of a scene like this, when such a city of unchanging blessedness throws open its gates of pearl for our admission? Are we so in love with aches, and ills, and wrongs, and disappointments, and treacheries, and diseases, and death-beds, and graves, and torments and temptations of Satan, as not to be willing to be done with them forever? With what ardor, then and delight, and enthusiastic joy, should we embrace this word of our Saviour, ***“Yea, I come quickly!”***

Is there no mind for the realization of that precious *“liberty of the children of God,”*

- No wish to behold our lowliness glorified in the glory of the Man of Nazareth,
- No longing to have our humble labor recognized and approved by our enthroned Redeemer,
- No appreciation of the vindication of our persevering faith, of the consummation of our hopes and prayers, of the brightening of our love and charity into rewards eternal and infinite?

In the weakness of man and in the working of God, everything in and about us, yearns and calls and prophesies for the coming again of Jesus—found in all places except for the cold, unfeeling, un sanctified heart of man! But there, no voice is heard going forth to bid the Lord of salvation welcome! People’s hearts are tempered to the world’s corruptions, and how can they embrace an immortality of meekness, simplicity, and love? Men’s spirits are predisposed to seek unholy ends by means still more unholy, and how can they endure the bringing in of everlasting righteousness? Their forethought, hopes, and aims are bound to things of time and sense, and how can they consider it and ponder it in their hearts any other way than with terror so complete a change as that when he who now rules behind a mass of permitted evils visibly assumes the reins of universal dominion? Of course all these are ill at ease with our doctrines, and well may tremble, and call to rocks and mountains to cover them and hide them from the conviction of sin and sorrow which Christ’s Unveiling must bring to souls so fleshly.

Now let all God's saints hold fast the blessed hope, and lift up their heads as they see the time approaching. What is there to command our fondest joy, our gladdest anticipation, if not this coming day of our completed happiness and finished redemption? Come now Oh Lord, I pray, let it be today and not tomorrow!

Fiction has painted the picture of a maiden whose lover left her for a voyage to the Holy Land, promising on his return to make her his beloved bride. Many told her that she would never see him again. But she believed his word, and evening by evening she went down to the lonely shore, and there kindled a beacon-light in sight of the roaring waves, to hail and welcome the returning ship which was to bring again her betrothed. And by that watchfire she took her stand each night, praying to the winds to hasten on the sluggish sails, that he who was everything to her might come.

Even so that blessed Lord, who has loved us unto death, has gone away to the mysterious Holy Land of heaven, promising on his return to make us his happy eternal Bride. Some say that he has gone forever, and that we shall never see Him. But his last word was, "***Yea, I come quickly.***" And on the dark and misty beach sloping out into the eternal sea, each true believer stands by the love-lit fire, looking, and waiting, and praying and hoping for the fulfillment of His word, in nothing gladder than in His pledge and promise, and calling ever from the soul of sacred love, "**EVEN SO COME, LORD JESUS.**" And some of these nights, while the world is busy with its frivolous ways, laughing at the maiden on the shore, making the true bride of Christ the brunt of hateful ridicule, a form shall rise over the surging waves, as once on Galilee, to vindicate forever all this watching and devotion, and bring to the faithful and constant heart a joy, and glory, and triumph which never more shall end. Praise God, Even so come quickly, Lord!

To bring listless and uninstructed souls believingly and intelligently to the position and attitude of that maiden, the Church, is the hope and intent of this Book, and to that purpose this course of study is based upon. And so if as a result of this long course of study any attendee to the study or any internet study partner are brought to such LOVE-WAITING and WATCHING on these dark shores of time, that we now live, then with thanks and praises to Him from whom has come the grace, and with heart and soul set in confidence that the speedy fulfillment of all prophecies come to a speedy fulfillment. The wonders we have been contemplating, the shared vision of John that we have been privy to participate, I am now content to take my leave of these my labors, trusting the power and authority of the Holy Spirit to keep these teachings ever present before each of you. That with the attained knowledge each of you now possess that you will go forth, while preparing the way, bearing witness of the Salvation of God. That as you work you will be able to sing that great old Hymn, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes."

*"The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all."*

**AMEN.**

***D.C. Jackson***



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Chafer, Lewis Sperry, *Systematic Theology*
- Church, Jerry R., *Prophecy in the News Computer Digest*
- de Liguori, Alphonse, "The Glories of Mary," *Europe magazine*
- French, Nancy, *Computer World Magazine*
- Gaebelein, A.C., *The Revelation*
- Gaverluk, Emil, *Caleb Communications U.S.A.*
- Gibbons, Edward, *The History of the Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire*
- Hilsop, Alexander, *The Two Babylons*
- Hoar, William P., *Review of the News*
- Hodge, Charles, *Systematic Theology, Part Four, Eshatology*
- Ironside, H.A., *Lectures of the Book of Revelation*
- Larkin, Clarence, *Dispensational Truth*
- Logsdon, S. Franklin, *Is the U.S.A. in Prophecy?*
- Newman, Albert Henry, D.D., LL.D. , *A Manual of Church History*
- McAulfee, Kathleen, *Omni magazine*
- Mendlovitz, Saul, *Review of the News*
- Peterson, Paul, *Sinister World Computerization*
- Ryrie, Charles Caldwell, *Everyman's Bible Commentary—Revelation*
- Schaff, Phillip, *History of the Christian Church-Modern Christianity*
- Scofield, C.I., *Scofield Reference Bible*
- Scott, Paul, *Washington News Intelligence Syndicate*
- Seiss, J.A., *The Apocalypse: Lectures on the Book of Revelation*
- Spaak, Henry, *Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications*
- Stagg, Frank, *New Testament Theology; Chapter 12 Eschatology; The Goal of History*
- Stoner, Peter, *Science Speaks*
- Ulmer, Kevin, *Omni magazine*
- Unger, Merrill F., *Unger's Bible Dictionary Vaticano Illustrate II*
- Wolfson, Seymour, *The Detroit News*