Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series Study #77: "Surely, I Come Quickly" Revelation 22:1 - 21 Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

What does John see at the beginning of the last and eighth vision while viewing the heavenly scenes of the New Jerusalem?

Revelation 22:1

1 And he shewed me a <u>pure river of water of life</u>, clear as crystal, <u>proceeding out of the throne</u> of God and of the Lamb.

<u>Water is the essence of life.</u> Every living cell depends on it for life. John literally sees the origin of the water of life coming from the throne of God and Jesus! This water of life is pure and undefiled, no poison nor toxins.

What does the water of life represent?

Ephesians 5:25 - 27

- 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
- 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

John 15:3

3 Now ye are <u>clean through the word</u> which I have spoken unto you.

Psalm 119:9

9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

The Word of God is the water of life that cleanses and makes us whole.

The Word, Jesus manifested Himself in the flesh to cleanse us from sin!

John 1:1 – 3, 14

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 14 And the **Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Jesus says,

John 5:39

39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me

The Word of life which is the water of life flows from Jesus to the world!

Woman at the well scene (brief)

John 4:10, 14

14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

Who else does the water of life represent? John 7:38, 39

- 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.
- 39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Isaiah 44:3

3 For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will **pour my spirit** upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring

The Holy Spirit is the also the water of life to empower to take heed and be obedient to the Word.

Acts 2:17

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will **pour out of my Spirit** upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Who is the water of life offered to? John 7:37

37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

Revelation 21:6

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Jesus offers this pure water of life freely. This water will lead you to ALL truth. So every time we drink a glass of water or bathe it should remind us of our spiritual dependence on the water of life, the Truth, Jesus Himself. We cannot survive or quench our thirst spiritually without Him, neither can we be cleansed without the water of life.

Remember God's Word, the water is truth!

John 17:17

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

The opposite to the water of life is the wine of Babylon, tainted with deadly poison that leads to eternal death.

It is the 'wine of Babylon" that flows from the evil throne of Satan. Remember the wine of Babylon is the false doctrines of Babylon that we studied in Revelation 14. False doctrines such as 1- the dead go straight to heaven or hell after death 2-That the living can speak to the dead 3-The Sabbath is first day of the week, Sunday 4- We don't have to keep the commandments 5-You can't be perfect.

The wine of Babylon makes you drunk, but the pure water of life coming from the throne of God gives clarity and life!

Which one are you drinking from? Wine of Babylon or the pure water of life.

In the past what two evils did God's people commit at the time of the prophet Jeremiah? Jeremiah 2:13

13 For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

- 1) They for sook God!
- 2) Symbolically cisterns are their doctrines or beliefs. They hewed their own doctrines not based on the word of God but the traditions and prestige of man. Doctrines that cannot hold the water of life because they are based on lies.

Jeremiah 17:13

13 O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters.

What is the church sipping on today? What are you sipping on?

Many churches today have done the same thing; their doctrines and beliefs are no longer based on the water of life, the Word of God, but the thoughts of man, the trends of the times, and traditions! These false doctrines cannot hold water! This is the wine of Babylon. If the church is sipping on the wine of Babylon instead of the pure water of life, we need to get out!

After John sees the water of life coming from the throne of God and Jesus what does he see next?

Revelation 22:2

22 In the midst of the street (broadway of the river) 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.

Over arching the river flowing with the water of life is the tree of life that gives a different fruit each month of the year, 12 months. Remember 12 represents 12 tribes, 12 disciples/apostles, 12 x 12,000 is 144,000 representing the last day world wide disciples/apostle...

This is proof that God is not going to totally get rid of time, days, and months. He created it from the beginning. It is evident here that it will continue. You cannot have months without days and you cannot have days without time (24 hours).

Why is this defined time important throughout eternity? What special time will we have together in the new Heaven and new Earth?

Isaiah 66:22, 23

22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

23 And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon (new month) to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

Going back to the tree of life that has 12 different fruit every month. This tree of life mentioned in Genesis is in the midst of the garden of Eden. The tree of life has the power to extend time & life into everlasting life.

Even after Adam and Eve sinned, if they were allowed to continue to eat from the tree of life they would have had a life of sin, misery, and pain forever. This is the reason why God had to guard the tree of life after they where kicked out of the garden.

Genesis 3:22 - 24

- 22 And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:
- 23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.
- 24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Who will have the privilege of eating from the tree of life in the everlasting kingdom?

Revelation 22:14

14 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.

Who will not be in the Heavenly city?

Revelation 22:15

15 For without are dogs (Gk: corrupt/impure mind), and sorcerers (Gk: pharmakos or pharmakeus – druggist/pharmacist), and whoremongers (fornicator – physically and spiritually), and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

These are they that refused to keep God's commandments! Those who continued to drink from the wine of Babylon instead of the pure water of life. Remember the commandments of God reveals sin.

What will the environment be like in the everlasting heavenly kingdom? And whose face will we see?

Revelation 22:3 - 5

- 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:
- 4 And they shall see his face; and his name (Gk: character) shall be in their foreheads.
- 5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Not only will we see the face of Jesus but we will also see the face of the Father! We will see it because we have His character in our forehead. His character will be a part of who we are.

What was John's response when He saw the eighth and final vision of Revelation?

Revelation 22:8

8 And I 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.

What was the angel's response?

Revelation 22:9

9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy **fellowservant**, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: **worship God.**

What was John instructed to do with the book of Revelation?

Revelation 22:10

10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

In other words, John was instructed to spread the truth of Revelation far and wide to the whole world. This is an urgent message because time as we know it on this planet is soon to end! Jesus will fulfill His promise, He is coming very, very soon!

What will be the words of final judgment that Jesus will give at the close of probation?

Revelation 22:11

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.

What is the urgent message warning and hope that Jesus is giving to us NOW? Revelation 22:6, 7

6 And he said unto me, These sayings *are* **faithful and true:** and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed *is* he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation 22:12, 13, 16, 17

- **12** And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give **every man according as his work** shall be.
- 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.
- 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.
- 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.**

What is the warning for those who add or take away from the words of this prophetic book of Revelation?

Revelation 22:18, 19

- **18** 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:
- 19 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.

Remember. Revelation is about the revealing of Jesus. It is the WORD of God! It is HOLY. Revelation is the root of the book of the Bible... it puts it ALL together. It is the foundation for those in the last days.

How does God end the book of Revelation & the Bible?

Revelation 22:20, 21

20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. 21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. **Amen.**

Jesus makes it clear that the book of Revelation is His testimony and that He is "surely" coming quickly and we MUST be ready before He comes.

The LAST verse of the Bible says "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. AMEN.

Remember grace is God's divine favor NOT divine excuse to overlook sin or the breaking of the commandments of God.

Remember we are saved by GRACE... a gift from God to rid us from sin. When we are in sin we are "under" the condemnation or penalty of the Ten Commandments. But when we give ourselves to Christ we are no longer under the penalty of the commandment but UNDER GRACE. Because it is grace that has made the provision to be saved. This is the true grace from Jesus Christ. Cheap manmade grace excuses sin and make excuses of not keeping the commandments of God.

Why does Jesus end the book of Revelation, the Bible with Amen?

Greek: Amen is amēn [am-ane']

Of Hebrew origin [H543]; properly *firm*, that is, (figuratively) *trustworthy*; adverbially *surely* (often as interjection *so be it*): - amen, verily.

"Amen" at the end of the Bible confirms the authenticity and the trustworthiness of God's Word. It is sure! That is why we can have a MORE SURE word of Bible prophecy! Jesus wants His people to have full confidence and faith in HIS Word that you are willing to give up your life for the truth of God's Word.

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