

## **Revelation Chapter 22:**

Before we begin our study, I would like to provide you with some basic information about the Holy Bible, given Revelation Chapter 22 is the last written communication to humanity from the God of Creation →

The entire Holy Bible is the **'Inspired Word of God'**.

The Holy Bible has been the most read book that has ever been printed and again, Revelation Chapter 22 is the last chapter in the Holy Bible.

The Bible has 1,189 chapters in total: 929 chapters in the Old Testament & 260 chapters in the New Testament.

The Holy Bible contains **'66 Specific Books'**, which were written by **'40 Different Authors'**.

The Holy Bible was **'Written in Three Different Languages'** and **'On Three Different Continents – Africa, Asia and Europe'** → **Over a Period of 1,500 + years.**

The **'Last Chapter in the Holy Bible'** is Revelation Chapter 22, therefore, I would think would carry great meaning to every human who has ever lived; just my opinion.

And as I have said before, there is not one error or inconsistency in the Holy Bible, not even one. Also, every biblical concept ties together perfectly from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21. **Only the One God, the God of Creation could do something like this.**

**The Holy Bible: 'Is God's Written Word to the People of His/Gods First Creation'** and was written to **'All Who Would Read It'**. However, the People, Who Will Become His/God's People will certainly be the ones to: **'Gain More Wisdom and Understanding From It'**.

The Holy Bible begins in → Genesis Chapter 1, verse 1, **"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."**, which I believe was written to **'All People'**

→ And ends in, **‘Revelation Chapter 22, verse 21’**. However, notice that **‘He/God – Ends His Written Word Specifically to His/Gods People, “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.”**

Remember, even though the words within the Holy Bible are written, to **‘All Humans in General—That Will Ever Live’** they *will carry* a very different meaning to each human, based on the **‘Freewill Choices That Each Human Makes While, He or She is on This Earth’**. If you read all of the words in the Bible, between Gen. 1:1 and Rev. 22:21, you will find God is presenting to Humanity words that they can understand, (Mental Pictures) → **‘If they are Seeking Him/God’** that → **‘Describes, How God Wants the Relationship Between Him/God and Each Human to be, as well as, the Relationship Between Each Human and All Other Humans’**. Also, keep in mind that God gave each human, *a specific birth – right*, which was the **‘Freewill’** to choose to either → **‘Accept, God as God and follow His Commands or Reject God and Serve Another Master—the Choice is THEIRS’**.

Now, back to Genesis Chapter 1 , verse 1, **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”** To me this portion of the Holy Bible appears to be God providing humanity with a **‘word picture history—of how creation came into existence, as well as, how humanity came into existence → and Exactly Who God is → the Creator of All of Creation, as well as, How It Was God Who Specifically Created Humans – And For What Purpose’**.

To me people **‘Who Accept this Basic Truth, Are Taking Their First Step in Becoming Redeemed and CAN Become A Children of God – Forever’**; And those **‘Who Reject Gods Words as Truth → Will Never Be Able To Be Redeemed and Become A Children of God’**. **Note:** At this point in **‘Time the Door is Open To All—Who Will Believe’**.

However, the words in Revelation Chapter 22, verse 21, **“Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.”** Appear to carry a variety of meaning, as well as, to a variety of groups, I will explain:

- 1) At the specific time that these words were written, I believe that they were written; **‘Specifically to All of Gods Saints on the Earth – from the Time of**

**Pentecost to the end of the Millennial Reign of Jesus on earth. And To Tell Them About How Wonderful Their Future (eternity) Would Be.** Remember during many of these years the life of a saint will be very harsh.

- 2) It was also written to all of Gods saint of all future time periods (Pentecost to end of Millennial Reign of Jesus) → **'Assuring them that He/God will keep His Word (prophecy) and telling them about their Eternal Destiny'**.
- 3) It was also written while the **'Door of Salvation'** will still be open to **'All the Un-Saved people, again from Pentecost to end of Millennial Reign of Jesus.**
- 4) Last, it was written to **'All Unsaved People'**, of all future time periods → to assure them of the **'Repercussions of their, Freewill Choice → Not to Accept God as Their God'**. God always wants to make sure:
  - a) That all humans are told many times and ways: that God is God
  - b) And exactly what His rules are
  - c) AND exactly what His Judgments will be for breaking His rules and not repenting → This is the Other Side of the Sword of God, Rev. 19:15!

As I said above, Revelation Chapter 22 is the last chapter in the Holy Bible and is the last written words that God has provided humanity, which I believe are very appropriate, as they are primarily a continuation of God listing the details about the **'Benefit/Blessings'** that God will be providing His/Gods (saints/children/sons) in the New Creation (Earth, Heaven, New Jerusalem). Again, all of the 21 verses will be dedicated to this subject except for 2: verses 11 & 15, which describe the **'un-saved'** in general terms.

**NOTE:** We know that these are the last words from God, because He states this in Revelation Chapter 22, verse 18-19, **"I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book! If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share of the tree of life and the holy city, which are described in this book."** I think this is a big problem for Islam and Mormonism.

## **Basic Over-View → Chapter 22:**

It appears to me that God has broken down Revelation Chapter 22 into seven separate sub-sections. Each of these sub-sections appears to me to be divided by either: **'A Different Speaker'** or a **'Different and Unique Subject'** or **'A Combination of Both'**. I will list:

**Sub-section One:** Verses 1-5, are a continuation of Revelation Chapter 21, where God is listing the **'Benefits & Blessing'** that His (saints/children/sons/heirs) will receive when they enter the New Creation.

**Sub-section Two:** Verses 6-8a, are to me the second part of this chapter and are somewhat unique as they are not divided by content or subject, but by **'speaker'**. The actual subject of these three verse is: **'God using three separate being to 'Re-assure His Saints' that → The Words that they have heard are "Trustworthy and True'.**

**First Presenter—Verse 6:** God sends His angel to speak to His Saints through the words of John.

**Second Presenter—Verse 7:** These words are directly from Jesus Christ and are in the form of a potential **"blessing"**, but also speak to the primary subject.

**Third Presenter—Verse 8a:** These words are from John, where he is testifying that he actually saw & heard all of what he has written.

**Sub-section Three:** In verses 8b-9, John is again speaking to the angel and again tries to worship him (angel) and the angels quickly corrects John for trying to worship him (the angel—this is the second time John has done this).

**Sub-section Four:** In verses 10-11, the angel provides additional relevant information, about the concepts within the book of Revelation.

**Sub-section Five:** In verses 12-16, Jesus is speaking; and appears to be speaking, in general terms, about **His Authority and Power and Position**, primarily to the **'Saved, but also to the unsaved'**.

**Sub-section Six:** In verse 17, it appears to me that the speakers are the **'Holy Spirit & the Church'** and would be what I would call → the **'Last Alter Call'**. This requires more study to clearly understand!

**Sub-section Seven:** Verses 18-21 appear to be primarily the angel speaking and makes three specific statements:

- 1) First in verses 18-19, a specific warning to all human beings; not to change any of the words within this book or they will come under harsh judgment from God.
- 2) Second, verse 20, is a statement by Jesus makes a specific statement about His/Jesus testimony and coming.
- 3) Third, verse 21, is again the angel speaking; making a general statement about Jesus coming and grace.

## **Begin Detail Study of Revelation Chapter 22:**

**Sub-section One:** Verses 1-5, are a continuation of Revelation Chapter 21, where God is listing the **'Benefits & Blessing'** that His (saints/children/sons/heirs) will receive when they enter the New Creation.

**Verses 1-2a:** NIV **"Then → the angel showed me → the river of the water of life, → as clear as crystal, → flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb (verse 2a) → down the middle of the great street → of the city."** Greek Translator **"And → he showed me → a pure river of life, → bright as crystal, → coming forth out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. (Verse 2a) And in the midst of its street..."**

I think the primary meaning of these two verses is; **'God Defining Another Blessing/Benefit that His Saints will Receive – When They Get to the New Creation/Jerusalem'**. However, there are several other secondary details, which I will discuss in more detail:

**ONE:** “Then...” Again, to me there is no question that God opened up this chapter with the word “Then...” to put the reader on notice that; ‘something new is coming—either subject or speaker’. The Greek Translator uses the word “And...”.

Remember, in the last verse of chapter 21, God was talking about some of the ‘Individual → Spiritual Attributes’ that will be unique to each of the two groups that will exist at this point in time ‘Saved & Unsaved’. Rev. 21:27, (The first part of this verse describes the Unsaved) → “Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, (The second part of this verse describes the Saved) → but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.” Also, for more details about the ‘saved group’; see the verses just prior to Rev. 21:27, which are talking about the people who will be allowed into the New Jerusalem.

Now in verse 1 of chapter 22, God changes the subject and begins providing further ‘Physical—Spiritual Details’ about the New Jerusalem. Rev. 22:1-2a, “Then → the angel showed me → the river of the water of life, → as clear as crystal, → flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb → down the middle of the great street of the great city.” (The New Jerusalem) Remember, the first five verses in this chapter should be considered as → ‘Benefits and Rewards’ to ‘All of the People—Who Have Ever Been Saved Since the Beginning of Creation’.

**Two:** “...the angel showed me...” The second part of this verse actually identifies who it is that is “showing” John this part of his vision. This appears to be the same angel that was ‘showing’ John events in chapter 21, Rev. 21:9, “One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, ‘Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb’.” Also, verse 15, “The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city...” (New Jerusalem)

Before, we begin part three of these verses I want to point out that God is now going to shift gears and begin talking about the primary subject ‘The New Creation → Primarily Jerusalem’, except from a different point of view. Up until now, it appears that God has been focusing on telling the reader about the

**'Beauty'** of the New Creation/Jerusalem by describing it in terms of **'Precious Stone of Great Value'**. Now God begins to present words that will paint a mental picture of other colors; like **greens (trees) and blue (water) and various colors (fruit)**. All of which are colors and items/things that will make Gods descriptions to a mortal man more comfortable/appealing. Again, to me this is the chapter where God begins to provide His/Gods saints with a 'mental word picture' similar to the **'Garden of Eden'**. In the remaining verses of this chapter I think God provides His saints with 'mental word pictures' that demonstrate that, **'All Their Needs Will Met by God—Trinity'** and He/God uses words that we will understand.

### **Examples:**

- 1) **Water** → **"the river of the water of life"**; Currently required to sustain life
- 2) **Water Source** → **"flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb"** – Unlimited source
- 3) **Tree of Life** → Live for Ever Gen. 3:22b, **"He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."**
- 4) **Food** → **"bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month"**  
Currently required to sustain life. See Gen. 2:9a
- 5) **Health Care** → **"And the leaves of the tree are for healing the nations."**  
The actual meaning is unclear, but appears to be talking about what we call **'Spiritual Health Care'**! Note: There are many scholar who believe that when the saints reach heaven/new creation: They will continue to grow in their **'spiritual life'** just like they did on the earth of the first creation?

**Three:** NIV **"...the river → of the water of life..."** Greek Translator, **"...a pure river of life..."** In this third section of verses 21, I believe that God begins by using the word **"river"** as a way of, 'defining the size or magnitude or volume—mental picture' → **"...of the water of life..."** for the reader. Ezekiel uses this same type of word picture in Ezekiel 47:1-12. (too long to quote—we will read in class). Also, keep in mind that most of the great cities of the world, throughout all time periods were built on **'rivers'**. And the best **'farm land'** is along major rivers;

indicating a major food source and prosperity, (Psalms 1:3, is an analogy of comparing a 'Saved Person' to the fruitfulness of a tree planted along a stream) Ps. 1:3, **"He is like tree planted by a stream of water, which yields its fruits in season and whose leaf does not wither, Whatever he does prospers."** There are other scholars who believe that the description in our verse should be viewed similar to the one God gives in His/Gods description of Creation, Gen. 2:10, **"A river watering the garden (the garden of Eden, which God planted for Adam & Eve) flowing from Eden, (perfection) and from their it divided; it had four headstreams."** Last, keep in mind that God has already used a similar type of wording in the Book of Revelation, 4:6, **"Also before the throne there was what looked like sea of glass, clear as crystal."** which was being used to describe the 'Throne Room of God'.

Next God provides more details about: The Issue of **"...the water of life..."** → that it will be made available to every saved person for all of eternity. God referenced this subject back in Revelations Chapter 21, verse 6b, **"To him who is thirsty, I will give to drink, without cost, from the spring of the water of life."** And will be again referenced in Rev. 22:17, **"The Spirit and the bride says, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."** (All of these words appears to me to be a call to salvation for all humans who read them before the end of the Millennial Reign of Jesus. However, at the point in time when these words are actuality being carried out, the time of grace will have passed in to eternity. We can also go back to the New Testament for other references, like in John, 4:13-14, (this is Jesus talking) **Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water (physical water, from a well) will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water that I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water that I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life'."** Also, John 7:37-39a, and again, it is Jesus speaking, **"On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, 'If a man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the scripture has said, streams of loving water will flow from within him'. By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive."**

Also, remember the Greek Translator used the word [“pure”](#) to describe this [“water”](#), which to me means; **‘Water that has not been contaminated with sin’** or the **‘water that provides eternal life –not death’**.

It appears to me that throughout the entire Bible God has made a clear comparison between **‘Physical Water’** & **‘Spiritual Water’**, as they both carry a meaning of **‘Life for Humans → One Physical and One Spiritual’**. Remember, both carry a primary meaning, which is: **‘Something that is Required for Humans to LIVE’**. However, they each carry a very different meaning as it relates to a point in time within each person’s existence: **‘Physical Water’** is limited to **‘Mortal Man’**, whereas, **‘Spiritual Water’** is for **‘The Spirit of a Man → And Will Last Throughout His Eternal Existence’**.

**Physical Water:** Is required for every humans to live on this earth and in this physical life. The way to obtain this **‘Water’** is physical human effort and not spiritual → however, it is provided by God.

**Spiritual Water/Spirit:** Is required, if the person expects to go to heaven and be with God. The only way to obtain this **‘Spiritual Water/Spirit’** is by repenting of your sins and accepting Jesus as your savior. This is a **‘Spiritual Act’** and cannot be obtained by a physical human effort → and again, God has provided this **‘Spiritual Water/Spirit/Jesus → as a Free Gift’**.

**Four:** [“...as clear as crystal...”](#) The Greek Translator translates it like this, [“And he showed me a pure/clean river of life, bright as crystal...”](#) I added both translations because I believe that between them we can determine the correct meaning: God is describing, **‘Something that is: pure—clean—clear** (See note 1 below) **and Free of Sin or the Ability to Sin’**. Keep in mind when reading the first part of verse 1, that; This is exactly what God has promised and what every saved person has been looking for – since the beginning of time → **‘A Means for Man to Restore Their [“pure”](#) Relationship with God for Eternity’**. And at this point in time → It will have been accomplished, for those who belong to God—through Jesus shed blood, while on this first earth.

**Note 1:** I think it is also interesting that if you go back to chapter 21 (which begins the description of the New Creation) God uses similar words to describe many of the attributes & characteristics of this New Creation, as follows: Rev. 21:11, “It shown with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a precious jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal.” Rev. 21:18, “The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass.” Rev. 21:21. “The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The street of the city was made of pure gold, like transparent glass.” Again, it appears to me that God is trying to convey to all of His saints the ‘purity of this, yet future city’, but also nothing will be hidden in this new creation → because there will be ‘No Sin to Hide’.

