

The tree of life

- **Rev 22:2** – “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.”
- **In the middle of its street** – [Gr 4113 “plateia” - a broad / wide street].
- The tree is so large that it crosses the river.
- “The leaves ... **for the healing**” – [Gr 2322 “therapeia”] – Strongs: service; healing; household (a body of attendants, servants, domestics) – **Mat 24:45**.
- **Therapeutic** – “health-giving” – root meaning: serving or ministering.
- Just as tears are wiped away (**Rev 21:4**), which is a sign of *then still* present pain, but no additional pain, likewise suffering will be wiped away.
- The leaves promote the **enjoyment of life** in the New Jerusalem, not the correcting of ills [or illnesses] which do not exist anymore (see **V3**, “no more curse”).



Eternal Blessing

- **Rev 22:3** – “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.”
- In the **millennial kingdom** there will be a **lifting of the curse** on the earth, but *not a total deliverance* from the world’s pains due to sin.
- **During the millennium** and after the second resurrection (during the great white throne judgment), it will still be possible for the sinner to be cursed (**Isaiah 65:20; Rev 20:14-15**).
- But not so, beyond the millennium!
- God’s children, the saints, will **continue to be servants** of the Father and of the Son of God **eternally**, and that is an eternal beatitude (blessing).
- That means it will NOT be an eternal life of idleness – but of work serving them.
- **Rev 22:4** – “They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.”
- Eternal blessing that gives permanent access to the Father and Son.
- **1 John 3:2** – These are the glorified saints.
- Perfect restoration; perfect administration; perfect subordination; perfect transformation; perfect identification...



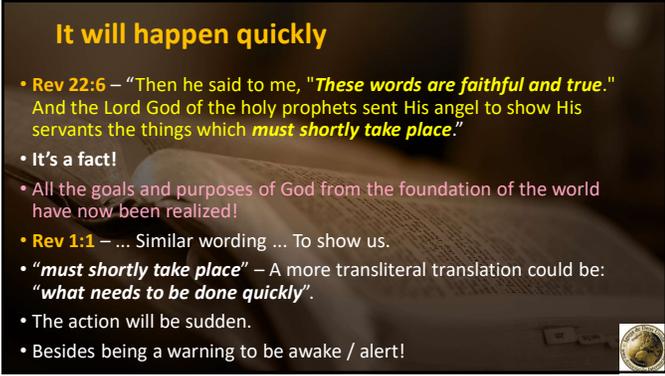
God's servants will reign forever

- **Rev 22:5** – “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.”
- **Mat 20:25-28** – Characteristics of God’s leaders.
- **1 Cor 15:24-25** – Christ’s reign changes from reigning on earth during the millennium, to reign over the new heaven and new earth.
- **Rom 8:19-22** – The whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs ...
- **Heb 2:5-8** – The world to come will be in subjection to resurrected “man”.
- Perfect illumination; perfect exultation.



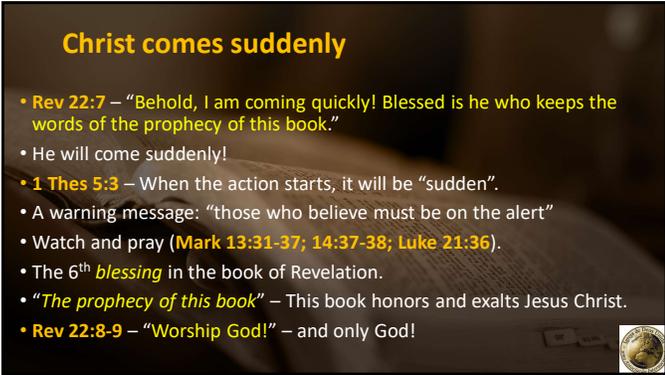
It will happen quickly

- **Rev 22:6** – “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.**”
- **It’s a fact!**
- All the goals and purposes of God from the foundation of the world have now been realized!
- **Rev 1:1** – ... Similar wording ... To show us.
- **“must shortly take place”** – A more transliteral translation could be: **“what needs to be done quickly”**.
- The action will be sudden.
- Besides being a warning to be awake / alert!



