

Link to Lonnie Woodruff's *Revelation for Christians Today*, online:

<http://www.abiblecommentary.com/howtounderstandthebookofrevelation.htm>

## A Study of Revelation 22

*Revelation for Christians Today*, by Lonnie Woodruff--page 421[Answers from DRL]...

**01. Where does our water of life originate? (22:1)**

*The throne of God and of the Lamb.*

**02. What is our water of life? (22:1)**

*It is the gospel given to man by God.*

**03. Who may partake of this water of life? (22:17)**

*This river of water of life FLOWS IN THE WORLD TODAY. In verse 17, **everyone**, is invited to partake of this water of life. It would be IMPOSSIBLE to go to heaven to partake of it. Therefore, it must be LOCATED IN THIS WORLD. It is in the world; it is located IN THE CHURCH. It is our duty as Christians to spread the gospel and make this WATER OF LIFE available to all mankind. It must FLOW OUT from the church today!*

**04. Where is the TREE OF LIFE located? (22:2)**

*In the middle of its street and, and on either side of the river. The meaning of this TREE OF LIFE can be derived from the Old Testament. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had access to a tree of life which would have enabled them to live forever in their physical bodies (Genesis 2.9). TODAY, we have access to the tree of life which will enable us to live spiritually forever. **When an individual partakes of this spiritual water of life, he enters into God's city where he has constant access to the spiritual tree of life. Jesus said... John 14.6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me (NKJV). Christ IS OUR SPIRITUAL TREE OF LIFE. If we are faithful to Him, we will be able to live spiritually forever!***

**05. The leaves of the tree are used for what? (22:2)**

*The KEY to understanding this symbolism is to know that TWELVE is used to represent organized religion. To yield TWELVE manners of fruit would mean to yield spiritual fruit. As people obey the gospel and enter into the spiritual city of God, this tree of life is yielding spiritual fruit. To yield fruit every month shows that this is a continual process. The basic meaning of this verse is that Christ, WHO IS OUR SPIRITUAL TREE OF LIFE, is continually yielding spiritual fruit. This is being accomplished today as Christians preach the gospel and convert those who would otherwise be lost in sin.*

**06. Who has a right to the tree of life? (22:14)**

*Those who do His commandments.*

**07. Why was the old Law of Moses a curse to those who lived under it? (22:3)**

*This verse points to the DIFFERENCE between the Old Law and the New. Those who lived under the old Law of Moses were under a curse because the ONLY way they could obtain righteousness in God's sight was to LIVE THAT LAW PERFECTLY. Obviously, this was impossible for man. Thus, Christ came to earth, lived the perfect life, and became the perfect sacrifice, so we would no longer be under the curse of the Old Law. Galatians 3.10-11 **For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them." But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith" (NKJV). TODAY, we are no longer under the curse of the Old Law. We are under a New Law—the Law of Faith. Galatians 3.23-26 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus (NKJV).***

08. **How do we as members of the church symbolically see the face of our Lord? (22:4)**  
*Two Possibilities exist. First, this may be referring to our reward which we will eventually receive in heaven because we have been faithful to God. Second, this may be a figurative statement symbolizing the closeness of the relationship Christians have with their Lord today. For example, 1 Corinthians 13.12 **For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known** (NKJV). Here, the IN PART things referring to the spiritual gifts of the first century church; the PERFECT, referring to the completed written revelation that we now have. *It is likely that seeing Him face to face is possible in that we now have the completed written revelation and this makes it possible to come into a close relationship with God and Christ by studying and applying it to our lives.**
09. **Who provides the spiritual light of the church? (22:5)**  
*The Lord God. John 8.12 **Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life”*** (NKJV).
10. **When did our reign with Christ begin?**  
*In verse 5 this must refer to our eternal reign, but we must remember that our reign has already begun. When we overcome this world of sin by becoming Christians, we begin reigning with Christ. Remember, Revelation 20.4 **And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years*** (NKJV).
11. **How long will our reign last? (22:5)**  
*If Christians remain faithful, they shall continue to reign with Him throughout eternity.*
12. **What type of people are located outside the church? (22:15)**  
*All manner of sinners. Those who have not obeyed the commandments of God and have not entered into the city are living in a world of sin. The ONLY WAY to escape a life of sin is to obey the commandments of God and enter into the holy city.*
13. **WHY does Jesus describe Himself as the following...**
- The root and offspring of David (22:16)?** *To be the offspring of David would mean that Jesus was born (sprang) from the seed of David. A root is the structure which anchors a plant and supplies its nourishment. With this in mind, it is unnatural for us to think of something as being BOTH the root and offspring of anything. **But** this is exactly what Christ was. he not only came from the seed of David, he was also the root of David. The Law of Moses was given to the Israelite nation to prepare the people for the coming of the Messiah. Galatians 3.19 **What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator*** (NKJV). *This seed is referring to Christ. Therefore, Christ was the reason the Law of Moses was given to the Jewish nation of which David once reigned as king. So, Christ not only was the offspring of David, He was the root also.*
  - The bright and morning star (22:16)?** *To be identified as a STAR shows the GREATNESS of an individual. We even use this same type of terminology today to describe people whom we consider to be important or well known. Christ was a BRIGHT STAR—the brightest of all. He gave mankind the most wonderful gift of all. he gave us the opportunity to live forever. Further, a morning star is one which shines brightly just before the dawn of a NEW DAY. A new day represents the coming of a new era which is better than the previous one. This also describes Jesus perfectly.*
14. **Who invites anyone who will to “come”? (22:17)**  
*The Holy Spirit and the church. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit constantly bids all to come. We in the church should constantly bid those who are lost in a world of sin to come in. This is further proof that the beautiful city described in these last two chapters is THE CHURCH. Revelation 21.9 **Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to***

me and talked with me, saying, “Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb’s wife” (NKJV). *This verse tells us that this city is a description of the bride of Christ. In verse 17, the bride is bidding all who will to come. The church IS NOT bidding people to come into our final dwelling place of heaven! The church is bidding all who will obey the commands of God to come into it.*