Last, I think it is also interesting how God used specific words to show this generation, as well as, all generations the difference between the “river-water” of the ‘New Creation’ and the normal ‘rivers and water’ of this earth—the first creation, by using words like: “...as clear as crystal...” and a pure/clean river of life, bright as crystal...”. Keep in mind that most if not all rivers within this first creation are; muddy and polluted with the waste of humanity. Again, this river will be, “...as clear as crystal...” and a pure/clean river of life, bright as crystal...”.

**Five:** “...flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb...” To me these words, by God, are very specific as to: ‘The Source and How Each Saved Person will Obtain – This “water of Life” for all of eternity’. The Greek Translator uses these words, “...coming forth out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.”

It appears to me that either translation conveys the same meaning: ‘THE SOURCE’ “...flowing...” or “...coming forth...”, which is that the “...water of life...” is coming from “...the throne of God and of the Lamb.” This concept is exactly → What God has continuously stated throughout the entire bible, remember, John, 4:13-14, (this is Jesus talking) Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water (physical water, from a well) will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water that I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water that I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life’. Also, John

7:37-39a, and again, it is Jesus speaking, “On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, ‘If a man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the scripture has said, streams of loving water will flow from within him’. By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive.”

Therefore, it is my opinion that these words are just a continuation of what God and Jesus have been saying throughout the scripture. However, keep in mind that when Jesus spoke these words, when He was on this earth, He was speaking about or promising the “water of Life” that, ‘He/Trinity is: And Now Making Good on Their Promise’.

Again think God is painting a unique mental picture for all generations, in terms of another difference, between this “river/water” and that of the first creation → In the first creation, rivers come from the melting snow of the mountains and the rain, whereas, this “river/water” is coming from, “...flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb...”

Last point: Also, keep in mind when reading verse like this one,: That God the Father and God the Son (Jesus) are sitting on thrones → Side by Side.

**Six:** (verse 2a) NIV “...down the middle of the great street...” Greek Translator “In the midst of the street..” There are some scholars who believe that the description in our verse should be viewed similar to the one God gives in His/Gods description of Creation, Gen. 2:10, “A river watering the garden (the garden God planted for Adam & Eve) flowing from Eden, (perfection) and from their it divided; it had four headstreams.” Other scholars believe that it is similar to Rev. 4:6, “Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal.” Same basic imagery and both use the words, “clear as crystal.” And as I have said before, it appears to me that God is making it plain to all readers, and specifically to His saints, that the “water of life—great river” will be ‘Equally Available to All, Who Are in Gods New Creation’. Notice how God uses the word, “middle”, meaning: ‘the center of the street’. The Greek Translator uses the word, “midst”. Also, I think God used the word “middle” or “midst” to make

sure His saints understood that this “water of life” will be in the ‘Center’ of the New Jerusalem. Therefore, equally available to all. Again, just my opinion.

**Seven: (verse 2a)** “...of the city.” In the last part of this section, I believe God clearly identifies or defines for the reader, the specific location of “the water of life”, within this New Creation. “The angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb, down the middle of the great street of the city.” This “city” has already been defined as ‘The New Jerusalem’ in Revelation Chapter 21.

**NOTE:**

Given the fact that at this point in time(?) the beings (saints & loyal angels) that are in the New Creation will have, by scriptural definition, already received the “water of life”. I believe that there is a strong possibility that this scripture should be taken both ‘Literally & Spiritually’. Also, I believe that these words/descriptions are more than likely, way pass our current ability to comprehend or understand and that is why God gives us mental word pictures that we can currently understand, which is ‘wonderful—perfection—joyful & eternal life: walking face to face with the God of creation’.

Also, to me these three sections of verse 2 (2b,c, d) are a continuation of God listing the ‘Benefits & Blessing’ that His (saints/children/sons/heirs) will receive when they enter the New Creation and specifically the New Jerusalem. However, it appears, to me, that God is once again using words that we can understand to provide us with a word picture that will also create a personal sense of ‘Joy—Contentment—Security—Happiness—Knowledge and Understanding’ for His saints, of all periods. Always keep in mind that these words, for sure, carry both a spiritual & physical definition and implication and that we need to be always looking for both! (I will talk more about this subject at the end of verses, quoted),

**Verse 2b-d:** NIV 2-b, “On each side of the river → stood the tree of life, → 2-c bearing its twelve crops of fruit, → yielding its fruit every month. → 2-d And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.” Greek Translator, “~~In~~ the midst of its street and of the river, from here and from there, was a tree of

life producing twelve fruits; according to one month each yielding its fruit. And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.”

**Verse 2-b**, NIV, “On each side of the river → stood the tree life...” Greek Translator, “In the midst of its street and of the river, from here and from there...” Again to me verse 2-b is just a continuation of the thought process that God started in verse 1 & 2-a, as follows, except in verse 2b God adds another element to the ‘Benefit List’ for those (saints) who will reside in the New Creation.

**Step One: Verse 1a**, “Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal...”

**Step Two: Verse 1b**, “...flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb...”

**Step Three: Verse 2a**, “...down the middle of the great street of the city.”

**Step Four: Verse 2b**, “On each side of the river stood the tree of life...” Again, I believe that these verses provide the reader with very specific information about ‘The New Creation/Jerusalem’, as follows:

- 1) The object that the angel is showing and talking about to John has with it a specific reference to its ‘purity’, “Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal...”
- 2) Specifically defines for the reader the ‘source of this water’, “...flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb...”
- 3) The specific direction of the water flow, as well as, how it is centered within the city—New Jerusalem, “...down the middle of the great street of the city.” Therefore, there can be no question as to → The intended recipients of this blessing, “water of life”, which would be the residents of the New Creation/Saints.
- 4) Now our verse 2-b: In the rest of verse 2, God begins to add additional information about what else John is seeing, which should be considered—additional blessings/benefits for Gods saints. “On each side of the river stood the tree of life...” To me as it relates to this specific ‘through

**process'** that we have been discussing, these words provide the reader with the basic information that there is also a **"...tree of life..."** in the New Jerusalem and that it is also **'Centralized'** within the New Jerusalem. However, I believe that this information is only the tip of the iceberg and what is to come is the primary point of this scripture.

Also, I think it is worth talking about verse 2-b thru 2-d as one though process, so I will repeat some information on verse 2-b, but from a spiritual & physical position.

**Verse 2b-d:** 2-b, **"On each side of the river → stood the tree of life, → 2-c bearing its twelve crops of fruit, → yielding its fruit every month. → 2-d And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."**

**Verse 2-b:** **"On each side of the river → stood the tree of life..."** In verse 2b God begins providing the reader with another blessing/benefit that God will be providing for His saints: **"...the tree of life..."**, which is eternal life. There are some scholars who believe that this is the same tree of life that was spoken of in Gen. 3:22b, **"He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."** It is my opinion that our verse and the verse in Genesis speak about a similar type of tree with the same qualities (spiritual & physical—as we know physical), however, they cannot be the same tree because at the end of the 'Great White Throne Judgement' all of the first creation was **'Un-Created by God'**, Rev. 21:1b, **"...for the first earth had passed away..."**

Now let's look at the actual words within verse 2b, **"On each side of the river → stood the tree of life..."**

It appears to me that from a **'physical'** stand point (physics as we know it) I think God is telling us/His saints:

**First:** That this **"river of the water of life"** is **'centralized/centered'** with the New Jerusalem and to all its inhabitants, as well as all of the New Creation and is the

first source of 'Eternal Life—for His Saints/Angels → With God and the Lamb/Jesus'.

**Second:** That this "tree of Life" is also 'centralized/centered' with the New Jerusalem and to all its inhabitants, as well as all of the New Creation and is the second source of 'Eternal Life—for His Saints/Angels → With God and the Lamb/Jesus'.

**Third:** Before we move on I would like to clarify one point about the subject of 'eternal life' and especially at this point in 'Gods Creations'. All people/angels who have ever been created will live forever, (in some form) but only the ones whose name is written in the 'Lamb's Book of Life' and the 2/3 of the angels that did not fall, will live with God/Lamb forever and at the 'Location' that God is describing in these words. The words used to describe the 'Location' where the unsaved will reside will be quite 'DIFFERENT, It Is Called → The Lake of Burning Sulfur!'

**Verse, 2-c:** "...bearing its twelve crops of fruit, → yielding its fruit every month.  
**Greek Translator,** "...producing twelve fruits: → according to one month each yielding its fruit." Verse 2-c, is a continuation of verse 2-b, in terms of it provides the reader with two specific details about the "tree of Life".

Before we begin, I would like to explain that there are three basic schools of thought on this verse, depending on how literal you want to be in your translation:

**View One:** One tree, bearing twelve crops; one each month and it is always the same fruit,

**View Two:** Many trees "...On each side of the river stood the tree of life", bearing twelve crops; one each month and it is always the same fruit,

**View Three:** Many trees "...On each side of the river stood the tree of life", bearing twelve crops; one each month and it is twelve different fruits,

To me how you interpret this verse is irrelevant, as it relates to the above views, as it has nothing to do with the point that God is trying to make. However, some scholars make a big deal over this interpretation. Again, I believe that the primary

point in this verse, is that God is providing all of the **“Tree of Life”** that is necessary for **‘All of His Saints that they require to sustain → Eternal Life’**.

Now let’s look at the two specific segment in this verses:

- 1) **“...bearing its twelve crops of fruit...”** As I said above, it appears to me that God through Johns words has told the reader in verse, 2-b the specific location of this specific ‘tree’ → **“On each side of the river → stood the tree of life...”** and → Now is providing the reader with specific information about the **‘Number of Its’ – “fruit/crops”**. (see note 1 below)
- 2) In the last portion of this verse God now provides the reader with the **‘Timing of This Blessing’ → “...yielding its fruit/fruits (crops) every month.”**

**Note 1:** I think it is also interesting how God used words in this section that humans of all generation would understand as to the **‘Issue of Timing’**. By using the words **“twelve & months”** God has provided humans with words that imply: **‘One Year’**. Given at this point in creation we are in **‘eternity’** we can conclude that God is saying that He/God will provide this blessing → **‘Every Month for Eternity’**. I think and equal implication, which ties back to the original Garden of Eden is that → **‘God Will Supply Our Every Need/Food For All of Eternity’**. Remember, verse 1 talks about **“water”** another requirement to sustain human life. Again, God is painting mental word pictures that we can understand in this **‘First Physical Creation’**. However, at our current point in understanding: We actually have no idea what the **“tree of life – fruit or water”** actually mean?

**Verse, 2-d:** **“And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.”** The last part of verse 2 has created a lot of discussion over the years. I will try to present some of this discussion and explain as best I can. However, before we begin I would like to provide some general ground work or fact about; What I believe was Gods primary meaning.

Up until this point in Revelation Chapter 22 God has told the reader → His Saints, that He/God – in the New Creation – will provide them with, **“...the water of life...”** and **“...the tree of life, → bearing its twelve crops of fruit, → yielding its**

**fruit every month.**”, which is actually saying in words that we (all generations) would understand that → **‘God Will Supply Our Every Need (Food—Water) For All of Eternity’**. However, to really understand the next words in this verse I think we need to look deeper into man’s current → **‘water—food process’**. We know currently that the human body needs **‘water and food’** to survive: The current human body ingest these two items and then converts them and uses them in two primary ways:

1) **Re-build the broken parts of the body, and**

2) **Fuel the body, which provides it with energy to take action**

Again, all generations would clearly understand this process that God is describing and there could be no mistake in the meaning of these words. Remember these are some of the last words that God will provide humanity, until He/Jesus comes again. Big Words.

Now let’s look at the actual words; **“And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.”** and try to understand what God is trying to tell us. As I said before there has been a great deal of discussion about these words, as some believe that they seem to contradict what we have already heard in Revelation Chapter 21, verse 4, **“He/God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or drying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”** Therefore, if all of these **‘bad & painful things’** have been removed from the New Creation, of which the Saints are part of → **Then, Why do They (the Saints) Need Something for “healing”?**

John Mac-Arthur explains it this way, **“The English word ‘therapeutic’ comes from the Greek word translated “healing”. The leaves somehow enrich heavenly life, making it fuller and more satisfying.”**

J. Vernon McGee explains it this way, **“I personally believe that the bodies of the earth dwellers in eternity will be different from the bodies of the believers in the church who are to be like Christ (that is their bodies will be like His). The bodies of the earth dwellers may need renewing from time to time. This may be the reason**

that they come up to the New Jerusalem—not only to worship, but also to be renewed physically and spiritually.”

Skip Heitzig explains it this way, “The leaves of this tree of life add vigor to life, something like taking super-vitamins.”

Layman’s Bible Commentary explains it this way, “Moreover, the **“healing of the nation’s”** also must be symbolic of the ongoing spiritual health of those from all nations who make up the family of God. The tree of life in both the original garden and the new garden is the same tree. The tree represents eternal life.”

As you can see from all of these opinions I think it is clear that **→ No One Really Knows; How to, For Sure, Interpret These Words, “And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.”** However, one thing I am sure of is that the answer is going to be **VERY, VERY, VERY, GOOD** for those who are receiving this Benefit/Blessing in the New Creation.

**Verse 3:** Verse 3a, **“No longer will there be any curse.”** Verse 3b, **“The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, → Verse 3c, and His servants will serve Him.”** To me there are at least three separate concepts within this verse, I will discuss below:

**One:** Verse 3a, **“No longer will there be any curse.”** To me these words appear to be a continuation of the concept in verses 1-2 **→ ‘blessing and benefits to the saints’.** It is , also, for sure another huge blessing/benefit for the environment that the saints will be living in—The New Creation. The Greek Translator translates it this way, **“And every curse will no longer be.”** It appears to me this verse is talking about the original curse that Adam & Eve—Humanity and the land/earth and Satan received from God when Adam & Eve were deceived and believed Satan’s lie and committed the first rebellion/sin against God. The original curse that God placed on Adam & Eve and Satan and the land/earth is recorded in Genesis 3:13-19 (too long to quote). Also, it appears to me that this curse will not be completely removed until the end of the Millennial Reign of Jesus and The Great White Throne Judgement has been completed. Because at this point in time God will have completed His/Gods process of **‘un-creating both heaven and**

earth—as well as, cleansing His Saints, by transferring them into a New Eternal Creation AND New Sin-Free Bodies'. Therefore, the curse that was on the first creation (Human & Earth & Angelic) will follow one of two paths:

- 1) For the first creation (heaven & earth) it will be null & void because they no longer exist. For fallen humans & angelic beings it will continue to follow them for eternity into the Lake of Burning Sulfur.
- 2) For the second creation (heaven + earth + New Jerusalem) it will not apply because it was not part of the original curse. For saved humans and loyal angelic beings it will no longer apply because the debt was paid by the shed blood of Jesus.

**Note:** In my opinion this process is basically, and clearly described in three specific steps within the bible:

**One:** The Fall of Man (also Satan's, plus angels, previous fall), Gen. 3:13-19

**Two:** Jesus coming to earth as a man to, Take this Curse on to Himself/Jesus for those who will repent and believe, Gal. 3:13, **“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us...”**

- Obviously, the reciprocal of this will also be true → for those specific individuals → who do not repent and believe, the **'Curse'** is still in effect for all of eternity. **(The results of this is Separation from God for ALL of Eternity.)**

**Three:** The destruction of the old creation and the creation of the new creation, already quoted above, Rev. 21:1.

However, there are other curses mentioned within the Bible some by God and some by men. I will quote several so that you can get a general idea of what this word means.

