

THE BOOK OF REVELATION
CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO
"THE ETERNAL PARADISE"

I. THE LIVING CONDITIONS IN ETERNITY

A. Will be sustained by the Lord and evidenced in providing man with two things (1-2).

1. In this new paradise there will be a _____ of water of life (1). Proceeding from God's throne speaks not only of life as originating in Him but also of the eternity. Just as there was a river in the Edenic Paradise before the fall and subsequent curse (Gen. 2:10-14), a river will characterize the new city.

2. In the city will be a _____ of life (2).

a. Note the tree will span the river so that it will be on both sides of the river.

b. This tree will bear 12 kinds of fruit and yield its fruit every month. Its leaves will be for the "health" (not healing) of the nations. There will be no sickness in the new paradise so what this probably means is the relationship between nations will be well and not corrupt.

c. This tree will rightly represent the eternal state. In the garden of Eden when Adam and Eve sinned the way to the tree of life was guarded so they wouldn't eat and live forever, the tree in the new paradise will be a testimony that man will live forever in this blessed condition after the curse is removed.

B. Will be a blessing beyond comparison with the curse being removed (3) Hallelujah!

1. We note that the curse would be partially lifted during the Millennial Reign but in the new paradise it will be completely _____.

2. In the garden of paradise after Adam and Eve sinned this brought God's curse upon them and they had to _____ their paradise (Gen. 3:23). But we see in the new paradise with the curse removed man will never have to leave it.

C. Will include an eternal state of unbroken fellowship with God (4).

When Adam and Eve sinned they forfeited their former state of fellowship with God (Gen. 3:8). But in the new paradise this will not happen. God's _____ will be upon those redeemed which speaks of eternal ownership.

D. Will reflect and redound to God's glory with no need of the sun in the eternal city (5).

1. Note the word "there" is a reference to the _____ in particular.
2. It seems apparent that there will be day and night forever (Rev. 14:11, 20:10), but the glory of God will do away with the night in the new _____.

E. Will comprise a rule of life that will never end and it will no doubt involve other things (5).

1. In eternity the saints will receive full _____ (I Cor. 13:12).
2. In eternity the atmosphere will be that of perfect _____ (Rev. 21:27).
3. The saints will also enjoy a life of _____ (II Cor. 4:17).
4. The saints will also enjoy a life of service and _____ (Rev. 7:9-12; 22:3).

II. THE LAST COMMENTS TO ENCOURAGE AND EXHORT (6-21)

A. Come from the angel who showed John this city (6-15) note 21:9,10; 22:1)

1. He testifies to the Lord's promise concerning His sudden _____ (6-7).
2. He says the one who keep the words of this book will be _____ (7).
This book no doubt honors the Lord Jesus more than any other book of the Bible.
3. The angel rebukes John and commands him not to _____ this prophecy (8-10).
 - a. Note that John attempted this earlier (Rev. 19:10) and that the worship of men is unscriptural (Acts 10:25:26).
 - b. The reason this prophecy is not sealed is because the time is at hand. This dispensation of the church could come to a close at any time.
4. He warns that present decisions could mean permanent destinies (11). This reveals the states of those saved and those unsaved for all eternity.
5. He reminds everyone of the Lord's return and challenges believers concerning _____ (12-15).
 - a. This challenge has in view the judgment seat of _____ (II Cor. 5:10,11).
 - b. This challenge of being blessed to enter the city and having a right to the tree of life is an encouragement concerning the new paradise (14).

c. The reference in verse 15 to those outside the city is a reference once more to those _____ who will be in the lake of fire for eternity (Rev. 21:8,27).

B. Come from the testimony of the Lord Himself (16-19).

1. He confirms the testimony of the angel and identifies Himself (16).

a. We note this identification is with _____ as "the root and offspring of David" and with the _____ as "the Bright and Morning Star".

b. We see then to deny the prophecies of this book is to also deny the words of the _____.

2. He offers living water to whosoever will take it (17).

a. This offer is given through the Holy Spirit and through the Bride which is the _____.

b. He even uses those that hear and may not believe but who invite others.

3. He warns of adding and taking away from these prophecies (18-19).

a. Failure to heed this warning means condemnation and eternal _____.

b. This is not an intimation that one who is saved may lose his salvation. The child of God will not do these things. It is the unsaved man who lacks faith and spiritual discernment that denies these things because he enthrones reason and intellect as his measure of things.

C. Come finally from John's testimony (20-21).

1. He affirms also that the Lord's coming will be _____ (20).

2. He ends with his own prayer and benediction (20-21).

a. John had seen the rapture of the church, the tribulation period, the Millennium, the wicked judged, the new heaven and the new earth, and the eternal paradise for believers.

b. The one event necessary to begin all these things was the Lord's _____ so this is what John wanted to see.

