

I. THERE IS A RIVER

- A. The angel from chapter 21 still John's guide (vs. 1)
 - 1. He is one of the seven angels that had the vials REV. 21:9
 - a. We are first introduced to these judgements in Ch. 16
 - i. First, noisome, and grievous sores
 - ii. Second, seas to blood of a dead man
 - iii. Third, fresh water to blood
 - iv. Fourth, a scorching sun
 - v. Fifth, a painful darkness
 - vi. Sixth, drying up the Euphrates (for the Kings of the East)
 - vii. Seventh, a great earthquake (no mountains or islands)
 - b. The Third Angel spoke – REV.16:5-6
 - i. And a voice from the altar answered (vs. 7)
 - ii. None of the others made proclamations
 - iii. And he dealt with water specifically REV. 22:1
 - c. Interesting to think, the angel that cursed the DRINKING water
 - d. Would be most interested in this river of LIVING water!
- B. This river is the water of LIFE
 - 1. It is pure and clear, it is life and peace
 - a. People used to seek for the Holy Grail to "live forever"
 - b. People used to try to find El Dorado and the Fountain of Youth
 - c. HERE IT IS!
 - 2. The Woman at the Well experienced it
 - a. JOHN 4:13-14 – "Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: (14) But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."
 - b. Never thirst again! It is SATISFYING water – forever!
 - i. You'll never need look for another source of life
 - ii. You'll have ABUNDANT life with the water He gives
 - iii. It will be ABUNDANT like a SPRING of water in your soul
 - c. You'll want everyone to take a drink of THAT water!
 - i. That's what this woman did!
 - ii. JOHN 4:29 – "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?"
 - 3. There are NO restrictions to this water
 - a. That's why those old legends are nonsense
 - b. You don't have to go "looking" for the water of life

- i. It's not in distant jungles
 - ii. It's in the WORD OF GOD
 - iii. It's FREE
 - c. REV. 22:17 – “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”
- C. Anyone who is saved knows this water
 - 1. This Water of Life has CHANGED you, washed you clean!
 - a. If you are saved, you came to this fountain
 - b. JOHN 7:37-38 – “In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. (38) He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”
 - c. It bubbles over, runs out – it CANNOT be contained!
 - 2. And here, we see that it is a RIVER!
 - a. First time I remember NOTICING a great river
 - i. The Missouri flowing behind the State Capitol Building
 - ii. It's so very wide (not many rivers like that in Florida)
 - iii. I remember seeing the barges on it
 - b. I've been up inside the Gateway Arch in St. Louis
 - i. And look down through those windows into the Mississippi
 - ii. That's not water that is sitting still!
 - iii. It is FLOWING with great power and urgency
 - c. This is a RIVER that FLOWS out from the Throne of God
 - i. This is no trickle, no babbling brook, no mountain stream
 - ii. This is a RIVER, as the Bible describes it! It has power
 - iii. The Taum Sauk reservoir bursting...
 - 3. Take a drink from this river and live forever!

II. THERE IS THE TREE OF LIFE

- A. It has a location (vs. 2)
 - 1. In the midst of the street and on EITHER side of the river
 - a. Commentators keep trying to change that (“a better rendering...”)
 - b. But let's just take the Bible at face value
 - c. Sounds to me like this GREAT tree SPANS the River
 - 2. EZE. 47:12 – “And 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: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.”
 - 3. That Tree was in the Garden, but now has taken root forever!
- B. It has fruit

1. This tree yields fruit every month – it is PERPETUALLY fruitful
 2. So should we be in the service of our King
 3. Always abounding to GOOD WORKS
- C. It has leaves
1. Ezekiel said its leaves were good for medicine
 2. Here we see they have the power to HEAL the nations (not treat)
 3. Its fruit is perpetual, and its healing is PERMANENT

III. THERE IS THE THRONE

- A. Complete dominion and royal presence (vs. 3)
1. Remember that God cannot countenance disobedience and rebellion
 2. In the Millennial Reign, it is with Christ as King for 1000 Years
 - a. He has taken on the form of a man, but without sin
 - b. He has visited in the OT, born of a virgin, DIED upon the Cross
 - c. He comes to RULE on THIS Earth where sin abides
 3. But THIS is a NEW Earth! No sin abides on THIS one!
- B. No more curse, no more rebellion, no more sin
1. Look at how vs. 3 explains itself to us – there is a colon
 - a. And the word “but” meaning “instead of”
 - b. It is different and FOREVER
 - c. It cannot change!
 2. And that sets His servants FREE to truly serve Him
 - a. Sin gets in the way here
 - b. We shouldn’t but we often let it
 3. There we will have complete freedom to do what our spirits desire!
- C. His servants shall serve Him and see His face (vs. 4)
1. We sing that song “I shall know Him”
 - a. The blind poetess and writer of hymns
 - b. She wrote the line, “but I long to see my Savior first of all!”
 2. He MARKS us with His name in our foreheads
 - a. That means it is there for ALL to see
 - b. It is a mark of ownership and a mark of relationship
 - i. We get our phrase “earmarked” from the Bible
 - ii. An indentured servant could choose to stay and serve
 - iii. They would put an awl through his ear
 - c. We will be “earmarked” as servants of God
 - d. So let’s start now! Hold His name HIGH!
 3. ACTS 4:12 – “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

IV. THERE IS LIGHT

- A. We shall live in the brightness of His Glory (vs. 5)
 - 1. We will forever be with Him
 - 2. And HE is light!
 - a. 1 JOHN 1:5 – “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”
 - b. I’m so tired of these Liberals who try to humanize God
 - c. Trying to make Jesus into something “less than perfect”
 - 3. He is GOD! He is LIGHT! He is PERFECT!
- B. No need of a candle, no clouds, no storms
 - 1. Throw your storm alert radios away! No cloud will darken THIS sky
 - 2. I keep a flashlight in laptop bag, I won’t need it there
 - 3. There will never be a power outage in the New Jerusalem
 - a. The system will never go down for servicing
 - b. And you will never get a bill!
 - c. The light bill’s already been paid!
- C. Reign for ever and ever
 - 1. This is His promise that we will be with Him eternally
 - 2. What’s that going to be like?
 - 3. Just you wait!

V. THERE IS A WARNING

- A. The Bible is true, the book is true (vs. 6)
 - 1. From Genesis to Revelation
 - 2. PSA. 119:160 – “Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”
 - 3. Not JUST true but FAITHFUL (told correctly and APPLICABLE to us)
 - 4. Therefore, we are admonished to KEEP these things (and be blessed)
- B. These things must shortly be done
 - 1. This account is completely accurate – it will all happen as written
 - 2. And it will happen SOON – at an hour we don’t yet know
 - 3. But it will also happen QUICKLY – at a pace that SURPRISES
 - 4. A surprise to any who is unready
- C. He is coming QUICKLY – are you READY? (vs. 7)
 - 1. Are you Saved?
 - 2. Is the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior? He can be!
 - 3. Be Saved Today!