

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
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Lesson # 12: August 16, 2022, to August 21, 2022

Unit III: The Great Hope of the Saints
Subject: No Better Refreshment
Scripture: Revelation 22:1-7

Key Verse:

He shewed me a river of pure water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb (Revelation 22: 1, KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1). “Unending Blessings” (Revelation 22:1-2, KJV)
- 2). “A New Existence” (Revelation 22:3-5, KJV)
- 3). “Divine Confirmation” (Revelation 22:6-7, KJV)

Introduction:

The first book, Genesis, tells us the why and the how of the entrance of evil into the world—those lives would need saving, a daring rescue would be, required, and humanity’s prepared paradise lost. God placed Adam and Eve in a paradise, called Eden. All they had to do was dress it and keep it (meaning to work it and take care of it), Genesis 2:15. The Garden of Eden contained every edible tree they would need, the Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. They were, given only one stipulation: “But of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it” (Genes 12:17a) they were disobedient because they did eat of the tree, paradise was, lost, and sin entered the world. Paul speaks of Satan, (Revelation 12:19, Revelation 20:2) both scriptures describe Satan as an ancient serpent; the devil was bound a thousand years. The last book, Revelation, climatically describes how good overcomes evil, the result of a daring rescue, and how paradise lost in Eden is, regained in the New Jerusalem. Paul said, “I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth (Revelation 21:1a).”

Lesson Pointer # 1

- “Unending Blessings” (Revelation 22: 1-2)

Revelation 22: 1, is the last chapter in Revelation. It begins with a look inside the city and a description of the blessings awaiting God’s people. The lessons, key verse informs us that John observed a “river of the water of life, as clear as crystal flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.” The water of the river of life symbolizes spiritual life that is only, received from God through Christ. During His early ministry, Jesus used this imagery when speaking with the woman of Samaria (see John4:7-14). Each of these rivers is a source of God’s presence, symbolizing the blessing of eternal life. In both the Old and New Testaments, water is a beautiful metaphor for salvation and the Holy Spirit’s refreshment. **Revelation 22: 2**—this tree of life, recalls the tree of life in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:9). After Adam and Eve’s disobedience, they could not have eternal life if they were under sin’s control. But because of the forgiveness of sin through the blood of Jesus, this city will have no evil or sin. We will be able to eat freely

from the tree of life when sin's control over us is finally, destroyed and our eternity with God is secure. Why would the nation need to be, healed if all evil is gone? John quotes from Ezekiel 47:12, where water flowing from the Temple produces trees with healing leaves. He is not implying that there will be illness in the new earth, he is emphasizing that the water of life produces health and strength where it goes.

Nuggets:

- 1). Spiritual refreshment awaits us in the New Jerusalem.
- 2). We have the fullness of life with God and the eternal blessings that come when we believe in Him and allow Him to satisfy our spiritual thirst.
- 3). It is not necessary to wait for the New Heaven and the New Earth to experience the blessings of the water of life. The water of life is a metaphor that speaks of the Holy Spirit's work in the life of the believer, providing spiritual cleansing and constant refreshment

Lesson Pointer # 2

- "A New Existence" (Revelation 22:3-5)

Revelation 22: 3---No longer will there be any curse, causing sin, sickness, and death. In the beginning Adam and Eve chose to obey Satan rather than God, and their disobedience is still affecting all creation. But, when we get to the New Jerusalem, there will be no more Physical and Spiritual death. No longer will God seem elusive to us, we will live in His presence and worship and serve Him, twenty- four hours day, seven days a week. **Revelation 22: 4**---And they shall see His face...Ex. 33:20 tells us that even Moses could not see God's face and live.

Likewise in these physical bodies we are finite and morally imperfect, we cannot see God as He is, and live-we only see the evidence of where God has passed by. He passed by the sick bed of our loved ones and restored their health. But when we get to heaven all sin, sickness and death will be, vanquished. We will be able to look upon Him in wonder AND LIVE!! We will be able to commune with Him face to face!!! And God's name will be on our forehead. I do not know if it means we will have God's name tattooed on our forehead, but we will be, clearly identified as His unique, personal possession. **Revelation 22: 5**--- There will be no more night, for God's glory will illuminate the New Jerusalem. He is and always will be, "The Light of the World," making it impossible for darkness to exist in the presence of the one and only true and living God. What is your choice? Will we continue in sin/darkness or will we walk in the light of Jesus and look forward, to reigning with God in His kingdom forever.

Lesson Pointer # 3

- "Divine Confirmation" (Revelation 22:6-7)

Revelation 22: 6---The angel declared to John and us the importance of conforming to all he had written in Revelation, "These words are trustworthy and true." And will take place soon. Revelation 2: 7a, 11a, 17a, 29 encourage us to hear! "He that had an ear let them hear what the Spirit said to the churches. Revelation 2: 7, 11, 17, ends with hope of overcoming, IF we just hear what the spirit is saying to us. **Revelation 22: 7**--- (NIV), the speaker changes to Jesus Himself, "Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll." Soon in the text means imminent and implies certainty. We do not know when, "Therefore keep watch (Matthew 24:42a, NIV), "for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night," (1 Thessalonians 5:2, NIV). Do not worry about the when, where, or how---What matters is that God Himself declared it will happen and Jesus confirms it will be quick. **Revelation 22: 7** ends with key verse of this book of prophecy which

is Revelation 1:3, “Blessed is he that readeth and they that hear the word of this prophecy and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.” Our Faith, Trust in God and our obedience to God is our assurance that we will enjoy eternal life with God.

Nuggets:

- 1). Work and Watch While We Wait, (Revelation 3:2a), “Be Watchful, and Strengthen the things which remain.”
- 2). Spiritual preparation CANNOT be, bought or borrowed at the last Minute (Read Matthew 25 about the ten Bridesmaid).
- 3). By trusting and obeying Jesus, we secure our Citizenship in Heaven!!!