

Revelation 22:1-7

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The River of Life

22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

⁶ And he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true, for the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.”

⁷ “See, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

Questions

1. Imagine your own community as you read this text.
2. What words grab you as you imagine your community as you read the texts?
3. How does imaging your community as the city in this passage give you hope?
4. How does the song help you picture your community in light of these texts?¹
5. Are you able to see where God may already be at work in your community?
6. How will you respond?

¹ February Birds, “Fierce Hope” on the album, *Souls & Streets Where Hope Moves*.

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New Life Version

More About the New Jerusalem

22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life. It was as clear as glass and came from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² It runs down the center of the street in the city. On each side of the river was the tree of life. It gives twelve different kinds of fruit. It gives this fruit twelve times a year, new fruit each month. Its leaves are used to heal the nations.

³ There will be nothing in the city that is sinful. The place where God and the Lamb sit will be there. The servants He owns will serve Him. ⁴ They will see His face and His name will be written on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no night there. There will be no need for a light or for the sun. Because the Lord God will be their light. They will be leaders forever.

Jesus Is Coming Soon

⁶ Then the angel said to me, “These words are faithful and true. The Lord God of the early preachers has sent His angel to show the servants He owns what must happen soon.” ⁷ “See! I am coming soon. The one who obeys what is written in this Book is happy!”