

August 27, 2023

The Beginning Revelation 22 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 13 Num. 35

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week is the conclusion of the book of Revelation. Chapter 22 draws the book to a close looking at the river and tree of life and a final message. There is a clear message for those that will receive life. Jesus is coming quickly and we will be rewarded accordingly. Join us this week as we look at how to prepare for the return of the Alpha and Omega and what He brings with Him.

THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE SAY,
"COME!" LET THE ONE WHO HEARS
SAY, "COME!" AND LET THE ONE
WHO IS THIRSTY COME, AND THE
ONE WHO DESIRES THE WATER OF
LIFE DRINK FREELY.
- REVELATION 22:17



The River and the Tree of Life

22 Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, ² in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve *kinds of* fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³ There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; ⁴ they will see His face, and His name *will be* on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will no longer be *any* night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.

⁶ And he said to me, "These words are faithful and true"; and the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent His angel to show to His bond-servants the things which must soon take place.

⁷ "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."

⁸ I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ But he **said* to me, "Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God."

The Final Message

¹⁰ And he **said* to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. ¹¹ Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and the one who is holy, still keep himself holy."

¹² "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city. ¹⁵ Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

¹⁸ I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

1. What are the river and tree of life?
2. What will the tree heal?
3. Who is to be worshiped? (v.8-9)
4. What does it mean that the time is near?
5. What is verse 11 telling us?
6. How will we be rewarded according to what we have done? (v.12)
7. How do we wash our robes to separate ourselves from the immoral? (v.14-15)

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

8. How would you sum up the overall theme of the book of Revelation in a short phrase?

9. Should we anticipate the return of Jesus? Please Elaborate

10. Do you pray for Jesus' return?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

Sermon Notes