

## Revelation 21-22

By Chantel Bink

There are many different interpretations of the book of Revelation. There are people who believe its prophesied events have already taken place, those who believe they have been happening throughout history and will continue until the end of days, those who believe none of the events have happened yet, and those who believe the events are symbolic of good versus evil and/or other basic ideas. It doesn't really matter where you stand because I believe, as with the rest of the Bible, **God will give you what you need at the time. I have read Revelation several times and I have found new meaning and new truth each time to go with what God has already showed me.**

**In the end, though, it is a book of true beauty. For those who will live in God's eternal kingdom the pictures painted by the words in chapters 21 and 22 are beyond compare. My limited human brain can barely absorb the imagery. John describes city walls made of jasper, the New Jerusalem made of gold, gates made of pearl, and the great street of gold. And even if John was just struggling to describe what he saw and these things are not actually made of precious gems, how awesome is it anyway? What an incredible place to spend eternity!**

**But of all of the beautiful descriptions written in this book, my favorite is that of verses 21:3: "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God." God will be with us! He will be the ruler and we will be his people.**

Not only will he be with us but we learn in 22:4 that "[We] will see his face and his name will be on [our] foreheads." What an amazing thought to be able to worship and serve God face to face. Can you even imagine it? I can't. **It is a beautiful thing to look forward to. He who shines so bright there will be no need for a sun will be our governing authority.**

**We are given a warning, though, in verse 22:12: "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done." We should expect his arrival soon. We don't know when soon actually is, but it is important that we are ready. We are also to work while we wait. Let's not waste this time on earth while we are stuck here. Let's get to work and let God use us to bring more people to his kingdom. The time is coming soon so we better not be sitting idle when he gets here! We may not know when he will be here but we do know how awesome it will be after he comes. We don't want anyone to miss out, so let's make sure we are ready and willing to let him reach them through us!**



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