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Living Waters

Definitions in **bold** letters are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance
Other definitions are from **Webster's** Dictionary, 1828 Edition
or Roget's Thesaurus – **November 20, 2016**

Revelation 22:1-7

Introduction: The text for this week's lesson is part of a **description** of the **New Jerusalem**. An angel had shown John the **external** features of the city – its foundations, walls, and gates (21:9-21). He had also given him a glimpse into its **interior**, observing that it **needed NEITHER** an external **source** of light **NOR** a temple for worship... (vss. 22-27). Now the angel **reveals** to John the **INNER LIFE** of the **city**.
(Source: *The Bible Expositor and Illuminator, Union Press Publication-Christian Life Series*)

Revelation 22:1, And he shewed me a pure **river** of **water** of **LIFE**, CLEAR as CRYSTAL, proceeding out of the **throne** of **GOD** **AND** of the **LAMB**.

Life defined 2222. zoe pronounced dzo-ay' from 2198; life (nourishment [that which serves to promote the growth of animals or plants, OR to repair the waste of animal bodies]) **(literally or figuratively)**.

NOTE: The allusion here is doubtless to the **first Eden**, where a **RIVER** watered the garden (Gen. 2:10, seq.), and as this is a description of Eden recovered, or **Paradise regained**, it was natural to introduce a river of water also, yet in such a way as to accord with the general description of that future abode of the redeemed.

Genesis 2:10, And a **RIVER** went out of **Eden** to water the garden...

It does NOT spring up, therefore, from the ground, but **FLOWS** from the **throne** of **God** AND the **Lamb**.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bnb/revelation-22.html>)

Zechariah 14:8, And it shall be in that **DAY**, that **living (fresh) waters** shall go out FROM **Jerusalem**; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.

Thought 1. One major point of importance is, remember, in the New Jerusalem, there will be **NO TEMPLE** in it. I bring up this because there are scriptures that SEEM to speak of a river flowing FROM the TEMPLE during the time of the New Jerusalem.

First, we'll look at the verse that says there will be "NO TEMPLE", and afterwards, we'll look at Revelation 22:2. Then, we'll look at and discuss the verses that speak as if there will be a temple in the New Jerusalem.

Revelation 21:22, And I saw **NO TEMPLE** therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb **ARE the TEMPLE** of it.

Revelation 22:2, In the midst of the street of it (the city), and on either side of the river, was there the TREE of life, which bare twelve manner of FRUITS, and yielded her fruit every MONTH: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing (CURE) of the nations.

NOTE: Although there was only one tree of life in the Garden of Eden, Ezekiel's vision of the river of life includes many trees along its banks. Their purpose and characteristics match those of the "TREE of LIFE" that John saw.

The original tree of life had fruit that bestowed immortality (Gen. 3:22); so will its fruit in the heavenly city. Adam and Eve, as fallen sinners, were NOT permitted to eat of it. But, at this time, the sinful nature will be gone, and the redeemed may partake freely. (Source: *The Bible Expositor and Illuminator*, Union Press Publication-Christian Life Series)

Genesis 3:22-23. And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of LIFE, and EAT, and LIVE for ever: therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden...

Ezekiel 47:1, Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house (temple); and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house (TEMPLE) EASTWARD: for the forefront of the house (temple) stood toward the EAST, and the waters came down from under from the right side of the house (temple), at the south side of the altar.

Ezekiel 47:12 ...by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all TREES for meat, whose leaf shall NOT fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed (cease): it shall bring forth new FRUIT according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary (holy PLACE)...

Thought 1. After reading Ezekiel 47:12 about the TREES and the FRUIT produced each month, we SEE that what he saw here and what John saw is the same place. The difference is Ezekiel saw a TEMPLE. However, notice the word "sanctuary" is defined to be a "holy PLACE." So, what Ezekiel saw was only a "representation" of our Father, Yahweh, and the Lord Jesus (Yahshua), which "ARE the TEMPLE" of the New Jerusalem. And we also know a "PLACE" is "HOLY" because our Father and the Lord Jesus MAKE it so! This truth brings harmony between Ezekiel 47, Revelation 21:22, and Revelation 22:1-2.