## **Examples of God speaking about Additional Curses:**

**Gen. 12:3**, This is God speaking to Abraham, **“I/God will bless those who bless you and whoever curses you I/God will curse; and all the people on the earth will be blessed through you.”**

**Deuteronomy Chapter 28** provides us with God’s additional covenant with Israel, as follows:

**One:** The first covenant was in Horeb, Deuteronomy Chapter 5, Transition verse between first and second covenant: Deut. 29:1, **“These are the terms of the Lord commanded Moses to make with the Israelites in Moab, in addition to the covenant He had made with them at Horeb.”**

**Two:** In Deuteronomy Chapter 28 God provides Israel with an additional covenant:

- 1) The first 14 verses list Gods blessings, for Israel, if they obey His commands,
- 2) Then verses 15-68 list the ‘**Curse**’ that God will bring on Israel if they disobey. **Note:** These two covenants were given in ~ 1,451 BC

**Three:** Malachi 2:2 is a good example of God’s word when Israel rebelled and broke their side of the covenant, **“If you do not listen, and if you do not set your heart to honor My name, says the Lord Almighty, ‘I will send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not set your heart to honor Me’.”**

## **Men Listing Sins That Can Bring Curse on Them:**

**Deut. 27:1-26:** This is where the Levites recited a list of curses that men can bring on themselves and the Israelites said, Amen. There are 12 specific actions listed that will bring about a curse: Ex. Verse 15, **“Cursed is the man who carves an image or cast an idol—a thing detestable to the Lord, the work of the craftsman’s hands—and set it up in secret. Then all the people shall say. Amen.”**

**Lamentations, 3:65.** This is Jeremiah was writing about the rebellious people of Judah, “Put a veil over their hearts, and may Your curse be on them.”

**Proverbs 3:33:** This is Solomon providing wisdom to the people, “The Lord’s curse is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the righteous.”

**Isaiah 24:6:** This is Isaiah talking about the end times events, “Therefore, a curse consumes the earth; its people must bear their guilt.”

Again, there are 100’s of verse in scripture that speak about the issue of ‘Curses’ and it appears to me that 99% of these are coming from God or His prophets. I guess that is why I think when God makes the statement: “No longer will there be any curse.”, G.T., “And every curse will no longer be.” I think everyone should set up and take notice; both saved & unsaved human. Remember, if you are saved and now in the **New Creation**, these words apply to you, however, if you are unsaved and are now in the **‘Burning Lake of Sulfur’** these words **do not** apply to you, as you are still under the original curse.

**Verse 3b.** “The throne of God and of the Lamb → will be in the city...” To me in verse 3b God continues to provide the reader with additional blessings/benefits that His Saints will receive, in the New Creation, as well as, what the social environment will be like in the New Creation. I do not know why God did not lead out with this blessing, as it is the **‘Best of Them All’**, → “The throne of God and of the Lamb → will be in the city...” meaning that God and the Lamb will live with/among the saints. If you go back to Revelation Chapter 21 you will find that God has talked about this subject before, and in each case He/God adds additional information about this subject, as follows:

- 1) Rev. 21:3, “And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Now the dwelling of God is with men, He/God will live with them. They will be His people, and God himself will be with them and be their God’.” To me this verse makes two specific points;
  - a) ‘Now the dwelling of God is with men, He/God will live with them.’ And

- b) They will be His people, and God himself will be with them and be their God’.”
- 2) Rev. 21:22, “I did not see a temple in the city (New Jerusalem), because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.” Meaning His saints do not have to go to a specific building to worship God, as He/God is with/walking with them—all the time.
- 3) Rev. 21:23, “The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.” As we said when we talked about this verse and that it would have both physical & spiritual implications: Jesus was the light of the world (first creation) and now Gods/Lambs glory will be all that is needed to light the New Creation (different source of power, vs. the sun in this creation).
- 4) Now our verse, “The throne of God and of the Lamb → will be in the city...” which clearly states ‘where the location’ of, “The throne of God and of the Lamb → will be in the city...” will be!

**NOTE:** If we jump ahead to our next 2 verse we will find God continues His explanation about some of the ‘Physical Attributes of the New Creation and the Relationship Between God and Saints’. Rev. 22:3c-5, “...and His servants will serve Him. → They will see His face. → And His name will be on their foreheads. → There will be no more night. → They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, → for the Lord God will give them light. → And they will reign for ever and ever.” Notice some of the same subjects that were discussed in Revelation Chapter 21 are being discussed again in these verses. Except this time it appears to me that God is adding a little more clarity from the ‘Saints’ point of view/benefit/job/activity.

**Verse 3c: NIV,** “...and His servants will serve Him.” Greek Translator, “...and His slaves will serve Him.” Most scholars do not talk about this part of verse 3, however, I like how J. Vernon McGee explains it: ““His servants shall do Him service...” reveals that heaven is not a place of unoccupied idleness but a place of ceaseless activity. It will not be necessary to rest in order to give the body an opportunity to recuperate. The word for “service” is a peculiar one. In his ‘Word

Studies in the New Testament', Vincent says, 'It came to be used by the Jews in a very special sense, to denote the service rendered to Jehovah by the Israelites as His peculiar people'. We read this in the Epistle to the Hebrews: **"Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service...Now when these things were thus ordained, the priest went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God."** Heb. 9:1 & 6. It will be a peculiar service to God that you and I will perform in eternity. What it is, I do not know."

Last, I think it will also involve, **'A Lot of Worshiping and Thanking God/Trinity for Their → Patience and Grace and Love'**. Again, just my opinion.

**Verse 4: "They will see His face, and → His name will be on their forehead."**

As I said above when we were discussing verse 3b God continues to provide the reader with more and more information about Himself and exactly how the relationship will be between God and His saints in the **New Creation—For Eternity**.

To me verse 4 provides the reader with two pieces of information, as follows:

**Verse 4, Part One:** The first of these, provides the reader with additional information about the relationship that will exist in the New Creation, between God/Trinity and the Saints who will also be present in this New Creation, **"They will see His face..."** The big new in this statement is that the bible tells us that no one has ever been allowed to see God's face: John 1:17, **"No one has ever seen God, but God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known."** And now all saints, who are in the New Creation, will be able to see His/God's face every day, as we are also told in Rev. 21:3b, that the **"dwelling"** place of God will now be with men, **"Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He/God will live with them."** (Remember, all of Revelation Chapter 21-22 is providing the reader with information about the New Creation.) I think these Chapters clearly state that God's Home is in the New Jerusalem, along with His saints, therefore, based on our current understanding, of physics, it would appear God is telling His saints that they will be **'Neighbors with God/Trinity for Eternity'**.

## **Verse 4, Part Two:**

The second piece of information talks about a subject that goes back to the **'Old Testament Period, as well as, the Seven Year Tribulation Period'**, I will explain:

**"...His name will be on their forehead."**

To understand the significance of the **'Forehead'** I think we need to go back to the Old Testament to find the answer, however, it is also very prevalent in the Book of Revelation. It appears to, me & some scholars believe that the **'forehead'** is the front/top of the head, which is the part of the body that God provided humans with that allow humans to: **see—smell—hear—taste**, and allows humans to gain → **'Knowledge & Wisdom'**, as well as, **'Where Human, Love—Hate—Logic Come From'** → and **Where Humans Freewill is Exercised'**. Also, this is one of the most visible parts of the human body, that all other humans can see. Therefore, it appears to me that God used this part of the body for men to demonstrate to both God and other men their **'Loyalty to God'**. There are some scholars who even believe that having the **'seal—mark of God'** on their forehead provides them protection from evil or rebellious thoughts entering their minds. I am not sure how this would work but there is some legitimacy to this concept, as it relates to the Tribulation Saints—we will discuss later.

## **OLD TESTAMENT:**

It appears that God first used this issue of **'marking the forehead is some way'** just after the Israelites came out of Egypt, and became a part of the process God set up for Israel to remember the **'Passover'**, Ex.13:16, **"And it will be like a sign on your hand and a symbol on your forehead that the Lord brought us out of Egypt with His mighty hand."** (This concept is originally quoted in Ezek. 13:9) Again, in this case it appears to be **'symbolic'**.

The next time God uses the **'marking the forehead is some way'** is in Exodus where God is providing the garments for the high priest/Aaron, Ex. 28:36-38, **"Make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it as on a seal; 'Holy To The Lord'. Fasten a blue cord to it to attach it to the turban; it is to be on the front of the turban. It will be on Aaron's forehead, and he will bear the guilt in the sacred**

gifts the Israelites consecrate, whatever their gifts may be. It will be on Aaron's forehead continually so that they will be acceptable to the Lord." Again, to me this part of Aaron's dress was designed by God to be **'symbolic'** for the sins of His people, the Israelites. However, in this case it appears that the **'symbol'** must be present all the time ( constant reminder) to protect them from Gods wrath for their sins.

These are words that God spoke to Moses and all of Israel at Mount Horeb, which included the **'Ten Commandments'**, Deut. 6:4-9, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and *bind them on your foreheads*. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." Again, I think God is using **'symbolism'** to make His point—which is 'How Important His Laws, Command & Decrees' are to Humanity, if they (humanity) wants to stay in His good grace! Also, notice many of the other words concepts in bedded within these verses.

God follows up these words several chapter later in the Book of Deuteronomy; Deut. 11:18-21, "Fix these words of Mind in your hearts and minds; tie them as *symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads*. Teach them to your children, talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the Lord swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth." These word sound a lot like the words we just read, **'Appears that they are very important to God and → Should be to Humanity'**.

Next, I will move forward about 900 years and describe a vision that Ezekiel had in ~ 600 BC. The vision begins in Ezekiel Chapter 8, the primary topic is God showing Ezekiel "*the detestable things that Judah was doing in God temple in*

Jerusalem". Keep in mind that there are several other biblical concepts discussed with these verses, however, ours is also discussed, Ezek. 9:1-6, "Then I heard him call out in a loud voice, 'Bring the guards of the city here, each with a weapon in his hand.' And I saw six men coming from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with a deadly weapon in his hand. With them was a man clothed in linen who had a writing kit at his side. They came in and stood beside the bronze altar. → Now the glory of the God of Israel went up from above the cherubim, where it had been, and moved to the threshold of the temple. → Then the Lord called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing kit at his side, and said to him, 'Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the forehead of those who grieve and lament over the detestable things that are done in it. → As I listened, he said to the others, → 'Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity and compassion. Slaughter old men, young men and maidens, women and children, but do not touch anyone who has the mark. Begin at the sanctuary'. So they began with the elders who were in front of the temple."

It appears to me that in the Old Testament, God is using the 'physical but symbolic concept of placing something on a humans 'Forehead' to emphasize its important to God and ultimately the person'.

Also, based on much of the Old Testament it appears that God must have thought this was necessary because of man's past history, I will explain:

**One:** If you look at the time period of Adam to Noah, which was about 1,600 years (or in 2,400 BC) → Based on scripture it would appear that even though Adam was alive for 930 years (or 6 of the nine generation) of this 1,600 and could provide 'first-hand knowledge of what it was to walk and talk with God', by the end of this period there were only 8 people who God found favor with. Obviously, men were stubborn and did not want to listen to God and His commands.

**Two:** The next period was, Noah to 'The Tower of Babel/Nimrod', which occurred about 2,150 BC (or another 250 years ). Actually this was only 3 generations away from the flood, therefore, these people would have had firsthand knowledge of the flood and yet: They (appears to be most of humanity at that time) rebelled against God. Again, men were stubborn and did not want to listen to God and His commands.

**Three:** Then come Abraham in about 1,950 BC (or 200 years later). In this process God was going to create a people who would record the 'Laws, Command & Decrees of God'; first for themselves and then for all of the people of the earth. Again, this was the beginning of the 'Written Word of God' and includes the scripture that we quoted above plus more.

### **Conclusion:**

I think these three basic steps track God process of continuously working with humanity to help them understand what they must do to **'Reconcile Themselves Back to God'**. It is my opinion that the first two periods prove that God was trying to allow humans to pass on His Word, by word of mouth and through the family unit. I think this method proved to be a **'Disaster'** and did not work because of the **'Stubborn & Evil Hearts of Humans in General'**. Obviously God already knew this would happen, however, He/God does not tell us why He used this method, first. However, He/God did not give up on humanity but created a **'people'** that would **'Record His Word and Pass It on to the Next Generation Through the Family Unit, as well as, All Other Peoples of the Earth'**. And the **'Marking of the Forehead or Something Fixed to the Forehead was one of the Methods that God used to Keep His Word on the Minds of People'**. Again, a means of **symbolism or painting a mental word picture.**

**Note:** There are many other examples of this **'Forehead Concept'** in the Old Testament but I think you get the idea.

### **New Testament:**

I will limit my quotes to the Book of Revelation, as it has a direct relationship to out verse.

The **first time** this concept is used in the Book of Revelation is in Rev. 3:11-12, which is Jesus speaking to the **'Church of Philadelphia'**. It comes at the very end of the letter and includes Jesus first telling this church to stand fast and then listing some of the rewards & blessing that they will receive in eternity for their **'steadfastness'**, **"I am coming soon. → (see note below) (Hold on to what you have, → so that no one can take your crown.) → Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of My God. → Never again will he leave it. → I will write on him the name of My God and → the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, → which is coming down out of heaven from My God; and → I will also write on him My new name."** As I said above these verses appear to be more geared to Jesus talking about **'rewards & blessings'** if they church/individuals remain steadfast. However, in our Old testament verses it appeared that God was using the **'forehead concept'** as a **'symbolic'** means of trying to get people to remember His **'Laws, Commands & Decrees'**. Also, based on other scripture it would appear that in our current verses the 'names/words' will be on the **'forehead'** of the individual, which I think will be made clear in the next quotes.

**Note:** Remember, one of the interpretations of the seven letters to the churches was that each letter was to a specific **'Church Time Period'** and the **'Philadelphia Church Period'** was from ~ 1,750/1,800 to 1,950/1,960. Therefore, I think that it is very possible that Jesus put these words in this church letter at the end; **"Hold on to what you have, → so that no one can take your crown."** because He knew that; At the very end of this church period (Philadelphia) → the church was getting ready to slip into a **'state of worldly materialism'**, which would ultimately lead the church in to the church period known as → **'The Church of Laodicea'**. Again, just my opinion.

The **second time** this **'forehead concept'** is used is Rev. 7:2-3, which is talking about the **'Sealing of the 144,000 Jewish Witnesses'** (Rev. 7:1-8) → that appears to live throughout the majority of the seven year tribulation period and are protected by **'God's Seal'**. **"Then I saw another angel coming up from the east,**

→ having the seal of the living God. → He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: → 'Do not harm the land and the sea or the trees → until we put a seal on the FOREHEADS of the servants of our God'." Based on these words there can be no question, where the "seal" of God was placed on these 144,000 Jewish men. Also, as I said before, to me there is no question: Why this "seal" was placed on them → 'Protection by God'. Our next verse will explain this in more details.

The third time in the Book of Revelation where God uses the 'Forehead Concept' is Rev. 9:3-4. This verse falls within the verses that describe the 'Fifth Trumpet Judgment', Rev. 9:1-11. Remember, the 'Fifth Trumpet Judgment' is where God releases 'Demonic Being from the Abyss—in the Form of Locusts' that would be allowed to harm/torcher humans for five months → 'Unless You Were Sealed/Protected by God', "And out of the smoke locusts came down upon the earth and → were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. → They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but → only those people who did not have the seal of God on their forehead." Again, I do not think that there can be any question that the purpose of this "seal" was to protect a specific group of people—'Gods Saints'. However, as I said when we discussed God's judgments during the seven years tribulation period; It appears that God 'Physically Protected His Saints' during some of the specific judgments, and during others, it appears that they will be negatively affected just like unsaved people. **NOTE:** Go back and look at the first four trumpet judgments – there is no mention that God's people will be 'Protected'.

