

AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Chapters 21-22

Keys To Chapter Twenty-one:

1. Heaven begins.
2. The church as the bride of Christ is pictured being wed to Christ (vv. 2; Eph. 5:22-33; Rom. 7:1-4).
3. The tabernacle theme receives its fullest expression—God with His people (v. 3; Lev. 26:11-12).
4. Complete peace is found as all the old disruptive things are gone (v.4).
5. All new things for the overcomers, but only for them (vv. 5-7).
6. The bride (the church, the New Jerusalem) is described as a great city—beauty and security (vv. 9-27).
7. The gates draw from the imagery of the twelve tribes of Israel (vv. 12-13; Ezek. 48:31-34).
8. The foundation stones draw from the imagery of the twelve Apostles (v. 14; Eph. 2:20).
9. The measuring of the city emphasizes protection (vv. 15-17; Ezek. 40:3; 42:20; Zech. 2:1; Jer. 31:39).
10. Beauty characterizes Heaven (vv. 18-21).
11. The Father and the Son are the temple, Heaven is the Most Holy Place (v. 22; Heb. 8:5).
12. Light with no darkness—no need to fear the unknown, perfect understanding (vv. 23-25).
13. Only the saved can come into the city (v. 27).

Keys To Chapter Twenty-two:

1. The water of life and the tree of life are there—renewal and healing (vv. 1-2; Ezek. 47:1; Jn. 4:10-14; 7:37-38).
2. No more curse, closeness with God, light (vv. 3-5; Gen. 3:17-19).
3. Jesus repeats that He is coming soon (vv. 6-13; Rev. 1:1-3).
4. Compare v. 10 with Daniel 8:26 for a look at prophetic time references.
5. A great contrast of destinies (vv. 14-15).
6. Jesus gives His final assurance, invitation, and warning (vv. 16-21).
7. The word of God is not to be tampered with (vv. 18-19).
8. The coming conflict with all its dangers can be faced with confidence because Jesus will be with the church (vv. 20-21).