15. **How is this invitation given?**

*By the church preaching the gospel.*

16. **What is the symbolic meaning of being “athirst”? (22:17)**

*This is reference to the person who desires the truth and seeks to find it. Matthew 5.6 **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled** (NKJV). When a person seeks and finds the truth, he/she may enter into God’s city. Anyone who is thirsty for righteousness may take of the water of life which runs out from the throne of God through His city (vv., 1-2). This **WATER OF LIFE** is referring to the gospel. All who are obedient to it will be added unto God’s kingdom and have the promise of eternal life if they remain faithful (v. 19).*

17. **What will happen to anyone who adds unto the prophecy of this book? (22:18)**

*To him will be added the **PLAGUES** that are written of in this book.*

18. **What will happen to anyone who takes away from the sayings of this book? (22:18)**

*God will take away his part out of the **Book of Life**, and out of the **Holy City**.*

19. **What does it mean to have our part taken out of the holy city? (22:19)**

*To be **LOST**, having our names removed from the **Book of Life**, and to miss the heavenly reward.*

20. **Discuss God’s view of His church compared to the way many people of the world view it, God views it as being of the greatest most supreme value. Best seen in the price that God paid for it... Acts 20.28 **Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.** On the other hand, most people **DO NOT SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE CHURCH AS HAVING SUCH VALUE!** They sometimes even speak of: “Give me Christ, not the church.” The one is not possible to have without the other, and that kind of language shows ignorance of the value God places on the church!**

**Questions Based on Answers to LW's End of Chapter 22 Questions**

**True/False**

01. \_\_\_\_ Brother Woodruff suggests six ways we may be able to SEE the face of the Lord.
02. \_\_\_\_ The WATER OF LIFE must flow out from the church today.
03. \_\_\_\_ There is a difference in the punishment for adding to God's Word and taking away from it.
04. \_\_\_\_ Reigning with Christ begins in heaven.
05. \_\_\_\_ The invitation of verse 17 is extended by the church preaching the gospel.

**Fill in the Blanks**

06. To say: "Give me Christ, not the church," displays an \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ God places on the \_\_\_\_\_.
07. Christ not only was the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, He was the \_\_\_\_\_ also.
08. When an individual partakes of the \_\_\_\_\_ water of \_\_\_\_\_, he/she enters into God's \_\_\_\_\_, where he/she has \_\_\_\_\_ to the spiritual tree of life.
09. Christ came to \_\_\_\_\_, lived the \_\_\_\_\_ life, and became the \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifice, so we would no longer be under the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Old Law.
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ to escape a life of sin is to \_\_\_\_\_ the commandments of God and enter into the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Place the symbol in the space next to its description:**

11. \_\_\_\_\_ Shows GREATNESS of an individual.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ The gospel given to man by God.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ To be lost and to miss the heavenly reward.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ The spiritual light of the church.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Continually yield spiritual fruit.

**Answers to Revelation 21 Questions:** 01 True, 2; 02 False, 10; 03 False, 23; 04 False, 31; 05 True, 5; 06 law, Moses, new, law, Christ, 13; 07 the, apostles, proclaimed, gospel, 26; 08 extremely valuable, 1; 09 Revelation, Isaiah, 2 Corinthians; 10 chosen, Israel, 21; 11 Street of Gold, 35; 12 Holy Jerusalem, or Bride of Christ, 7; 13 It is Done, 14; 14 City of Pure Gold, 29; 15 Former Things Passed Away, 12.

**VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.** The words may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. -DRL



<b>ANGEL</b>	<b>BEHOLD</b>	<b>BLESSED</b>	<b>BOOK</b>	<b>COME</b>
<b>EVER</b>	<b>EVERY</b>	<b>FRUIT</b>	<b>HEARD</b>	<b>HOLY</b>
<b>JESUS</b>	<b>LAMB</b>	<b>LIFE</b>	<b>LIGHT</b>	<b>LORD</b>
<b>PROPHECY</b>	<b>PROPHETS</b>	<b>QUICKLY</b>	<b>RIVER</b>	<b>SAITH</b>
<b>SENT</b>	<b>SERVANTS</b>	<b>SHEW</b>	<b>STILL</b>	<b>TAKE</b>
<b>THERE</b>	<b>THINGS</b>	<b>THRONE</b>	<b>THREE</b>	<b>WATER</b>



**IX. EXTRA CREDIT FOR “SUPER” Bible Students...**

*Will you please consider answering these three SIMPLE questions based on the Bible text of this chapter? I will try to make use of your answers. Bring them with you next week. Tear out this last sheet from the Study Guide and be prepared to put it in a basket. I think it will be a great help to all of those in the class if you will do so. Thank you in advance for your marvelous cooperation!*

**W O R D: What word would you like to know more about in this chapter?**

**W O N D E R: I wonder what this phrase, verse, or series of verses means...**

**W I S H: I wish myself—or others whom I know or even don’t know—would understand this fact, principle, or concept from this chapter...**