The fourth time this 'Forehead Concept' is used in the Book of Revelation is in Rev. 13:16-17; except this time it is being used by God as a 'Negative or Anti-God → Concept'. "He also forced everyone, → small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, → to receive the mark on his right hand or on his forehead, → so that no one could buy or sell → unless he had the mark, →

**which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.”** To me this is for sure the best know, **‘Negative or Anti-God → Concept’** in the Book of Revelation and maybe even the entire Holy Bible. These verses clearly state one of the ways that a person living during this period can **‘Ensure That They Will Spend Eternity in the Lake of Burning Sulfur’**. Also, these verses comes from the section in Revelation 13: 11-18, which is describing some of the power that the **‘False Prophet and the One World Religious System’** will possess during the **‘Seven Year Tribulation Period’**.

The **fifth time** the **‘Forehead Concept’** is used in the Book of Revelation, by God is, Rev. 14:1, **“Then I looked, and there before me was a Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and → with Him 144,000 who → had His (Jesus) name and His Father’s name written on the FOREHEAD.”** However, in this case it does not appears that this concept is being used as **‘Protection’** for this group of saints. This appears to be a vision by John observing **‘Jesus and a Specific 144,000 “redeemed men” from the Tribulation Period’**, Rev. 14:1-5. To me if you read all of the words of this section, it appears to me that these 144,000 are like a **‘court/group of worshipers’** who:

- 1) Follow Jesus around all the time, **“They follow the Lamb where ever He goes.”**  
or
- 2) Stand before the throne of God the Father and the Lamb → **“And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders.”**

Actually, they probably will do both—remember they will be in **‘Heaven and Then The New Creation’** which is not limited to our understanding of physics! **God → Concept’**.

The **sixth time** this **‘Forehead Concept’** is used in the Book of Revelation is in Rev. 14:9-10; and again this time it is being used by God as a **‘Negative Concept’**. **“A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice, → ‘If anyone worshipped the beast and his image and → receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, → he, too, will drink of the wine of Gods fury, → which has**

been poured full strength in to the cup of His wrath’.” Keep in mind that these verses are come from Revelation Chapter 14, in which the first half (verses 1-13) talks about three specific subjects:

**First Angel:** Rev. 14:6a, “Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who lived on the earth...” Again, Rev. 14:6-7 to me is just a statement of fact, given by God, which also fulfills a specific prophecy.

**Second Angel:** Rev. 14:8, “A second angel followed and said, ‘Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all of the nation’s drink the maddening wine of her adulteries’.” This appears to be an interlude verse, speaking about what will happen on the earth during the seven year tribulation period: recorded in Revelation Chapter 17.

**Third Angel:** “A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice, ‘If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives the mark on his forehead or on the hand, he, too, will drink of the wine of Gods fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of His wrath’.” This is another statement of fact given by God, Rev. 14:9-13, which talks about; those who had taken the ‘**mark of the beast**’ will be lost forever—eternity. Therefore, I do not think there can be any question that this verse should be taken as a **‘Negative Statement’**.

The **seventh time** this **‘Forehead Concept’** is used in the Book of Revelation is in Rev. 17:4-5; and again this time it is being used by God as a **‘Negative Concept’**. “The women was dressed in → purple and scarlet. → And was glittering with gold and precious stones and pearls. → She held a golden cup in her hands, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. → **This title was written on her forehead:** → **‘MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT—THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATION OF THE EARTH’.**” This concept is used by God to describe **‘Babylon the Prostitute’** or the **‘Capital City of**

the One World Religious System—Rome' and is covered in Revelation Chapter 17.

The **eighth time** this '**Forehead Concept**' is used in the Book of Revelation is in Rev. 20:4b, "**And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded → because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. → They had not worshiped the beast or his image and → had not received his mark on their forehead or their hand.**" And again God has shifted gears and is using this concept as a '**Positive Concept**' to describe His saints. Also, this portion of Revelation, 20:4-6, is specifically talking about two of the three groups of saints that will rule with Jesus during His millennial reign on earth. And our verse is describing some of the specific reasons that one of these groups of saints fall into this ruling group.

The **ninth and final time** this '**Forehead Concept**' is used in the Book of Revelation is in, Rev. 22:4, "**They will see His face, and → His name will be on their forehead.**" The last time that this concept is used is actually part of Revelation Chapters 21 & 22, in which God is providing all men but, specifically His saints, a description of the '**New Creation**' in which all of His Saints will live throughout Eternity.

### **Conclusion:**

I think you can see from all of the above examples that God has used this '**Forehead Concept**' a lot in scripture and in a variety of ways: both '**Positive & Negative & Even Symbolic**'. Also, remember that the '**Marking on the Forehead**' is only superficial and the important part, in most of these examples, is that this '**Outward Marking**' is **Directly Associated with the Sealing or Marking of That Specific Persons HEART**'. However, we also saw that in some examples, the outward marking was primarily used '**symbolically**' and primarily to remind the person about Gods '**Laws, Commandments and Decrees**', Deut. 11:18-21, "**Fix these words of Mind in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talk**

about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the Lord swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.”

**Verse 5:** “There will be no more night. → They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, → for the Lord God will give them light. → And they will reign for ever and ever.” In verse 5 God continues to provide the reader with more detailed descriptions (characteristics and attributes) of the New Creation that Gods Saints will be able to enjoy for all of eternity.

**Note:** I think it is important that we keep in mind that this is exactly the ‘**Type of Conditions**’ that God has wanted for His created beings, since the ‘**Garden of Eden**’. I think it is also important that we keep in mind that even though humanities heart has been evil from the start → God has always had a plan to ‘**Allow Each Human to Reconcile Him-Self back to God and → End Up With God For All of ETERNITY—if They Were Willing—Their Choice**’.

**Verse 5a,** “There will be no more night. → They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, → for the Lord God will give them light.

This is a concept that we have already seen back in Rev. 21:23, “The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, → for the glory of God gives it light, and → the Lamb is its lamp.” and we have already talked about this concept when we discussed Rev. 21:23, quoted above. However, I would like to expand on one view, which we did not talk about a lot when we originally studied this concept. There are some scholars who believe that along with the idea of ‘**the purity of the New Creation—sinless**’. God is now ‘**symbolically**’ associating the concept of “light” with ‘**no sin**’, therefore, the reciprocal would be that ‘**darkness**’ would be directly associated with ‘**sin**’. I have provided some scriptures that would validate this concept.

**Ps. 82:5a,** “They know nothing, → they understand nothing. → They walk about in darkness...”

Prov. 2:12-14, “Wisdom will save you from → the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse, who leave the straight path → to walk in dark-ways, → who delight in doing wrong and rejoice in the perverseness of evil...”

John, 3:19-21, “This is the verdict: → Light has come into the world, → but men love darkness instead of light → because their deeds were evil. → Everyone who does evil hates the light, and → will not come into the light → for fear that his deeds will be exposed. → But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, → so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.”

Romans, 1:21, “For although they knew God, → they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, → but their thinking became futile and → their foolish hearts were darkened.”

2 Cor. 6:14-17, This is a relatively long quote but speaks to/addresses many of the concepts found in the Book of Revelation, as well as, many other **Biblical Concepts**, which I believe directly tie in to our concept. “Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. → For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? → Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? → What harmony is there between Christ and Belial?(the personification of evil—Satan) What does the believer have with the unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said; ‘I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God and they will be My people’.”

1 John, 1:5-7, “This is the message that we have heard from Him and declared to you; → in Him there is no darkness at all. → If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, → we lie and do not live by truth. → But if we walk in the light, → as He is in the light, → we have fellowship with one another, and → the blood of Jesus, purifies us from all sins.”

Again, it appears to me that our concept of **'light vs. darkness'** would also closely tie in to the concept that Jesus is the **"light"** of the world and that God the Father is the **"light"** of heaven—creation.

I am not sure why God repeated this concept when He had just stated it in the previous chapter. However, we know that when God repeats something several times it must be very important to all of humanity. Last, what I am sure of, is that God is making sure that **'All Humans'** (with a special focus on His saints) know that there is a difference in **'the true light'** and **'darkness'**, as well as, who the **'Father'**, is of each, which has been clearly defined throughout the entire Bible.

Also, for more details about this verse, see our discussion on in Rev. 21:23, **"The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, → for the glory of God gives it light, and → the Lamb is its lamp."**

**Verse 5b, "And they will reign forever and ever."** I think it is interesting that God used this phrase – at the end of verse 5. Keep in mind when reading verse 5b it is the very last **'Specific Detail'** that God will provide the reader on:

**One:** Another specific **'Characteristics or Attributes about the New Creation—(Heaven, Earth and New Jerusalem), as it Relates to the Blessing—Benefits that the Saints Will Enjoy.'**

**Two:** The time duration of this specific **'Blessing or Benefit'** that the saints will enjoy.

Also, it appears to me that God wanted to end His words to His saints on a very, very position note, as it relates to describing their **'blessing & benefits'** in the **New Creation**. It is also clear to me that this statement would be the best possible statement that any human could hear: If their name was written in the **'Lamb Book of Life'**.

The first part of verse 5b clearly states, **"And they will reign..."** meaning; they (the saints) will be the, at least, **'Part of the Ruling Class in the New Jerusalem or the**

Entire New Creation'. There are several views on these words; I will explain the top two:

**View One:** These words would apply to 'All Saints in the New Creation'.

**View Two:** These words only apply to the saints that will reside in the New Jerusalem.

I think either of the two views could be correct, however, I think that we need to account for at least two other data points:

**Point One:** Revelation Chapters 21 & 22 are both primarily describing the New Jerusalem and this verse is the last part of that description, therefore, it would apply to the saints that would reside within the New Jerusalem, which would be the church saints.

**Point Two:** Revelation 21:1-2a makes it clear that there will be three separate components to the New Creation, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven from God..." and the saints of both the 'New Earth & Heaven' will come and go between all three, as require by God, Rev. 21:24-26, "The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. On no day will be gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. The glory and the honor of the nations will be brought into it."

**Point Three:** As we have said before when we talked about who it is that will be the direct residents of the New Jerusalem: We said that it would be the church, because they are ordained by God to be His 'Priest' and therefore they would be the ones to reside in the 'Tabernacle – Temple – New Jerusalem', "...and has made us to be a kingdom and priest to serve His God and Father—to Him be the glory and power for ever and ever."

I think the other interesting part of this section is that God uses the word, "reign" when describing this group, which to me indicates that there will be some type of hierarchy structure in the New Creation. In Revelation Chapter 4, God provides us

with a glimpse of some of this structure, Rev. 4:4, “Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders.”

However, I do not think that the scripture provides us with enough information to determine exactly how this complete structure will be laid out.

My conclusion on these words is that: I have no idea which specific group is being described, if any, in this verse, however, at this point in ‘eternity’ I do not think it really matters. Please read and make up your own mind.

In the last part of verse 5b I think the other interesting thing about these words, “...forever & ever.” is that God now defines the time duration involved in “there reign”. Also, actually how many ways this phrase has been used in the Holy Bible. I will provide a few, so we can gain a general understanding of the wide variety of variations in which this phrase is used. It appears to me that; it is like an adjective that would come before a noun and provide the reader with some type of ‘additional description’ of the noun being used. I will list some for our general review and discussion.

**One:** The first time I could find these words is Ex. 15:18, “The Lord will reign for ever and ever.” This is the very last verse in the ‘Song of Moses’, (Ex. 15:1-18) that he/Moses and Israel sang to the Lord after He/God saved them from the Egyptians .

**Two:** This Psalm was written by David, Ps. 10:16, “The Lord is King for ever and ever; the nations will perish from His land.” It appears in Psalm 10, David is listing many of the sins of the unsaved and how God sees them all; but He may not react at that moment, but He/God will React eventually.

**Three:** These are the words of King Darius, Daniel 6:26, “I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. ‘For He is the living God and He endures forever; His kingdom will not be destroyed’.”

**Four:** This is Paul speaking to the people in Philippi about; how they should be thankful for all of the blessings that God/Jesus has provided them. This is Paul’s

closing verse in that section, Phil. 4:20, **“To God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.”**

**Five:** This is a quote from one of Paul’s letters to Timothy, 1 Tim. 1:17, **“Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.”** To me this section appears to be Paul talking to Timothy about: How God blessed him even though he was a very big sinner to start with. In 2 Tim. 4:18, Paul uses the same type of wording in his second letter to Timothy.

**Six:** In Hebrews 13:20-21, (most people believe was written by Paul) we find the author providing the reader with a brief summary of – Jesus. I really like this quote, **“May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.”**

**Seven:** 1 Peter,5:10-11, **“And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To Him be the Power for ever and ever. Amen.”**

If you go back and reread each of these quotes I think you will see that they paint a basic picture of God:

**“The Lord will reign for ever and ever.”**

**“The Lord is King for ever and ever...”**

**“For He is the living God and He endures forever...”**

**“To God and Father be glory forever and ever.”**

**“...the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever.”**

**“...through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.”**

**“To Him be the Power for ever and ever.”**

As I said above I think you can get a pretty good idea of: How these words are being used in the Holy Bible, less, the Book of Revelation.

In our first 7 quotes above it appears to me that they were made by ‘many men’ of that day trying to present words about God that would convey to other/all men, of all time periods, the fact that; **‘THIS/OUR GOD’ → ‘Is Eternal in All of His Characteristics & Attributes’**, see above.

Now I will provide you with several quotes from the Book of Revelations, which comes from a vision of just one man—John. It appears that in John's vision we will see the future completion of all the other quotes about, **‘God Being Eternal’** and more.

**One:** The first time this concept is mentioned in Revelation is Rev. 1:4-6, which is where God is introducing Jesus and defining for ‘All Men’ some of His/Jesus **‘Characteristics & Attributes’**. These specific verses is part of the **‘Greeting & Doxology to the Letters to all Seven Churches’**, (I have added several lead-in verse to complete the meaning) **“John, → To the seven churches in the province of Asia: → Grace and peace to you from Him (Jesus) → who is, → and who was, → and who is to come, → and from the seven spirits → before His (Gods) throne → and from Jesus Chris, → who is the faithful witness, → the first born of the dead, → and the ruler of the kings of the earth. → To Him (Jesus) who loves us → and has freed us from our sins by His blood, → and has made us to be a kingdom and priest → to serve His God and Father, → to Him be the glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.”** It appears to me that John provides the reader with a lot of facts about Jesus, however, to me the most important is, **‘That Jesus is our savior and is responsible for what we will become in the New Creation’**, **“...and has made us to be a kingdom and priest → to serve His God and Father...”** John, also makes it very clear that these positions **“...kingdom and priest...”** will be because of Gods/Jesus, **“...glory and power for ever and ever!”**

**Two:** The second time this concept is used is in Revelation Chapter 4, which is providing the reader with a glimpse of the **‘Throne Room of God’**, quoted—verses

9-10, “Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to Him → who sits on the throne and → who lives forever and ever, → the twenty four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and → worships Him who lives forever and ever.” Again, these specific verse are describing exactly how two specific groups of being, (**living creatures & elders**) in heaven, ‘**worship & glorify**’ God, as well as, stating the specific time period that God will exist and → For how long they will worship God → “...who lives forever and ever and worships Him who lives forever and ever.” Again, this is a view of heavenly being spoken about in our concept.