Ezekiel 47:12 ...and the FRUIT thereof shall be for meat (FOOD), and the LEAF thereof for MEDICINE.

Thought 2. Remember, there is NO MORE death! (Rev 21:4) So, how is this to be understood about the leaves being for the "HEALING" of the nations? The answer is in the knowledge that, at this time, all humans have one of TWO types of bodies. First, there is the resurrected body: like Jesus' glorified body. These humans are of Jesus' resurrection day, the time of the rapture that were either resurrected or changed when he came BEFORE the great tribulation of Matt. 24, or they're of those resurrected AFTER these events. They don't marry, but are as the angels.

Matthew 22:27-32, And last of all the woman died also. Therefore in the resurrection, whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her. Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are AS the angels of God in heaven. But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is NOT the God of the dead, but of the LIVING.

1 Corinthians 15:35, 41-44, But some man will say, How are the dead **raised** up? and with what body do they come?
 ...There is one **glory** of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for *one* star differeth from *another* star in glory. So also is the **resurrection** of the **DEAD**. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in **GLORY**: it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power: it is sown a **natural body**, it is raised a **spiritual body**. There is a **NATURAL BODY** and there is a **SPIRITUAL BODY**.

Thought 3. Then, there are humans who were ALIVE during the great tribulation: some got born again, and retained a “natural body” while others remained sinners. This will also be true during the millennial (Thousand year) REIGN of Jesus where DEATH will still be in the earth.

Isaiah 65:20, There shall be no more hence an **infant** of days, nor an **old** man that has NOT filled his days: for the **child shall DIE** an **hundred years** old; but the **SINNER** being a **hundred years** old shall be accursed.

Thought 4. After death is no more (Rev. 21:4), all of the “BORN-AGAIN” humans, who were NOT resurrected will have “natural bodies” like Adam and Eve had when they were created, and like Jesus had when he lived in the earth. Now, even though Adam and Eve’s body could NOT DIE before DEATH entered the earth because of his SIN, they were at risk of injury, to be scratched, bruised, etc..

Again, Jesus' body was of this type, which is why he could be CUT and bruised **BEFORE** his body became MORTAL (subject to death) on the cross. Remember, they mercilessly whipped him and beat him in the face to the point of being disfigured before he was made to be SIN on the cross. He was HEALED when he rose, but the HOLES are still in his hands and side! At his choosing, these remain for ALL to see as reminders of the PRICE that he PAID as the "Lamb of God".

John 20:24-29, But **Thomas**, one of the twelve, called Did'yimus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the **print** of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand **into** his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold **my hands**; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it **INTO my side**; and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: **blessed** are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

Thought 5. So, the leaves of the tree of life are God’s provision for a “CURE” of whatever injury that may be experienced by children and/or adults during eternity. The only question is will the healing manifest itself instantaneously, or gradually?

Revelation 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**...

Throne defined 2362, by implication, power [1. control and INFLUENCE, authority
 2. the **POLITICAL CONTROL** of a country, exercised by its government or leader]

Thought 1. The "IT" here is still speaking of the New Jerusalem. And Yahweh and Jesus (Yahshua) are the THRONE (influence and political CONTROL) of it. Therefore, it's established in righteousness. Moreover, we are told that ALL the people are his

servants. This means they YIELD completely to whatever it is that HE desires.

Romans 6:16, Know ye NOT, that to whom ye **yield** (to SUBMIT [surrender to the power, WILL or authority of another]) yourselves **servants** to **OBEY**, his servants ye are to whom ye **obey**; whether of sin unto **death**, or of obedience unto **righteousness**?

Revelation 22:4, And they shall **SEE** his FACE; and his **NAME** shall **be** in their **foreheads**.

Thought 1. As you know, Jesus said this would be a benefit for the "PURE in HEART."

Matthew 5:8, **Blessed** are the **PURE** in heart: for **they** shall **SEE** **God (the supreme [Highest] Divinity)**.

