

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

chapter 22

Lesson 23

Revelation 22 is a continuation of the glorious eternal life of the believer. Three times Jesus reminds us that He is *coming quickly*. May our response be as John's. *Even so, come Lord Jesus!*

OBSERVATION: Read Revelation 22

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns.
Key Words: God, Jesus/Lamb, Spirit, come/coming, and the Book of Life
3. Jesus is referred to as the *Lamb* in this chapter. Underline the other titles attributed to Him in verses 13 and 16.
 - a. List those titles.
4. The contrasting word *but* is used two times in Revelation 22. Mark the word and record what is being contrasted.
5. Using the text of Revelation 22, draw (on a separate sheet of paper) what you think John saw.
 - a. What did you observe by drawing the descriptions in chapter 22, that you had not noticed before drawing the chapter?

Read Revelation 22:1-5

1. In Revelation 22:1, John was shown a *river*. What three descriptions are given concerning this *river*?
 - a. What do these descriptions convey to you about this *river*?
 - b. Use Psalm 46:4-5 to comment further on this *river*.
2. Read Revelation 22:2 and remark on the following aspects of the *tree of life*:
 - a. Location and accessibility
 - b. Produce
 - c. Purpose
 - 1.) To see what happened to the *tree of life* originally, read Genesis 3:22-24. What does the presence of the *tree of life* in the New Jerusalem signify?
3. According to Revelation 22:3a, what *shall be no more*?
 - a. Review the implications of the *curse* from Genesis 3:17-19. Why is it a blessing that this *curse* will be eradicated?
4. According to Revelation 22:3b, what *shall be* in this city?
5. What three things shall characterize His servants? Revelation 22:3c-4
 - a. As a servant of the Lord, share how you are encouraged by these three characteristics.
6. Why will there *be no night*? Revelation 22:5
 - a. How long will God's people *reign*?
7. What excites you most about this glorious scene to come?

Read Revelation 22:6-11

1. What was told to John concerning *these words*? Revelation 22:6a
 - a. Why do you think this was stated?
 - b. Why did God send His *angel*? Revelation 22:6c
2. Print Jesus' declaration from Revelation 22:7a.
 - a. The Greek word for *quickly* actually means *suddenly*. How does this correspond with His statement in Matthew 24:44?
 - b. Who will be *blessed*? Revelation 22:7b
 - 1.) How will you *keep* these words?
3. How did John react when he *heard and saw* these things? Revelation 22:8
 - a. Compare this with Revelation 19:6-10 and comment.
 - 1.) Realizing that John almost made this folly twice, how can we be on guard against this?
 - b. What did the *angel* say in response to John's actions in Revelation 22:9a?
 - 1.) How did this *angel* describe himself? Revelation 22:9b
 - 2.) What was his instruction to John? Revelation 22:9c
4. Read Revelation 22:10a and record what the *angel* told John not to do.
 - a. Why was he *not* to do this? Revelation 22:10b

b. Contrast this with what Daniel was told in Daniel 8:26. What do you see?

1.) What does this communicate concerning the things God has revealed in Revelation?

5. Read the warning given in Revelation 22:11. One commentator wrote concerning this verse, "It is the hopelessness of the final state of the wicked which is here pictured. The states of both the evil and the good are now fixed forever. There is no word here about a 'second chance' hereafter." Share your thoughts about this warning.

Read Revelation 22:12-17

1. What did Jesus declare in Revelation 22:12?

a. Use the parable in Matthew 25:14-29 to understand and comment on the *reward*.

2. Compare Jesus' self-declaration in Revelation 22:13 with Revelation 21:6. What do you notice?

a. State how this declaration ministers to you.

3. How will those who do His *commandments* be blessed? Revelation 22:14

a. Share an instance when you experienced the blessing of obedience to God.

4. List those who were *outside*. Revelation 22:15

a. These outsiders will never see or experience the glory to come. How are you affected by this reality?

5. Why did Jesus send His *angel*? Revelation 22:16a
6. What invitation was given by the *Spirit and the bride*? Revelation 22:17a
 - a. How does this invitation parallel that given by Jesus in John 7:37–38?
 - b. Who can *take the water of life freely*? Revelation 22:17c
 - c. What do these things reveal concerning the heart of God?
7. Recall and share a specific time you responded to God's call to *Come*.

Read Revelation 22:18–21

1. To whom did John *testify*? Revelation 22:18a
2. What serious warning is given to anyone who *adds to these things*? Revelation 22:18b
 - a. Record the warning given to *anyone who takes away from* these things. Revelation 22:19
 - b. In what way is this a sobering reminder concerning our treatment of the Word of God?
3. What did Jesus declare again in Revelation 22:20?
 - a. Why do you think Jesus made this declaration a third time? See Revelation 22:7a, 12a, 20a.
 - b. Print the response to this declaration found in Revelation 22:20b.
 - 1.) What is your response to this declaration?

Observation Worksheet

Revelation 22:1-21

¹ And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. 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 They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. ⁶ Then he said to me, "These words *are* faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." ⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, "See *that you do* not *do that*. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." ¹⁰ And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. ¹¹ He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still." ¹² "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.*" ¹⁴ Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. ¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." ¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. ¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book. ²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.