**Three:** These verses come out of Revelation Chapter 5, which is the chapter that describes the “Seven Seal Scroll” and; How only the “Lamb” could open it, because ‘His Shed Blood Made Him/Jesus Worthy’. Our verse come from a combination of being from both heaven and earth, Rev. 5:13, “Then I heard every creature in heaven and → on earth and → under the earth and → on the sea, and → all that is in them, → singing: → ‘To Him who sits on the throne and → to the Lamb → be praise and honor and glory and power, → for ever and ever’.” It appears to me that these verse are telling the reader that: ‘Every Being Within All of the First Creation’ is bringing “...praise and honor and glory and power...” To God and the Lamb, “...for ever and ever.”

**NOTE:** However, based on some of the specific wording within these two verses: “Then I heard every creature in heaven and → on earth and → under the earth and → on the sea, and → all that is in them, → singing’ ‘To Him who sits on the throne and → to the Lamb → be praise and honor and glory and power, → for ever and ever’.” there appears to be wording that would indicate that there are ‘Five Specific Groups’ involved in this “singing” process. They are as follows:

**First Group:** “Then I heard every creature in heaven...” Based on these words and the fact that this event, as recorded in Revelation Chapter 5, would happen before the beginning of the first ‘Seal Judgment’. If my timing is correct, then it would mean that, “...every creature in heaven...” would include: ‘All of the

**Saints who had already died (Old Testament—Church Period) → The 2/3 of the angels who remained loyal to God → The four Living Creatures → The Twenty Four Elders → and Any Other Heavenly Creature that we are not aware of.'**

However, at this point in time, Satan nor his fallen angels have been expelled to earth (Rev. Chapter 12), therefore, I would assume that they would also be part of this **“singing”** process. However, it may be that God has required them to participate.

**Second Group: “...and on earth...”** Based on these words it would appear that this group would include **'All of the People Living on Planet Earth'**, at this point in time both saved and unsaved!

**Third Group: “...under the earth...”** Again, based on these words it would appear that this group includes **'All the People, Who Have Ever Lived and Died'**. This group would be split into two parts, some of which would have been included in the **'First Group'** above.

**Part One:** Would be the Saints that have already died—which we included in the **'First Group' “...every creature in heaven...”**

**Part Two:** This would include all of the humans who have died and were not saved—which would include all of the humans in the **'Lower Part of Sheol—Old Testament & the Lower Part of Hade—New Testament'**, at the beginning of the tribulation period.

**Forth Group: “...on the sea...”** Based on these words it would appear that God has separated out the people who will be on the sea at this specific point in time (remember, water covers ~70% of the earth's surface). It appears to me that God is making sure the reader knows that **'All Created Beings'** will be part of this **“singing”** process, regardless of their location within God's creation.

**Fifth Group: “...and all that is in them...”** To me this phrase appears to be a **'Catch All Statement'**, which would include any created beings that have not already been identified, above. The one group that would come to mind is the humans that have died at **“sea”**. Again, there may be others but none come to

mind, however, the point in this statement is that it would include all **'Created Beings'** → None will be left out of this **"singing"** process.

### **Conclusion:**

I do not know why God put these words in at this point in the Book of Revelation. It could have to do with Gods word that tells us that at some point in time **'All Will Bow the Knees'**, Isa. 45:23, **"Ny Myself I have sworn, My mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before Me every knee will bow; by Me every tongue will swear."** Also see Isa. 49:18, & Romans 14:11. I really like this one → Phil. 2:19-11, **"Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."** I am sure that the other place that this will occur is at the **'Great White Throne Judgement'**, however, based on other scripture in the Book of Revelation it appears that: The antichrist & false prophet & Satan will by-pass this event, so I guess it does not fit –100%.

Last, I think the really sad part of this event is that; Even though all of the created beings know that God/Trinity is the creator, while they have/had the opportunity to repent and save themselves—they were not willing (freewill), but hardened their hearts and rebelled against God until the very end. Again, what a sad day in creation!

Also, keep in mind that Revelation Chapter 5 is the chapter that opens the **'Judgments of the Seven Year Tribulation Period'**.

**Four:** This next verse comes out of Revelation Chapter 7, verse 11-12, **"All the angels were standing around the throne → and around the elders and the four living creatures. → They fell down on their face before the throne and worshiped God, saying; → 'Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength → be to our God → for ever and ever."** These specific verses come from the last part of Chapter 7, (verses 9-17) which is providing the reader with an additional picture of heaven worshipping God and in

this specific scene there is a special focus on the **'Martyred Tribulation Saints'**, as well as, **'All of Heaven'**. This scene is very similar to the one we saw in Rev. 5:13 above; some of the wording is exactly the same: Rev. 5:13, **'To Him who sits on the throne and → to the Lamb → be praise and honor and glory and power, → for ever and ever.'** Now compare this with our verse, **'Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength → be to our God → for ever and ever.'** Also, some of the words are exactly the same as we saw in, Rev. 4:9-10, **'Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to Him → who sits on the throne and → who lives forever and ever, → the twenty four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and → worships Him who lives forever and ever.'** Again, it appears to me that God is using many of the same words in His descriptions of these types of events because He/God is trying to provide a **'Specific Picture of Heaven for His Saints'**, as well as re-enforce a major biblical concept, which is **→ He/God/Trinity is Eternal, meaning For Ever & Ever.**

**Five:** The fifth time this concept is used in Revelation is in Chapter 10, which is the chapter that is talking about, **'The Angel and the Scroll—The "little scroll" That Was Bitter and Sweet'**. Rev. 10:5-6, **'Then the angel that I had seen standing → on the sea and on the land → raised his right hand to heaven. → And swore by Him → who lives for ever and ever, → who created the heavens and all that is in them, → the earth and all that is in it, → and the sea and all that is in it, → and said, 'There will be no more delay.'** There can be no question that these verses use our concept of, **'...who lives for ever and ever...'** I think the other primary point to these verses is that God is telling the reader that **'Time is Running Out for the First Creation'**. At this point in time the first six **'Seal Judgments'** have already taken place and more judgments are coming very soon, **'There will be no more delay.'**

However, to me the other important part of these verses is the wording that God used; in our verse Rev. 10:5-6, God tells us that He/God is the **'creator of**

everything', *"...who created the heavens and all that is in them, → the earth and all that is in it, → and the sea and all that is in it..."* Now go back and compare these words (Rev. 10:5-6) to the ones we saw in Rev. 5:13, *"Then I heard every creature in heaven and → on earth and → under the earth and → on the sea..."* In these verses it appears to me that God is talking about the same 'group of beings', except in these verses God is telling the reader that; 'Every Creature Within Creation is Praising Them/Trinity'. Read and make up your own mind.

**Six:** The sixth time this concept is used in the Book of Revelation is in Chapter 11, which is split into two parts: Verses 1-14 are talking about the 'Two Witnesses' & Verses 15-19 is talking about the 'Opening of the Seventh Trumpet Judgment', which is the section from which our verse comes; Rev. 11:15, *"The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, → and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: → 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and → He will reign for ever and ever'."* To me the message within this verse is simple *'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and...'* and we are also told the duration will be, *'...He will reign for ever and ever'."*

**Seven:** The seventh time this concept is used in the Book of Revelation is in Chapter 15, which is talking about the 'Seven Angels With the Last Seven Plagues/Judgments', Rev.15:7, *"Then one of the living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls filled with the wrath of God, who lives for ever and ever."* To me this is just another statement of fact about the end times events, however, the "living creature" makes sure that (he—living creature) qualified his words by making sure all reader of all time periods; Know that the "God" that he is talking about is → 'The One and Only God, Who is the Creator'.

**Eight:** The eighth time this concept is used in the Book of Revelation is in Chapter 19. Our verse, Rev. 19:3, is in the first section of chapter 19, which is talking about the 'Great Celebration That is Taking-Place in Heaven'. *"Again they shouted: → 'Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up → for ever and ever'."* In our

specific verse it appears that they are celebrating the ‘**Destruction of the Great Prostitute—the One World Religious System**’, Revelation Chapter 17. However, it appears to me that they are also celebrating:

- 1) The end of the seven year tribulation period
- 2) The destruction of the One World Government/Economic System
- 3) The Wedding Supper of the Lamb and His Bride
- 4) And the Soon Return of Jesus to the Earth and the Destruction of the antichrist, false prophet and Satan.
- 5) And the soon to come creation of the ‘New Earth, Heaven and Jerusalem’

There will truly be a lot to celebrated if you are in heaven at this point in time.

### **SUMMARY:**

I think that if you put all of these eight quotes together, it will paint a very good picture of what God is trying to provide the readers of all time periods, about some of the other specifics that relate to this issue, as recorded in the Book of Revelation. I will sequentially list all eight quotes below, for your review:

**Firsts Quote:** Rev. 1:4-6 **“John, → To the seven churches in the province of Asia: → Grace and peace to you (1) from Him (Jesus) → who is, → and who was, → and who is to come, → and from the seven spirits → before His (Gods) throne → and from Jesus Christ, → (2) who is the faithful witness, → the first born of the dead, → and the ruler of the kings of the earth. → (3) To Him (Jesus) who loves us → and has freed us from our sins by His blood, → and has made us to be a kingdom and priest → to serve His God and Father, → to Him be the glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.”**

**Second Quote:** Rev. 4:9-10, **“Whenever (1) the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to Him → who sits on the throne and → (2) who lives forever and ever, → (3) the twenty four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and → worships Him who lives forever and ever.”**

**Third Quote:** Rev. 5:13, “Then I heard (1) every creature in heaven and → on earth and → under the earth and → on the sea, and → all that is in them, → singing: → ‘To Him who sits on the throne and → to the Lamb → (2) be praise and honor and glory and power, → for ever and ever’.”

**Four:** Rev. 7:11-12, (1) “All the angels were standing around the throne → and around the elders and the four living creatures. → They fell down on their face before the throne and worshiped God, saying: → ‘Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength → be to our God → for ever and ever.’”

**Five:** Rev. 10:5-6, (1) “Then the angel that I had seen standing → on the sea and on the land → raised his right hand to heaven. → And swore by Him → who lives for ever and ever, → (2) who created the heavens and all that is in them, → the earth and all that is in it, → and the sea and all that is in it, → and said, ‘There will be no more delay’.”

**Six:** Rev. 11:15, “The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, → and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: → (1) ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and → He will reign for ever and ever’.”

**Seven:** Rev. 15:7, “Then one of the living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls filled with (1) the wrath of God, who lives for ever and ever.”

**Eight:** Rev. 19:3, (1) “Again they shouted: → ‘Hallelujah! The smoke from her ( prostitute) goes up → for ever and ever’.

**Conclusion Verse 5b,** “And they will reign forever and ever.”

Again, as I said above, I think it is interesting that God used this phrase “...forever and ever.” – at the end of verse 5 to describe the time period (at least what we

call time in the first creation) to tell His saints: How long that “...they will reign...” in the New Creation.

Again, these are the last words that God is providing His Saints about the ‘Specific Detail’ about the ‘Blessing/Benefits’ that His Saints will receive in the New Creation.

### **Sub-section Two:**

Verses 6-8a, are to me the second part of this chapter and are somewhat unique as they are not divided by content or subject, but by ‘speaker’. The actual subject of these three verse is: ‘God using three separate being to ‘Re-assure His Saints’ that → The Words that they have heard are “Trustworthy and True’.

**First Presenter—Verse 6:** God sends His angel to speak to His Saints through the words of John.

**Second Presenter—Verse 7:** These words are directly from Jesus Christ and are in the form of a potential “blessing”, but also speak to the primary subject.

**Third Presenter—Verse 8a:** These words are from John, where he is personally testifying that he actually saw & heard all of what he has written.

### **Verse 6—First Presenter:**

“The angel said to me, → ‘These words are trustworthy and true. → The Lord, → the God of the Spirits of the prophets, → sent His angel → to show His servants → the things that must soon take place’.”

God through Johns words closes out this section (specific details about the Blessing/Benefits that His Saints will receive in the new creation) by sending His angel with words of ‘Re-Assurance’ that everything that God has said within the entire Holy Bible is 100% true and will be fulfilled as, ‘He—God Stated’ → ‘Another Words—CERTAINTY’ of what has been said within the Bible. All of these words or phrases have been used within the bible in many places. To me this verse provides the reader with four specific pieces of information, as follows:

**First Piece of Information:** “The angel said to me, → ‘These words are trustworthy and true.’

**One:** “The angel said to me, This appears to be the same angel as in verse 1 and is speaking to John about all of the blessings and benefits that each saint will receive when they get to the ‘**New Heaven, Earth and Jerusalem**’ in verses 1-5, Rev. 1a, “Then the angel showed me...”

**Two:** ‘These words are trustworthy and true.’ This same concept has been used in two for the letters to the seven churches:

- 1) To the Church in Philadelphia, Rev. 3:7b, “These are the words of Him who is holy and true..”
- 2) To the church in Laodicea, Rev. 3:14b, “These are the words of the Amen, faithful and true...”
- 3) This concept is also found in Rev. 21:5, where God is beginning to describe the ‘New Creation’, “He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’ Then He said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true’.”
- 4) This same concept is used to describe the ‘Second Coming of Jesus’ is Rev. 19:11, “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True’.”
- 5) There are many places within scripture (Old & New Testament) that speak to the issue of → ‘The Trustworthiness—Truthfulness—Faithfulness of God’s Word’. I have listed several other verses that speak to this same issue, ‘Gods Faithfulness’: Ps. 86:15 & Ps. 36:5 & Ps. 89:8 & Ps. 119:90 & Lam. 3:22-23 & 1 Cor. 1:9 & 1 Cor. 10:9 & 1 Cor. 10:13 & 2 Thess. 3:3 & Heb. 10:23 & Ps. 91:4, 1 John, 1:9 & Micah 7:18-19, you get the idea!

The bottom line is that ‘All of God’s Word are Trustworthy & True’, because they are the divine words of the Creation God → Given to His created being → To let them Know What He Expects from Them and to Inform Them of → What is to Come.

**Second Piece of Information:** “The Lord, → the God → of the Spirits of the prophets...” I am not sure why God did this but He now appears to be doubling down on His previous statement, “The angel said to me, → ‘These words are trustworthy and true.’ Except this time He/God is approaching this subject from the Old Testament position. Remember, God was also the **‘Old Testament Author’** through the words of the prophets.

I am also not sure why God opened up this portion of our verse by repeating His identification with two separate words, “The Lord” and “The God”, but He did! The Greek Translator translates it this way, “And the Lord God of the prophets sent His angel to show His slaves what must happen quickly.” However, based on the words in the Greek Translator it would seem to me that, God is associating the word: “Lord” with the word “slave” which would be understandable by all men of all periods. Then He/God use the word “God” to the next portion of this verse “...of the Spirit of the prophets.” To me this second association is a direct correlation to a biblical concept know as, **‘All scripture is the Inspired Word of God’**.