NOTE: And his name shall be in their foreheads - They shall be designated as his. See the notes on Revelation 3:12; Revelation 7:3; Revelation 13:16.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bnb/revelation-22.html>)

Revelation 3:12, Him that **overcometh** will I make a **pillar** in the **temple** of **MY GOD**, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the **NAME** of MY GOD, and the **NAME** of the CITY of MY GOD, [which is] new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him **MY new name**.

NOTE: And I will write upon him the NAME of my God - Considered as a **pillar** or column in the temple. The name of God would be conspicuously (in a manner to be clearly SEEN) **recorded on it** to SHOW that he belonged to God. The allusion is to a public edifice (building), on the columns of which the **NAMES** of **distinguished and honored persons** were **RECORDED**; that is, where there is a public testimonial of the RESPECT in which one whose name was thus recorded was held. The honor thus conferred on him "who should overcome" would be as **great** as if the **name of that God** whom he served, and whose favor and friendship HE ENJOYED, were inscribed on him in some conspicuous manner. The meaning is, that he would be known and recognized as belonging to God; **the God of the Redeemer** himself - indicated by the phrase, "the name of **MY GOD**."

And the name of the city of MY GOD - That is, indicating that he belongs to that CITY, or that the New Jerusalem is the city of his habitation. The idea would seem to be, that in this world, and in all worlds wherever he goes and wherever he abides, he will be recognized as belonging to that holy city; as enjoying the **rights** and **immunities** (exemption from any CHARGE, duty, office, tax or imposition) of such a citizen.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bnb/revelation-3.html>)

Revelation 22:5, And there shall be **NO NIGHT** there; and they **NEED** no **candle**, neither light of the **SUN**; for the Lord God giveth them **LIGHT**: and **THEY** shall **reign** for ever and ever.

Thoughts 1. This verse is actually a re-iteration of what was said in Revelation 21.

Revelation 21:23, And the **CITY** had **NO NEED** of the **SUN**, neither of the **moon**, to shine in it: for the **GLORY** (great brightness) of **God** did **LIGHTEN it**, and the **Lamb** IS the **LIGHT** thereof.

NOTE: And the city had no need of the sun. Night never settles down to shut out its splendor, and eternal light, springing from the brightness of God and the Lamb, precludes (STOP; EXCLUDE) **the NEED** of a **SUN** or **MOON**.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/pnt/revelation-21.html>)

Revelation 22:6-7, And he said unto me, These sayings are **faithful and true**: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his **servants** the things which must shortly

be done. Behold, I come **QUICKLY**: **blessed** is he that KEEPETH the sayings of the **prophecy** of **THIS BOOK**.

Quickly defined 5035, without DELAY (lateness: a situation in which something does NOT happen or start at the time it was meant to), or (by **SURPRISE**) **suddenly**.

Thought 1. Now, we know it's true that God's timing is NOT necessarily our timing when it comes to what's quick. However, when he's giving US information in order to let US know what to EXPECT, we've got to understand what he MEANS, OR it won't do the good that he intended. Saying one thing, and meaning another is confusing! And Yahweh is NOT the author of confusion! (1 Corinthians 14:33)

So, if the meaning that Jesus (Yahshua) intended to convey was "SOON", then the evidence that followed would've CONFIRMED that this is what he meant. And as you know, it's been about **2,000 years**; and that's NOT SOON!

For instance, in John 16:16-23, Jesus spoke to his disciples concerning his death and resurrection telling them, "A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father". He spoke this to give them HOPE, knowing that he'd be dead for only 3 days and 3 nights. And when he arose, for the sake of comfort, he showed himself first to Mary Magdalene. This was prior to ascending to his Father to make an offering in heaven. So, he wouldn't let her touch him: John 20:14-17. Next, he showed himself to others, and to his disciples, but, let them touch and handle him. He spent forty days with them, (Acts 1:3) gave instructions, and then he ascended to heaven.

Now, let's look at the definition of "QUICKLY." It says, "**WITHOUT DELAY** or suddenly: **by SURPRISE**". There are a number of scriptures that AGREE with these TWO definitions as being what is meant by our Father and the Lord Jesus.