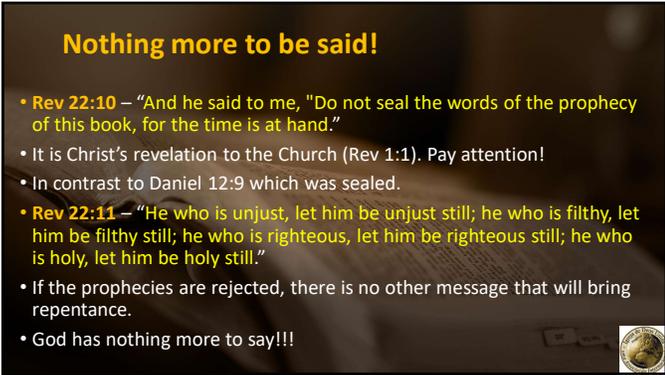
Christ comes suddenly

- **Rev 22:7** – “Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”
- He will come suddenly!
- **1 Thes 5:3** – When the action starts, it will be “sudden”.
- A warning message: “those who believe must be on the alert”
- Watch and pray (**Mark 13:31-37; 14:37-38; Luke 21:36**).
- The 6th **blessing** in the book of Revelation.
- **“The prophecy of this book”** – This book honors and exalts Jesus Christ.
- **Rev 22:8-9** – “Worship God!” – and only God!



Nothing more to be said!

- **Rev 22:10** – “And he said to me, **“Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.”**”
- It is Christ’s revelation to the Church (Rev 1:1). Pay attention!
- In contrast to Daniel 12:9 which was sealed.
- **Rev 22:11** – “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.”
- If the prophecies are rejected, there is no other message that will bring repentance.
- God has nothing more to say!!!



Christ comes with supreme authority

- **Rev 22:12** – “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.”
- The difference between reward and gift.
- **Rom 6:23** – Eternal life is a gift.
- **Heb 11:6** – God is the rewarder!
- **Luke 19:11-27** – The parable of the 10 pounds [minas / talents].
- “To give to every one”– Judged one by one, according to their works.
- **Rev 22:13** – “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”
- **V. 7, 12, 16, 20** – Clearly talking about Jesus Christ.
- **Mat 11:27** – “All things have been delivered to Me by My Father.”
– Everything has been delegated to Jesus Christ.
- **Mat 28:18** – “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”



The right to the tree of life

- **Rev 22:14** – “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.”
- Seventh blessing (**1:3; 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7; 22:14**).
- **Majority Text** – includes the **Received Text** (4.000 or 5.000 texts).
- **The Critical Text** (NU, for Nestle/United) – **Alexandrian text** (two complete – the remaining three or four are small fragments).
- Most modern translations use mainly the **Critical Text**.
- Many of the modern translations are **not literal**. The translator tries to make the reading “*easier*” in today’s language, and so the translator(s) understanding of the passage can change the meaning of the verse.
- Do (ποιουντες) commandments (εντολας). ← Majority text.
- Wash (πλυνοντες) robes (στολας). ← Alexandrian text.



This is the revelation of Jesus Christ

- **Rev 22:15** – “But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.”
- These are those who do **not** keep the commandments of God.
- “Dogs” – It means men of low character (**Phil 3:2**).
- These traits became part of their character, and they never changed (never repented).
- **Rev 22:16** – “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.”
- Connection between the introduction (5:5), and the conclusion of the Book of Revelation.



All are invited: Come!

- **Rev 22:17** – “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.”
- God’s Holy Spirit [God’s mind and desire] which proceeds from the Father, and the bride (the saints once resurrected) call everyone. Compare **John 6:44** with **John 7:37-38**.
- The invitation is for all who desire this one hope which is offered to all of us, particularly during the millennium and the second resurrection.
- **1** – Those who hear; **2** – Those who are thirsty; **3** – And whoever else desires it.
- **Is 55:1-6** – The invitation is urgent, because one day it will be too late. The Day of Judgment is near. (**Ecc 13:13-14**)



A warning & Christ’s final affirmation!

- **Rev 22:18-19** – “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; 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.”
- **Prov 30:5-6** – Don't add to God's Word!
- **Rev 22:20** – “He who testifies to these things says, “**Surely I am coming quickly.**” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!”
- **Rev 22:21** – “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”
- God’s grace is demonstrated by the awesome and glorious future for His sons and daughters.
- **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**