**Kings, 17:13, “The Lord warned Israel & Judah through all His prophets and seers...”**

**Nehemiah 9:30, “For many years You were patient with them. By Your Spirit you admonished them through Your prophets.”**

**Peter, 1:21, “For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”**

**Tim. 3:16-17, “All scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correctly and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good word.”**

Again, the Bible makes it very clear that all of the bible is the inspired word of God and was not conceived by any human. However, when we are dealing with the world and its **‘deceptions and lies’** we need to be aware of the fact that: Many Humans will try to tear down the words within the Bible, even to the extent of saying it is a false document or certain parts are false. They will also try to confuse

others by mis-quoting scripture or selectively quoting scripture. Remember, Satan is the father of all liars and he always uses **'deception and lies'**—remember, Eve in the garden of Eden!

However, in our case, these words are the words of the **'Creator God'** and are **"trustworthy and true"**, because God cannot **'Lie'**.

**Third Piece of Information:** **"...sent His angel..."** To me these three words are just a transition between the **'two topic'**, as follows:

**First Topic:** Which in this case is the creator, **"The Lord, → the God of the Spirits of the prophets..."**

**Transition or Connection:** Which in this case is the messenger of the **"Lord/God of Creation"**, → **sent His angel**

**Second Topic:** **"...to show His servants → the things that must soon take place'."** (We will discuss the meaning of this next)

Last, it appears to me that God put these three words in to let us know; How He/God conveyed this information to John and then to us through John's words. I think the other way to look at these words is that they are sent directly from God—by **"His angel/messenger"**, therefore, they would be what I would consider **'very reliable information that men should take to heart'**.

**Fourth Piece of Information:** **"...to show His servants → the things that must soon take place'."** The next part of this verse is broken down into two parts, both of which carry important meaning/hope for **'Gods Saints on this Earth'**.

**First Part:** **"...to show His servants..."** . It appears to me to correctly understand these words we need to remember: **'Why the entire Book of Revelation'** was written, Rev. 1:1, (The primary subject of this book) → **"The revelation of Jesus Christ,** (The author of the Book & Reason for the Book) → **which God gave Him to show** (to provide all of humanity, specifically the Saints of Jesus—How the History of the Church Period and How the End Times period would unfold) → **His** (The servants of Jesus) **servants what must soon take place.** (I added this

last section because it adds additional support to our previous section) → **He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John.**

**Second Presenter:** This section only contains one verse: verse 7, in which Jesus is offering a 'Specific Promise of a Blessing' to those who keep the words of the prophecy in this book. (Two potential meaning → The Book of Revelation and the Holy Bible).

### **Verse 7—Second Presenter:**

NIV, **"Behold, → I am coming soon! → Blessed is he who keeps → the words of the prophecy in this book."** Greek Translator, **"Behold, → I am coming quickly! → Blessed is the one keeping → the words of the prophecy of this Scroll."** Verse 7 is the second time (in a row) that God has repeated that these words are **"Trustworthy & True"**. Also, notice that this time the speaker is **Jesus Christ**. However, these words appear to be in the form of a potential **"blessing"**, but also speak to the primary subject, which is that they are **"Trustworthy & True"**. I will break down the words within this verse to make it easier to understand, as follows:

**First Part—verse 7: "Behold"** My 'Vines Concise Dictionary', (as it relates to 'The apocalypse') defines this word this way, **"to see" → calling attention to what may be seen or heard or mentally apprehended in any way."** I think this definition is probably correct as it appears to me that after the 'angel of God' appeared and made his statement in verse 6, Jesus was so excited and happy for His Saints that He had to break in to the conversation and provide this additional **'blessing'**. Then John follows up in verse 8b with the same message. Again, just my opinion read and make up your own mind.

**Second Part—verse 7: "I am coming soon!"** Remember, this is Jesus speaking and testifying to the **"trustworthiness & truthfulness"** of the words that God was giving in the book of Revelation. Also, keep in mind that this is the second of three methods or way that God will present this same information and from three different speakers. I think it is also important to keep in mind that, 'All of these Methods/ways' of conveying this information was designed by God to provide

**'Complete Assurance to His Saints—That every promise that He/God made to them, since time began, would be Fulfilled by this point in, what we call time.'**

However, in this same chapter Jesus also uses these words in verse 12, **"Behold, I am coming soon!"** To assure His Saints that: **"My reward is with Me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done."** Then, Jesus again uses this same concept in verse 20 again, testifies about a warning given in verse 19 about changing the words within this book (Revelation), **"He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon.'"**

These same words are also used by Jesus in Rev. 3:11, **"I am coming soon! Hold on to what you have so that no one will take away your crown."** Where He/Jesus is talking to the church in Philadelphia and telling them to remain steadfast until the end. Note: I also think that Jesus spoke these words to the church in Philadelphia, because He/Jesus knew that the next church period was, 'Laodicea' which would be the. **'Great Falling away Church'**.

Also, if you want more information on this concept see: 1 Thess. 4:13-18 ( the imminent return of Jesus) and Titus 2:12-17, (the blessed hope—the glories appearing—of Jesus).

**Third Part—verse 7: "Blessed is he who keeps..."** I think the way Jesus is using the word **"Blessed"** in this sentence is the key to understanding the entire sentence. My Vines Concise Dictionary states that this word is used as an adjective and primarily in the **'Beatitudes—Matt. Ch. 5 & Luke Ch. 6'**, and the book of Revelation. It also defines it this way, **"In the beatitudes the Lord indicates not only the characters that are "blessed" but the nature of that which is highest good."**

**Matthew Chapter 5:** The portion of the beatitudes that actually uses the word **"Blessed"** is in matt. 5:3-11, and use the word **"Blessed"** to begin each of the 9 beatitudes listed.

**Revelation:** The word **"Blessed"** is found 7 times in the book of Revelation. It first appears in chapter one and ends in chapter 22. I think that there are several interesting points in these verses.

**Revelation—Point One:** The first time this word is used is in Rev. 1:3, **“Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.”** This verse actually falls within the opening comments of this book, which speaks to the **“revelation of Jesus Christ”** and appears to be being said by God the Father. Now we find this same word used in the last chapter of this book, except this time it is used by Jesus Him-Self and again is used to **“Bless”** people who: **“Blessed is the one who → keeps the words of the prophecy in this book.”** Notice the first time it is used it is talking about the person who **“reads & hears”**, where in the last time it is used it is talking about the person who, **“keeps”**. Again, I think this points to the fact that the Holy Bible could only be authored by one being and that being is; **The One and only God of Creation.**

**NOTE:** It appears to me that in the next six times that this word **“Blessed”** is used in the Book of Revelation, God is stating some type of positive **‘Attribute or Characteristic’** demonstrated by one of His Saints. I will list the next six below.

**Revelation—Point Two:** The second time this word is used is in Rev. 14:13, **“Then I heard a voice from heaven say, ‘Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on’.”** This appears to be talking about the last 3 ½ years of the tribulation period, which will be extremely harsh for a saved person and remain alive during this period will be a big accomplishment.

**Revelation—Point Three:** The third time this word is used is in Rev. 16:15, **“Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so the he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed.”** Again, God is talking about a saved person, constantly walking a Christ like life—constancy of purpose.

**Revelation—Point Three:** The fourth time this word is used is in Rev. 19:9, **“Then the angel said to me, ‘write: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb’.”** These would be the saints (non-church saints) who have died and gone to heaven, prior to the **‘wedding supper’**, which I think

will happen sometimes during the seven year tribulation period. Remember, this specific group of saints are assured a place in the new creation.

**Revelation—Point Four:** The fifth time this word is used is in Rev. 20:6, **“Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priest of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.”** This is a powerful verse and list several blessing—benefits that this group of saints will have poured out on them.

**Revelation—Point Five:** The sixth time this word is used is in Rev. 22:7, which is our verse, **“Behold, → I am coming soon! → Blessed is he who keeps → the words of the prophecy in this book.”**

**Revelation—Point Six:** The seventh time this word is used is in Rev. 22:14, **“Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they might have the right to the tree of life and may go into the gates of the city.”** To me all of these quotes from Revelation build to this last one, which means that → Each of these saints have run the good race and reached the finish line, which is → **Living in the New Creation with God and Jesus—for all of eternity.**

**Final Note:** on **“Blessed is he who keeps...”** These words are also used twice to describe God, (these quotes are a little long but the context surrounding these verse is important to the correct understanding) 1 Tim. 1:8-11, **“We know that the law is good if a man used it properly. We also know that the law is made not for good men but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers and mothers, for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which He entrusted to me.”**

It is also used in 1 Tim. 6:11-15, **“But you, man of God, flee from all of this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Jesus Christ, who while**

testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep this commandment with-out spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. which God will bring about in His own good time—God, *the blessed and only ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords*, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To Him be honor and might forever. Amen.”

**Fourth Part—verse 7:** “...the words of the prophecy in this book.” We talked about this portion of the verse above, however, I will repeat → The first time this word is used is in Rev. 1:3, “*Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.*”. This verse actually falls within the opening comments of this book, which speaks to the “*revelation of Jesus Christ*” and appears to be being said by God the Father. Now we find this same word group used in the last chapter of this book, except this time it is used by Jesus Him-Self and again is used to “*Bless*” people who: “*Blessed is the one who* → *keeps the words of the prophecy in this book.*” Notice the first time it is used it is talking about the person who “*reads & hears*”, where in the last time it is used it is talking about the person who, “*keeps*” → “...the words of the prophecy in this book.” Again, I think this points to the fact that the Holy Bible could only be authored by one being and that being is; **The One and only God of Creation**.

### **Verse 8a—Third Presenter:**

Verse 8 is the third time (in a row) that God has repeated that these words are “*Trustworthy & True*”, however this time the words are from John, where he is testifying that he actually saw & heard all of what he has written.

**Verse 8a:** “*I, John am the one who heard and saw these things.*” Again, this is the third time in a row that God has repeated that these words are, “*Trustworthy & True*”, and by three different speakers, ‘**Gods Angel – Jesus Christ— and now John**’, the individual that actually wrote the words within this book. We all know that when God repeats something more than once it is important to all of

creation and God wants us to know that these words are important to His saints. I think God is making sure that His saints are **'assured'** of their **'FUTURE'**.

Also, John used this concept of testifying to what he is seeing in several places within this book. However, I think it is interesting how God began this book using this same concept and also ends the book with this same concept, Rev. 1:1b-2, **"he made it known by sending His angel to His servant John, who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ."**

Again, only the God of Creation could do something like this.

**Sub-section Three:** In verses 8b-9, John is again speaking to the angel and again tries to worship him (angel) and the angels quickly corrects John for trying to worship him (the angel—for the second time). **"And when I had heard and seen them, → I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. → But he said to me, 'Do not do it! → I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. → Worship God'."** I have broken this verse down into five basic sub-topics to make it easier to understand and discuss, as follows:

**Sub-topic One:** **"And when I had heard and seen them..."** To me these are just John's words/method of transitioning from the subject in verses 6-7 into verse 8b-9. The **"And"** appears to actually be the transition words and the **"...when I had heard and seen..."** are stating that John had first-hand knowledge of these events, → and the **"them"** is talking about the **"angel"** in verse 6 and **'Jesus Christ'** in verse 7 & **'All of the Information/Words that 'They' had been Communicating'**.

**Sub-topic Two:** **"...I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me."** This is the second time that John has made this type of mistake. John did this same thing in Rev. 19:9-10a, which was the **'Wedding Supper of the Lamb and His Bride'**, **"Then the angel said to me, → 'Write: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the lamb!' → And he added, 'These are the true words of God.' → At this I fell at his feet to worship him."**

We are not told why John did this same **'sin'** twice, however, it is my opinion that: **'When any human finds themselves in the presence of such power—the first thing that they do is cower and gravel as a way of trying to save themselves from death and destruction.'** Just me opinion.

**Sub-topic Three:** **"But he said to me, 'Do not do it!'"** And again the angel in this portion of John's vision, quickly corrected him, which is the same thing that the angel did in verse 19:10b, **"But he said to me, 'Do not do it!'"** Notice the exact same words are used. Remember, these angels are from the group of angels that are part of the 2/3 that did not fall with Satan.

**Sub-topic Four:** **"I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers → the prophets and → of all who keep the words of this book."**

- 1) And again this angel begins his statement by using many of the same words as the one in verse 10c, **"I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers..."**
- 2) However, in our verse the angel also adds an additional definition of **"brothers"**, which is defined as; **"...the prophets..."**.
- 3) Also, this angel ends the verse with a different closing, in our verse he states, **"...and of all who keep the words of this book."** whereas in verse 19:10, he says, **"...who hold to the testimony of Jesus."** (ref. vs. 7)  
Appears to be saying about the same thing but using different words!

**Sub-topic Five:** **"Worship God'."** Last, the angel quickly redirects John's worship to the correct being that is worthy of worship: **'The One and Only—God of Creation'**. This is also the same closing as in Rev. 19:10.

**Sub-section Four:** In verses 10-11, the angel provides additional general information, about the concepts within the book of Revelation. There are two distinct concepts presented in verses 10 & 11, which to me appear to be quite different and somewhat unrelated to the previous scripture.

**Verse 10, First Concept:** **"Then he told me, → 'Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, because the time is near.'"** Most scholars believe that this

verse needs to be analyzed based on the time period from: Daniel to the ‘**End of the First Creation**’, I will explain. In Daniel 12, verse 4, Daniel is told, **“But you, Daniel, → close up and seal the words of the scroll → until the time of the end.”**

In Dan. 12:4, Daniel is told to **“...close up and seal the words of the scroll...”** however, the next part of this verse defines the time period for which this information is to be **“closed up”**, which is, **“...until the time of the end.”** Which is exactly where we are in terms of time remaining within the first creation. Also, keep in mind that all of the dreams of Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel and their interpretations were focused on, **‘Prophesying the Events Yet to Come in the History of the First Creation’**. However, there would be large gaps of time between many of these events: Like, Daniels ‘**Seventy Week Prophecy for Israel**’, which already has about a 2,000+ years gap between the 69<sup>th</sup> week and the 70<sup>th</sup> week.

To me there are seven major mile markers within this time period in which mankind should be able to fill in many of the blanks that could not previously be understood.

**Beginning Point:** The time of Daniel, ~ 600 BC.

**First Marker:** The beginning year in which the Israelites began to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem, ~450 BC, (Babylonian captivity)

**Second Marker:** The period in which Jesus actually walked the earth, ~ 0 to 33 AD.

**Third Marker:** The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem/Jerusalem and the dispersion of Israel as a nation, ~ 70 AD.

**Fourth Marker:** The time of the church; Pentecost to Rapture, ~ 2,000 years and counting.

**Fifth Marker:** The actual Rapture of the church, timing unknow.

**Sixth Marker:** The Seven Year Tribulation Period’, which will begin shortly after the rapture of the church.

**Seventh Marker:** The Millennial Reign of Jesus on Earth, after the Tribulation period.

Again, to me at each of these mile markers, mankind should be able to use the previous history to fill in many of the unknown blanks and then be able to tell/understand what is next on God's Timeline for this creation.

**Verse 11, Second Concept:** **“Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; → let him who is vile continue to be vile; → let him who does right continue to do right; → and let him who is holy continue to be holy.”** Many people/scholars over the years have had a major issues with this verse. They cannot accept that God would say these words about any individual in His Creation. However, many scholars believe that to correctly understand this verse:

**First:** You must correctly understand at what point in time these words are being said?

**Second:** You must accept that it is → given as an actual view of the history of humanity from Gods perspective.

**Third:** You must understand that God gave us this verse so that we would understand the: Current Difference Between a Saved Person and An Un-Saved Person. And that this difference would not only exist in this creation but would also carry-forward into the next creation.

