

Sermon on Revelation 21–22

Theme: The Eternal Glory of God's New Creation

Introduction

Beloved, Revelation 21 and 22 bring us to the climax of God's Word—the final vision of eternity. After the judgments of chapters 19–20, John is shown the eternal home of the redeemed: the new heaven, the new earth, and the New Jerusalem. Here we see the fulfilment of every promise God has made to His people: no more sorrow, no more death, and eternal fellowship with God.

I. Revelation 21 – The New Heaven, New Earth, and New Jerusalem

1. The New Creation (Revelation 21:1–8)

- *“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.”* (v. 1).
- The sea is no more—symbol of chaos and separation is gone.
- The New Jerusalem comes down out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (v. 2).
- God Himself dwells with His people: *“He will wipe away every tear... there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain.”* (v. 4).
- He declares: *“Behold, I make all things new.”* (v. 5).
- The fearful, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and liars will face the second death in the lake of fire (v. 8).

Application: Eternity holds two destinies: joy with God or judgment apart from Him. Now is the time to choose Christ (2 Corinthians 6:2).

2. The New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:9–21)

- One of the seven angels shows John the Bride, the Lamb's wife—the holy city.
- The city shines with the glory of God, radiant like a jasper stone (v. 11).
- Twelve gates named after the twelve tribes of Israel; twelve foundations bearing the names of the apostles (vv. 12–14).
- The city is a perfect cube, symbolizing perfection, echoing the Most Holy Place of the temple (1 Kings 6:20).
- Walls, gates, foundations are adorned with precious stones—reflecting God's majesty and beauty (vv. 18–21).

Application: The Church is both the Bride and the City—God's people in perfect, eternal fellowship with Him. Every believer has a place in this city (Hebrews 11:10; John 14:2–3).

3. God's Glory is the Light (Revelation 21:22–27)

- No temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple (v. 22).
- The city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates it, and the Lamb is its light (v. 23).
- Nations walk in its light; kings bring their glory into it (vv. 24–26).
- Nothing unclean or deceitful will enter—only those written in the Lamb's Book of Life (v. 27).

Application: Our eternal joy is not just a place, but the presence of God and the Lamb. He is our everlasting Light (Isaiah 60:19–20).

II. Revelation 22 – The Eternal Paradise of God

1. The River and the Tree of Life (Revelation 22:1–5)

- A pure river of water of life flows from the throne of God and the Lamb (v. 1).
- On either side is the tree of life, bearing twelve fruits, yielding each month; leaves for the healing of the nations (v. 2).
- No more curse; God's throne is there; His servants serve Him (v. 3).
- *"They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads."* (v. 4).
- No night there; the Lord God gives them light; they shall reign forever and ever (v. 5).

Application: This restores Eden (Genesis 2–3) but in a greater, eternal way. The fellowship lost in Eden is fully restored forever in Christ.

2. Final Testimony and Warning (Revelation 22:6–19)

- These words are faithful and true—the Lord sent His angel to show His servants what must soon take place (v. 6).
- Jesus says: *"Behold, I am coming quickly!"* (vv. 7, 12, 20).
- Blessed are those who keep the words of this prophecy (v. 7).
- Worship God only, not angels (vv. 8–9).
- The time is near; let the righteous continue in righteousness and the wicked in wickedness (v. 11).
- Jesus declares Himself: *"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."* (v. 13).
- Those who wash their robes have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city (v. 14).
- A solemn warning: do not add to or take away from this prophecy (vv. 18–19).

Application: The urgency of readiness—Christ’s return is certain. We must remain faithful, obedient, and hopeful.

3. The Final Invitation and Benediction (Revelation 22:17–21)

- *“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.”* (v. 17).
- The book closes with the longing cry: *“Even so, come, Lord Jesus!”* (v. 20).
- Final benediction: *“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”* (v. 21).

Application: This is both an invitation to the lost and a comfort to the Church. Salvation is free, grace is sufficient, and Christ is coming soon.

III. Lessons for Believers

1. **Eternity is real**—there will be a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1).
2. **God will dwell with His people**—He is the centre of our eternal joy (Revelation 21:3; Revelation 22:4).
3. **Sorrow will cease**—no more tears, death, or pain (Revelation 21:4).
4. **Holiness matters**—only the redeemed will enter the city (Revelation 21:27; 22:14).
5. **Christ is coming quickly**—believers must be watchful and ready (Revelation 22:7, 12, 20).
6. **The Gospel invitation remains open**—whoever thirsts may come and freely take of the water of life (Revelation 22:17).

Conclusion

Revelation closes not with fear, but with hope. For the believer, the end of the Bible is a new beginning—eternal life in the presence of God, in the beauty of the New Jerusalem, drinking from the river of life, and seeing the face of Christ.

Beloved, let us echo John’s final prayer:
“Even so, come, Lord Jesus!” (Revelation 22:20).