Habakkuk 2:2-3, And the Lord answered me, and said, **Write the vision**, and make it **plain** (clear) upon tables, that he may RUN that READETH it. For the vision is yet for an **appointed TIME**, but at the **end** it shall **speak**, and NOT **lie**: though it **TARRY**, **WAIT** for it; because it will **SURELY COME**, it will NOT **TARRY**.

Tarry defined 4102, linger [take TIME, long, far away, distant in time].
Tarry defined 309, to loiter [do something in a lazy way] **be behind**;
to procrastinate: be late (slack [moving slowly or sluggishly: lazily]).

Thought 2. When we think about what Yahweh told Habakkuk, he said it's going to take time; MOST things take time! But he also said that it won't be late: moving lazily. This means it won't take any more time than what's necessary, which means that the time that he's taking IS necessary! Which means he is without delay. He's an on-time God!

Mark 13:31-32, Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall NOT pass away. But of that **day** and **that hour** knoweth no man, no, NOT the angels which are in heaven, neither the SON (*Jesus himself*), but the Father.

Thought 3. These verses reveal that Jesus is NOT ALL KNOWING: Omniscient.

Mark 13:33-37, Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know NOT when the **time** is. For the Son of man is AS a man taking a **FAR journey**, who left his house, and gave **authority** to his servants, and to every man his **work**, and **commanded** the porter to watch. **Watch ye** therefore: for ye KNOW NOT when the **master** of the house **cometh**, at even, or at midnight, or at the

cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest **coming SUDDENLY** he find you **sleeping**. And what I say unto **you** I say unto **ALL, Watch**.

Thought 4. And even though HE doesn't know the day and the hour, he does know, and did tell his disciples of SIGNS that would indicate the time is getting close. (Matthew 24:32-35) Some ministers who have NOT read these verses try and PREDICT a hour and day for certain things. And when it doesn't come to pass as they predicted, they're ashamed, and rightfully so! And as we know, this gives the world a reason to "FIND fault" with our God and his ways.

Revelation 22:8-9, And I John **SAW** these things, and heard them. And when I had **heard** and seen, I fell down to WORSHIP before the feet of the **ANGEL** which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou DO IT NOT: for I am **thy fellow servant**, and **OF thy brethren** the **PROPHETS**, and of them which **keep** the sayings of **THIS BOOK**: worship God.

Angel defined 32, (messenger [somebody carrying a message])

Thought 1. When we look at everything the angel said, along with the definition of this word, we come to an understanding of the ESSENCE of the person showing him these things. The person said, "I am your fellow servant;" of "thy brethren" the prophets.

Angels are NOT prophets (foreteller ["prophet"] an inspired speaker)! This is a work Yahweh reserved only for human beings! So, he's with God; but he's again being used to give out prophecy. And this is NOT Yahweh's first time doing this!

I Samuel 28:3, 12-16, 19, Now, Samuel was **DEAD**, and all Israel had lamented him... ..And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou **deceived** me? for thou art Saul. And the king said unto her, Be NOT afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw **gods (in the ordinary sense; [saints])** ascending out of the earth. And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An **old man** cometh up; and he is covered with a **mantle**. And Saul **perceived** that it WAS Samuel (*the prophet!*), and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. And **Samuel** said to **Saul**, Why hast thou **disquieted** me, to **bring me up?**

And Saul answered, I am sore **distressed**; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and **answereth me NO MORE**, neither by **prophets**, NOR by **dreams**: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ASK of me, **SEEING** the Lord is **departed** from thee, and is become **thine ENEMY?**

...Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel WITH THEE INTO the hand of the Philistines: and **TO MORROW** (*Now in regard to time, that's plain!*) shalt **thou** and thy **sons** be WITH me: the Lord also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

Luke 9:29-31, And as he (*Jesus*) prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening. And, behold, there **TALKED** with him TWO men, which were **MOSES** and **ELIAS**: Who **appeared** in glory, and spake of his **decease** which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.

Thought 2. As you know, Moses, a prophet of God **DIED** as decreed by him, who also had buried Moses' body. (Deuteronomy 34:5-7) Yet, here he is talking to Jesus! And even TODAY, at times, God allows the saints that are WITH HIM to make **divine visitations** through VISIONS that he might comfort, encourage and build up (strengthen) those to whom a message is SENT.