Humanity came into this world, and was '**Created Perfect**', however, they decided to exercise their '**Freewill**' and separated themselves from God, which would have been for all of eternity → If God had not had a plan to allow man to '**redeem himself back to God—through the blood of Jesus**'. However, as time passed, more and more humans pulled away from God (as a % of the total population).

**Examples:** Cain → The Humans of the Flood → Tower of Babel → Israel → Assyria → Babylon → Meds-Persians → Romans → Europe → Asia → Russia → Africa → South America you get the idea!

**Wars:** Wars have become part of humanities DNA, and the normal way we settle issues is '**Killing Other Humans**'.

**Hate:** The earth has become filled with: **'Many People Groups'**, each divided by **'SOMETHING'**, (Religion—Government—Location—Economy—Culture) which causes them to **'Hate All Other People Groups—Not Like Them'**. However, the root cause of this hate is; Man want to control all other men.

**God Haters:** Many humans/people groups **'Hate God'** because He/Jesus sheds the light on their sins and this is the most irritating thing to almost all humans. All people sin and most do not want to be told that they are a sinner/doing wrong and especially if their sin/wrong doing is pointed out; by and to their fellow man!

### **Summary:**

Therefore, what God is saying is that the people who fall into each of these two groups (saved & unsaved) will → Continue on the path that they are on for all of eternity. The **'saved'** will become more and more **"holy"** as they move into eternity with God and the **'unsaved'** will become more and more **"vile"** as they move into eternity without God. We are not told exactly how the unsaved will become more **"vile"** throughout eternity, however, it appears to me that permanent and eternal separation from God would be a good reason. **For saved people the answer is obvious – living, face to face with God and Jesus for eternity.**

### **Sub-section Five:**

In verses 12-16, Jesus is speaking; and appears to be speaking, in general terms, about **His → Authority and Power and Reward and Position**, primarily to the **'Saved, but also to the unsaved'**. However, He/Jesus is also, again speaking about the **'Assuring His (Jesus) Saints that All of the Words within this Book/Bible are Trustworthy & True'** (like we saw in verse 6, 7 & 8 above). To me these five verse (12-16) appear to be separated into three separate parts, however, it also appears that they continue on with the same message that we have seen/will see in verses 6-21. And even all of chapters 19-22.

**Part One:** Contains verse 12-13, which to me speak about the **'Authority & Power & Position of Jesus & Reward + Assurance'**. (Remember, this is Jesus

speaking) **“Behold, I am coming soon! → My reward is with Me, → and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. → I am the Alpha and the Omega, → the First and the Last, → the Beginning and the End.”**

**Verse 12a: “Behold, I am coming soon!**

- 1) **“Behold”** Again, my **‘Vines Concise Dictionary’**, (as it relates to **‘The apocalypse’**) defines this word this way, **‘to see’ → calling attention to what may be seen or heard or mentally apprehended in any way.’** Keep in mind that this is the second time that these words have been used in Revelation Chapter 20 and were spoken by Jesus Christ in both cases. (The third time will be in Rev. 22:20). Remember, the first time was in Rev. 20:7 However, when Jesus used these words in Rev. 20:7, He was testifying to the fact that the words in this book were, **“Trustworthy & True”** and also speaks about a potential **“blessing”**.
- 2) **“I am coming soon.”** Again, keep in mind that this is the second time Jesus has used these same words, except this time it will be used to **‘Convey Complete Assurance to His Saints—That All of Their Godly Deeds Will be Remembered and Rewards Will Forth Coming.’** If you want more information on this **‘Assurance Concept’** see: 1 Thess. 4:13-18 ( the imminent return of Jesus) and Titus 2:12-17, (the blessed hope—the glories appearing—of Jesus).

**Verse 12b: My reward is with Me, → and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.”** To me this verse has to be tied somehow to verses like;

**Rev. 3:11, “I am coming soon! Hold on to what you have so that no one will take away your crown.”** Where He/Jesus is talking specifically to the church in Philadelphia and telling them to remain steadfast until the end, however, remember these words would also apply to ever church period and saints who has ever lived.

**Also, 2 Cor. 5:10, “For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, weather good or bad.”** Which is God explaining to His saints, what appears to be their first step after death → In heaven.

However, based on the chronological order, in which this verse appears in the book of Revelation/Bible, it does not seem likely that it was written to the saints of this point in time (New Creation) → As they will have already experienced: **All of the Blessing that they have earned, while on this earth.** Therefore, I believe that it was written to all of the saints who have lived since the time the Book of Revelation was written—To Assure them that all of the promises made by God and Jesus are **‘Trustworthy & True’** and will come to pass → **‘Just as Prophesied’**.

**Verse 13: ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega, → the First and the Last, → the Beginning and the End.’** In verse 13, Jesus repeats three specific **‘characteristics or details about Him’**. These same words have been used throughout the Bible to describe both God the Father, as well as, Jesus the Son.

**Isaiah, 41:4, “Who has done this and carried it through, calling forth the generations from the beginning? I, the Lord—with the First of them and with the Last—I am He.”**

**Isaiah, 44:6, “this is what the Lord says, ‘Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty; I am the First and the Last; apart from Me there is no God’.”**

**Isaiah, 46:10, “I make known the end from the Beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say; My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please’.”**

**Isaiah, 48:12, “Listen to me, O Jacob, Israel, whom I have called; I am He; I am the First and I am the Last.”**

**Rev.1:8, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”**

**Rev. 1:17a-18, “Do not be afraid, I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One, I was dead and behold I am alive for ever and ever. I hold the keys to death and hades.”**

**Rev, 2:8, “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: ‘These are the words of Him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again.’”**

Rev. 21:6-7, "He said to me, 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End'."

Again, this is not a new concept but, what I would call a **'Cornerstone Concept About God/Jesus'** and appears throughout the entire bible. And given it is among all the other verse focused on **'Assuring God/Jesus Saints'** as to the **'Truthfulness & Trustworthiness'** of **'All of Gods/Jesus'** words to them, throughout the entire Bible. Remember, this appears to be the central theme of verses 6-16.

**Part Two:** Contains verses 14-15, in which Jesus is speaking about the two sides of mortal humanity—'saved vs. unsaved'. However, in these words Jesus provides vivid examples of these two sides of humanity → **'Saved vs. Unsaved'**. **Note:** I think it is, as always, a good idea to keep in mind that: God gives us words that we can understand and develop a good mental word picture of → **'Exactly, How He/God'** views a specific situation. **Verse 14, "Blessed are those who wash their robes, → that they may have the right to the tree of life and → may go through the gates into the city. Verse 15, Outside → are the dogs, → those who practices magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murders, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehoods."**

**Verse 14a, "Blessed are those who wash their robes..."** Verse 14 is the one where Jesus is, explaining the **"blessings"** that the saints will receive in the **'New Creation'**. However, He/Jesus breaks this into two parts:

**Part One:** In this part — Jesus first states that this specific group is **"Blessed"** which to me is saying that this group → Has accepted/received the **'grace'** of God and will receive a **'Reward'** after death—in Heaven. This concept is one of the primary concepts throughout the entire Bible and has been promised since creation by all three components of the Trinity. Next, Jesus tells the reader or **'all of creation'**: **'Exactly How This Group Became Blessed'**, **"...are those who wash their robes..."** In verse 7 above we talked a lot about the word **"Blessed"**, however in that case it was being used to define a different type of **'Holy Action'**, verse 7, **"Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book."**, whereas, in our verse the **'Holy Action'** to me has a much more all-inclusive

meaning: 'The Method of Obtaining Salvation—which is in reality is Gods Grace'.  
I have listed several verse below for your review:

Rev. 7:14, "I answered, 'Sir, you know.' And he said, 'these are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made themselves white in the blood of the Lamb'."

1 Peter, 1:18-19, "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver and gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect."

Heb. 9:14, "How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Him-Self unblemished to God, cleanse our conscience from acts that lead to death, so the we may serve the living God."

Eph. 1:7, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace..." also see, verse 8-12

I think these verse provide us with a good understanding of exactly what Jesus was saying. However, also remember all of the 9 **'Beatitudes'** (Matt. 5:1-17) begin with the word **"Blessed"**, as well as, many more throughout scripture.

Verse 14b, "...that they may have the right to the tree of life and → may go through the gates into the city." In the second part of verse 14, Jesus → **'Simply States: What the Blessing Will Be For This Group of Saints/People'**. This statement is broken into two parts, as follows:

**Part One:** "...that they may have the right to the tree of life...", which is referencing one of the **'Blessing That the Saints will Receive in the New Creation'** that were described in Rev. 22:2b, "On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding it fruit every month." Also, I think it is very interesting that in this verse God uses the word **"right"** to describe what these saints/people have earned by their actions while on this earth.

**Part Two:** “...and may go through the gates into the city.”, which is referencing the **‘New Creation’** described in, all of revelation Chapter 21 and Rev. 22:1-5. However, I think that these words are specifically talking about the **‘New Jerusalem’**.

Last, it appears that Jesus is providing us with a macro view of the blessing provided to His saints; so that the reader will have something to compare to or against when they read verse 15, which is talking about the unsaved.

**Verse 15.** “Outside → are the dogs, → I like this one too, Deut. 23:18, **“You must not bring the earning of a female prostitute (of a dog) or of a male prostitute (of a dog) into the house of the Lord your God to pay any vow, because the Lord your God detest them both.”** I am not actually sure why God put these words in at this point in Revelation. From a chronological stand point, when we all get to this point in time → every created being that has ever been created → future will have already been determined. Therefore, it appears to me that God put these words in to make sure that every human knows that: All people who have ever been created will be accounted for in one of two groups → Saved or Un-saved. And God has already described the future blessing of the **‘Saved’** in verse 14 and now will provide us with a brief summary of what will become of the **‘Un-saved--Dogs’** in verse 15. To me this verse is broken into three separate parts, as follows:

**Part One:** “Outside...” To me Jesus starts off this verse by telling us that this group will be “Outside”, meaning “Outside” of what-ever was being talked about in the last verse, which was: “...and may go through the gates into the city.”, or the **‘New Jerusalem/Creation’**. Actually they will be in the **‘Lake of Burning Sulfur’** for all of eternity.

**Part Two:** “...are the dogs...” In the next part of this verse, Jesus quickly provides us with, what I believe to be a description or definition of this next group, which He defines as “dogs”. It is my opinion that Jesus is saying that this group is made up of **‘unsaved people’**. In Philippians 3:2, Paul provides us with a definition of the word “dogs”, “Watch out for those dogs, those men who do evil, those mutilators of flesh.” And again in Matt. 15:21-28, quoted, 26-27, “He

replied, 'It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs'. Yes, Lord, she said, but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the masters table." I like this one too, Deut. 23:18, "You must not bring the earning of a female prostitute (of a dog) or of a male prostitute (of a dog) into the house of the Lord your God to pay any vow, because the Lord your God detest them both."

Also, this same comparison has already been made in Rev. 21:7-8, as part of God telling us: **Who Will & Who Will Not—Inherit the New Creation**, "He who overcomes will inherit all of this, and I will be his God and he will be My son. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice the magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the Lake of Burning sulfur. This is the second death.'

**Part Three:** "...those who practices magic arts, → the sexually immoral, → the murders, → the idolaters and → everyone who loves and practices falsehoods." This same comparison has already been made in Rev. 21:7-8, as part of God telling us: **Who Will & Who Will Not—Inherit the New Creation**, "He who overcomes will inherit all of this, and I will be his God and he will be My son. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice the magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the Lake of Burning sulfur. This is the second death.' Therefore, based on all of this scripture, I think Jesus/God is talking about all of the 'Un-Saved People' who have ever lived and/or died up until the last second of the Millennial reign of Jesus on Earth. However, notice that in both of these scripture quotes Jesus does not specifically say that these people are 'Un-saved', rather He/Jesus defines them by their actions while on this earth. I guess your 'Actions' while you are on this earth → **do matter—To Jesus/God!**

**Part Three:** Part three only contains one verse, verse 16, which is again Jesus speaking. "I, Jesus, → have sent My angel to give you (all saints, since the time of this writing) → this testimony for the churches. → I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star." To me in this verse Jesus

continues to convey ‘Assurances to His Saints’, which has been happening since verse 6. I will break down the four parts of this verse into more detail, as follows:

**Part One:** “I, Jesus...” First, Jesus announces that He/Jesus is the one talking. Keep in mind that it has been Jesus doing the talking, beginning in verse 12, until our verse, 16.

**Part Two:** “...have sent My angel to give you, (all saints, since the time of this writing: church—tribulation—millennial) → this testimony for the churches.”

To me to correctly understand these two statements, we need to go back and look at how God began the entire process of presenting to His saints: ‘The End Times Process’. I will only quote verse out of Revelation Chapter.

**Rev. 1:1,** “The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants, what must soon take place. He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John.”

**Rev. 1:10-11,** “On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like trumpet, which said; ‘write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.”

**Part Three:** “...I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.” Again, I believe to correctly understand this statement, we only need to look back at the Book of Revelation:

**Rev. 1:17-20,** “when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. Then He placed His right hand on me and said; ‘Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One, I was dead and behold I am Alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys to death and Hades. Write, therefore what you have seen, was is now and what will take place later. The mystery that you saw in My right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the seven angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches’.”

**Also, Rev. 2:1, “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of Him who holds the seven stars in His right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands.”**

**Also, Rev. 2:1, “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of Him who is the First and the last, who died and came back to life again.”**

**Also, Rev.3:1a, “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.”**

**Also, Rev. 3:7, “To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David,. What He opens, no one can shut; and what He shuts, no one can open.”**

**Also, Rev. 5:5, “Then one of the elders said to me, ‘Do not weep! See, the Loin of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.’”**

**Also, Rev. 19:1-10, which is the **Hallelujah Choir** in heaven and the wedding supper of **Jesus Christ and His bride—The Church.****

**Also, Rev. 19:11-21, which is the ‘**Second Coming Of Jesus**’ to retake control of the earth, for **God the Father,** **“On His robe and on His thigh He has His name written: ‘King of Kings and Lord of Lords’.”****

**Also, Rev. 21:23, “The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.”**

**Also, Rev. 22:1, “Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb...”**

I think you can see that the concept being talked about in our verse is the central theme throughout the entire Book of Revelation. Remember, our section also had verses: 7 & 12-16, speaking to this same issue.

Therefore, to me the Book of Revelation began with this concept and reiterated it throughout the entire book and now verse 16 again repeats this concept, **“I,**

Jesus, → have sent My angel to give you (all saints, since the time of this writing) → this testimony for the churches. → I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

To me verse 16 ends the verses (6-16) in chapter 22 in which God provides many different speakers and ways to bring ‘Assurance’ to His saints that all of His words in Revelations and the entire Bible are ‘Trustworthy and Truth-full.’

**Sub-section Six:** Again, this next section only contains one verse, verse 17. However, it appears to me that we have two new speaker, which are the ‘Holy Spirit & the Church’ (bride) and would be what I would call → the ‘Last Alter Call’ written in the Bible. Also, notice that there appears to be a ‘subject change’. The previous 11 verses (6-16) have been primarily focused on three different speakers (angel, John, Jesus) talking about ‘Trustworthiness & Truthfulness of God’s Word’, as well as, ‘The Assurance’ that all of the ‘blessing/benefits’, that the saints have been promised throughout all of scripture → will all come true. And the ‘Power, Position and Authority of Jesus’. As a matter of fact, by this point in time—they (blessings & benefits) will have already come true as promised and all saints will have already experienced these blessing/benefits, however, the unfortunate thing is that the unsaved will also have experienced the ‘Lake of Burning Sulfur/Fire’ and it will be forever.

**Verse 17:** “The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come!’ → And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ → Whoever is thirsty, let him come; → and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.” Verse 17 appears to be broken down into four parts, however, all four parts are focused on one subject → ‘Inviting unsaved people to “Come” and be saved’. And as I said above, it appears to me that this ‘invitation’ come in four different forms.

**First Form of Invitation:** “The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come!’” To me this is the first of the four invitations to repent and be saved and it is being made or presented by: ‘The Holy Spirit’ and ‘The “bride”, church’. To me this would seem reasonable as the words of the New Testament and specifically the Book of Revelation was written to the people who would be living during the period of the

church, the tribulations and then the millennium. Also, during the church period (chapters 2-3 in Revelation—Pentecost to the Rapture) the church and the Holy Spirit, it's protector, would be the primary means by which an unsaved person would be saved.

**Second Form of Invitation:** **“And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’”** Actually, all three invitations end with the word **“come”**, except to me they each present a different set of circumstances or method from which the unsaved person is coming! I will provide some discussion on each below:

To me the first invitation, **“The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come!’”** appears to be what I would call a standard invitation made in a church, or church related events. Just my opinion.

To me the second invitation, **“And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’”** appears to be what I would call the traditional method of presenting the gospel to the unsaved → **‘Evangelism by Word of Mouth by Other Christians’** → **By Speaking the Good News of Jesus**. I think that there are several points (scriptures) on this issue worth discussing:

**One:** In each of the seven letters to the churches, Jesus ended His words with the following words, **“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”** Again, these words were spoken to all seven churches, which would include the entire church period (Pentecost to Rapture). And Jesus/Holy Spirit meant that each of these specific churches should listen and take to heart all of → What was being said (positive and negative) to each of the seven Churches, as every church period may have had their own specific problems but they also had **‘All of these Problems and were in Every Church’**.

**Two:** Paul makes this statement in Romans, 10:17, **“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the words of Christ.”** Which in reality is one of the primary concepts within the entire New Testament. Matthew also uses these words in Matt. 13:9, which is part of the Parable of the Sower and is being again spoken by Jesus, **“He who has an ear, let**

**him hear.”** Jesus also used these same words in Matt. 11:15, when Jesus is comparing John the Baptist to Elijah.

**Note:** we will discuss the third form in the next section.

**Third Form of Invitation:** **“Whoever is thirsty, let him come...”** Jesus, Him-self, spoke the words in John 7:37, **“On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, ‘If a man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever, believes in Me, as the scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him’.”** Also, in John, 6:35, Jesus said this, **“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to eat will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty’.”** In these scriptures Jesus is stating that: **‘He/Jesus is/was the way to eternal life’**. However, He/Jesus is using words that would paint a clear mental words picture within every humans mind that have ever lived and that everyone world with could understand → **‘Both Food & Water’** are required to sustain human life.

I think it is also worth noticing, that Jesus used this same concept when He/God/Jesus is describing: The specific group that will receive this benefit, when they arrive in the New Heaven, Earth and Jerusalem, Rev. 21:6-7, **“He said to me, ‘It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega. The Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of water of the life. He who overcomes will inherit all of this, and I will be his God and he will be My son’.”**

However, to me this also speaks to the issue of: **‘Men Seeking Something to Bring Peace (quenching their thirst) & Meaning → to Their Lives and this Peace (quenching their thirst) Can Only Come from God’**. There are many verse within scripture that speak to this issue, whoever, I like these:

**Romans, 5:1, “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

**John, 16:33, “I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”**

2 Thess., 3:16, "Now may the Lord of peace Him-Self give you peace at all times and in every way."

Phil., 4:7, "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your mind in Jesus Christ."

James, 3:17-18, "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and considerate. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise harvest of righteous."

John, 14:27, "All this I have spoken while I was with you. But the counselor, the Holy Spirit, who the Father will send in My name, will teach you all thing and will remind you of everything I said to you. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Again, it is my conclusion that the only way to 'quench a humans spiritual thirst' is through Jesus Christ, which will bring about a "peace" within their lives that cannot be found in any other way. This is just my opinion and there are many more verse within scripture on this issue so read and make up your own mind.

**Fourth Form of Invitation:** "...and whoever wishes, → let him take the free gift → of the water of life." I decided to analyze these three word groups as one because: This is the natural flow when a person is 'saved'.

**One:** "...and whoever wishes..." To me this is God stating that, ever human has 'Freewill' to decide to either 'Accept Him as Their God and Follow His Rules' or 'Not'. Based on scripture it is obvious that God from the beginning created humanity with this ability → with Adam & Eve, being the first to demonstrate this ability, even if they did not choose wisely! Another good example of this 'Freewill Ability' is demonstrated in the twelve disciples: Eleven chose to use their 'Freewill' too choose to 'Submit and Follow Jesus' and yet one chose to use his 'Freewill' to 'Rebel and Not Follow Jesus'.

**Two:** “...let him take the free gift...” To me this is talking about the ‘shed blood of Jesus, which he gives freely to all who will accept Him’, which God has given freely to every human who will use their ‘freewill’ to seek Him. And then → God has provided the Holy Spirit to indwell us and help us to ‘live a Christ like life’ and this is also ‘At No Cost to Us’. Again, this ‘gift’ that God is providing as a ‘free gift’ → cannot be bought with ‘Anything, Anywhere in Creation’, it must come from God.

**Romans, 6:23,** “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in (through) Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**Eph. 2:8-9,** “For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourself, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”

**John, 3:16,** “for God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

**2 Cor. 9:15,** “Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”

**Three:** “...of the water of life.” In the last part of this section, God provides the reader with the benefit that they will receive for making the decision to accept God ‘free gift of eternal salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ’, as stated in the first two parts of this verse, “...and whoever wishes, → let him take the free gift...” Actually “...the water of life.” is what I would call the finish line for all believers-saints. A simplified way of explaining this is: ‘Obtaining Salvation’ is the first step in this race and “...the water of life.” is the ‘Finish Line’, which will carry you into ‘Eternity with God and Jesus’.

As I said in the beginning of this section, it appears to me that this is God presenting a simplified version of the steps in the ‘Salvation Process’, and every human can choose to either ‘Accept God’s Free Gift’ and receive its benefits; “...the water of life.” or ‘They Can Reject God’s Free Gift’ and never receive the free gift of, “...the water of life.” However, this is a ‘choose door one or choose door two decision’. No one can opt out of this process that God has put in front of each human. God in His grace has made it possible for everyone to ‘freely have

**access to door one** if they will only choose Jesus → however, if they refuse to chose door one then they will automatically receive **'door two'** and it will be for eternity: **'And Door Two is the Lake of Burning Sulfur'**. The choice is there's to make while on this earth.

### **Summary:**

Again, it appears to me that God is ending the Holy Bible with one **'Last altar Call'** and He has provided it in four different ways and with probably four different speakers (my opinion) → **The Holy Spirit & the Church Saints** → **Jesus Christ** → **and God the Father**.

**Sub-section Seven:** Contains verses 18-21 and appear to be primarily and angel speaking and makes three specific statements:

**First Statement:** In verses 18, he gives a specific warning to all human beings to not change the words within this book (focuses on **"adding to"**) or they will receive, **"...the plagues described in this book."**

**Second Statement:** In verses 19, he (the angel) again gives a specific warning to all human beings not change the words within this book (focuses on **"taking away"**) or they will NOT receive, **"...his share of the tree of life."**

**Third Statement:** In verse 20 Jesus makes a specific statement about His/Jesus testimony about all of the words within this book (Revelation & Bible) and His Coming. (I think this would include all comings—Rapture—Second Coming to earth—Millennial Reign and Eternity).

**Fourth Statement:** In verse 21, it appears that the angel speaking and is making a general statement about Jesus Coming and the Grace that Jesus will bestow on His People.

**Verses 18-21:** Now we will begin our detailed analysis of these verses, which are the final verse within the book of Revelation and the Holy Bible.

**First Statement—Verse 18:** **"I warn everyone who hears the words of this prophecy of this book: → If anyone adds anything to them, → God will add to**

**him the plagues described in this book.”** In verses 18, he (the angel) gives a specific warning to all human beings, not to change (add to) the words within this book or they will receive, **“...the plagues described in this book.”** There have been a lot of scholars who have interpreted this verse in a variety of ways:

**One:** That you can fall from grace and lose your salvation,

**Two:** That if you do not agree with their specific interpretation you are incorrect and out of touch with God.

However, to me the best way to interpret this verse is **‘literally’**, meaning, just as the words would normally be interpreted;

**Part One:** **“I warn everyone who hears the words of this prophecy of this book...”**

**First,** It appears to me that the first word ( I ) in this section identifies the one making or establishing this **‘warning’**, which is **‘God the Father’**. I believe that it had to come from the trinity as they are the only one with this kind of power.

**Second,** To me the word **“warn”** is putting the recipient of this warning on notice that something will happen if they do not heed the warning.

**Third,** in the last part of this section, God identifies who it is that he is putting on notice, **“...everyone who hears the words of this prophecy of this book...”** Actually I think the word **“hears”** means **‘hear or read’** and these words appear to be directed to all of creation → meaning, both human and angelic.

**Part Two:** **“If anyone adds anything to them, → God will add to him the plagues described in this book.”**

**First,** It appears to me that God is now defining, for all of creation, exactly what His warning is, **“If anyone adds anything to them,** Again, to me this is a straight forward statement by God and cannot be interpreted any other way than, exactly as it is spoken.

**Second,** In the last part of this section → God defines for all readers, exactly what the judgment will be for those who break Gods rule, as set out in the first part of

this verse → **God will add to him the plagues described in this book.** Again, to me this is very straight forward language and cannot be taken any other way than exactly as stated or literally. However, I do think that even though God was very specific about the penalty or judgement for adding words to this prophecy: It does not appear that God was specific as to the time period when this **‘penalty/judgment’** will be delivered. It appears that it could be in this lifetime or in eternity. As I said when we began, many scholars believe that this verse has a directly connected to a person’s ability to lose their salvation—Base solely on the word within this verse I cannot agree with their conclusion. Note: However, the next verse will change my conclusion.

**Second Statement—Verse 19:** **“And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, → God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and → in the Holy City, → which are described in this book.”** In verses 19, he (the angel) again gives a specific warning to all human beings not to change (except this time it is do not take away) the words within this book or they will NOT receive, **“...his share of the tree of life and → in the holy City...”** Again, to me this is very straight language and cannot be taken any other way than exactly as stated.

**First.** Again, (the second time) angel/God begins by making a statement of fact as it relates to the repercussions if any one takes away any of the words within the Book of Revelation, **“And if anyone takes words away from this book...”**. Again, we know it is the Book of Revelation being talked about as it is defined as, **“...this book of prophecy...”**

**Second.** In this next portion, angel/God makes the first of two statements about the judgement that will come for **“...takes words away from this book...”**, which is: **“...God will take away from him his share in the tree of life...”**, which means that they have disobeyed God in a way that will actually prevent them from ever being saved and receiving the blessing of eternal life in God’s New Creation. I think the other thing that we should notice is that God does not explain in detail: **‘How this Specific Rebellion Deserves Such a Harsh Judgment’**. However, we

know that it does, given God doubles down on this issue and provides further details on this judgement in the next portion.

**Third,** As I said above God, now provides us with additional details about the judgment for this rebellion, **“...God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and → in the Holy City...”** to me God put this second fact about this judgment in to make sure we understood: **‘What He/God Meant’**. I will explain, based on the words provided us by God in Revelation Chapters 21 & 22, He/God describes in some detail the **New Creation of Heaven, Earth and Jerusalem**. He/God also makes it very plain that the **“...tree of life...”** will reside within the **New Jerusalem**, which has always been considered – **God’s Holy City’**. Again, the words are straight forward and can only be interpreted one way—as stated.

**Note:** Again, verse 19 is the verse that many scholars point to, to justify their believe that someone can lose their salvation. However, I think that to correctly understand this verse you must first understand → The point of view from which God is making this statement to humanity. To me the bible has been very clear that: God would like for everyone to be saved and spend eternity with Him. 1 Tim. 2:3-4, **“This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.”** And that the method that men could be saved was provided by God as free gift and was sufficient to cover the sins of all men, 1 Peter, 3:18, **“For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous and unrighteous, to bring you to God.”** Also, Romans, 6:10, **“The death He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life He lives, He lives to God.”** However, all men were given **‘freewill’**, by God, to decide who they would serve—God or something else! Therefore, to me God is saying in this statement that He/God in His master plan that was developed before any creation, He/God had wanted (or it was His will) all men to end up in the new creation → However, breaking His rules would bring judgment and that is what He/God is saying in this verse: **“And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy...”** then, **“...God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and → in the Holy City...”** What is not apparent in verse 18 & 19 is why God only pronounced a **‘sever judgment’** on the people who broke His rules in verse 18 ( **“adds to”** ) and in verse 19,

pronounces a much more severe judgment, for ( **“taking away”** )—loss of being with God for eternity. Again, this is only my opinion based on my impression of my God and would not want to be dogmatic about any of this.

**Fourth.** If the second & third part of this verse were not straight forward enough, as it relates to the repercussions of breaking God's rules. God now follows up with a third statement that provides more details about this subject and even; **‘A Specific Location Where the Information Comes From’**, **“...which are described in this book.”** Again, about as straight forward and simple as God could have made it.

**Note:** I think examples of the type of people/groups that these words (verse 18-19) will have a major impact on their eternal destiny will be people/groups like: **The Islam Religion and Mormonism.** There are others but you get the idea!

However, I think that there is one more group that will bear a heavy responsibility for the accuracy of their words as it relates to what they say about the Book of Revelation: **‘And That Group is Christian—Preachers and Teachers’.**

**Third Statement—Verse 20:** **“He (Jesus) who testifies to these things say, ‘Yes, I am coming soon’.”** In verse 20 Jesus makes a specific statement about His/Jesus testimony, as to the **‘Truthfulness and Trustworthiness’** of **ALL** of the words within this book (Revelation & I believe the Bible) and His Coming. (I think this would for sure include all **‘Future Comings of Jesus’ —Rapture—Second Coming to earth—Millennial Reign and Eternity**). I think it is also worth noting that Jesus ends the Holy Bible with words of assurance to His saints about all that has been promised to them for their **‘faithful service—while on this earth’**. In 2 Peter chapter 3, Peter talks about this very period, End Times, and provides for us words that explain: why God/Jesus is waiting before beginning these **‘End Times Events’**, I like this one, 2 Peter, 3:9b, **“He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”** but → **that we can be assured that they will all take place—just as he/God/Jesus has prophesied.** Jesus also tells the people of the church period, **“I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take away your crowns.”**

**Fourth Statement—Verse 21:** **“Amen. Come Lord Jesus. The grace (opportunity for redemption/salvation) of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people, Amen.”** In verse 21, it appears that the angel is speaking and making a general statement about Jesus Coming and the Grace (Salvation) that Jesus has already bestow on God’s People → **‘First—Their Name Written in the Lambs Book of Life’** and **‘Second, Becoming a Citizen of the New Creation’**. Again, to me these words are very straight forward and need no explanation, however, I like these verses, Heb. 9:26b-27, **“But now He/Jesus has appeared once for all at the end of the age to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Him-Self. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.”**