

Palmetto Baptist Church – August 5, 2018
The Throne of God and the Lamb – Revelation 22:1-5

Inside the Text:

- I. **The name of the throne elevates the magnitude of God. (1a) “the throne of God and the Lamb...”**
 - A. **He is unified.** (the equality within the Trinity)
 1. Previous to Revelation 21, the throne was reserved for God the Father... [Rev. 4:2; 5:6-8, 13]
 2. After Revelation 20, the throne is ascribed to God and the Lamb. [Rev. 21:5-7, 22; 22:3]
 - B. **He is multiplied.** (the economy within the Trinity)
 1. Throne of God (Father)
 2. Throne of the Lamb (Jesus)
 3. River (Holy Spirit)
 - Isaiah 44:3; John 4:10, 14; 7:37-39; I Cor. 12:13
- II. **The description of the throne highlights the character of God. (1b-2)**
 - A. **He is good.**
 1. **He provides water for all who are thirsty.** “*The water of life...*” (Isaiah 44:3)
 - a. The water is pure. “*bright as crystal...*”
 - b. The water is abundant. “*flowing...*”
 - c. The water is accessible. “*...from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city ...*”
 2. **He provides nourishment for all who are hungry.** “*also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month.*”
 - a. The fruit will be available to all.
 - Every citizen will have unlimited access to the river and trees. (on both sides of the river)
 - b. The fruit will be enjoyable for all.
 - Every month the tree will yield a different type of fruit. (12 kinds of fruit to nourish our souls) {I Chronicles 27:1-15}
https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/2263459/jewish/Jewish-Months.htm
 - Nisan (March-April): Passover [Esther 3:7]
 - **JUBILATION FROM BEING SET FREE FROM SLAVERY**
 - Iyar or Zif (April-May): Steps in the spiritual journey toward Sinai [I Kings 6:1]
 - **THANKFULNESS FOR GOD’S HEALING POWER AND PRESERVATION**
 - Sivan (May-June): The Giving of the Torah [Esther 8:9]
 - **SATISFACTION, DIRECTION, OR WISDOM**
 - Tammuz (June-July): Destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem [Jeremiah 39:2 – by # not name]
 - **SECURITY IN THE NEW JERUSALEM**
 - Menachem (comforter) Av (father) (July-August): Both the 1st and 2nd Temple were destroyed [Numbers 33:38]
 - **COMFORT IN THE INDWELLING PRESENCE OF GOD**
 - Elul (August-September): Stocktaking and introspection [Nehemiah 6:15]
 - **GRATITUDE THAT GOD IS WILLING TO HEAR OUR CRIES AND EXTEND MERCY**

- Tishrei or Ethanim (September-October): A month full of celebration of God’s forgiveness “Yom Kippur” or Day of Atonement [I Kings 8:2]
 - **CONFIDENCE IN OUR STANDING BECAUSE OF JESUS**
- Marcheshvan or Bul (October-November): A month of reflection on the happiness that comes from a continuous relationship between a groom and his bride [I Kings 6:38]
 - **SETTLED PEACE COMING FROM OUR RELATIONSHIP AS THE BRIDE TO THE GROOM**
- Kisleiv (November-December): Celebrating the eternal power of light over darkness (“Hanukkah”) [Zechariah 7:1]
 - **CALM CONFIDENCE IN GOD’S POWER AND PROVISION**
- Tevet or Tov (December-January): The last days of Hanukkah [Esther 2:16]
 - **REFLECTING ON GOD’S GOODNESS**
- Shevat (January-February): Celebration of the New Year [Zechariah 1:7]
 - **OPTIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE**
- Adar (February-March): The Spirit of Purim [Esther 3:7]
 - **JUBILATION OVER GOD’S DELIVERANCE AND PRESERVATION OF HIS PEOPLE**

B. He is gracious. (2)

- **He provides therapeutic pleasure for all nations to enjoy.** *“The leaves of the tree for the healing of the nations.”*
 - [THERAPY] Every nations will enjoy the healing balm coming from the essential oils produced by leaves.
 - “Balm” was the resin of the storax tree that was used medicinally. Gilead, east of the Jordan River, was famous for its healing balm. (Genesis 37:25; Jeremiah 8:22; 46:11; 51:8; Ezekiel 27:17) [BKC – Jer. 8:22]
 - No more jockeying for position or manipulation of systems through financial persuasion.
 - “All the nations represented there will be “healed” of their divisions and strife in their equal access to the tree of life.” (Got Questions)

Why will the nations need healing in the New Jerusalem?

<https://www.gotquestions.org/new-jerusalem-healing.html>

Question: "Why will the nations need healing in the New Jerusalem?"

Answer: One of God’s promises concerning the eternal state is that the nations of the world will have healing. The question comes up, though, as to why exactly healing is needed. Isn’t the New Jerusalem a place of perfection already?

The healing of the nations is linked to the tree of life, as God reestablishes Eden. It is the leaves of this tree that are said to be “for the healing of the nations” (Revelation 22:2). **It is possible that the tree of life in the New Jerusalem is literal and that its leaves and various fruits will somehow enrich our existence in the eternal state. All the nations represented there will be “healed” of their divisions and strife in their equal access to the tree of life...**

The healing the tree of life's leaves provide is not the healing of the wounds of battle—warfare will have ended. The healing is not needed for combating sickness—there will be no more sickness, death, or pain (Revelation 21:4). **No, the “healing” is a reference to the perpetual blessing of the new heaven and earth; never again will the world be plagued by physical disorders or spiritual malaise or corruption. There will be no more warfare, no strife, no conflicting factions. God will heal all that ails His creation, and there will be no more curse (Revelation 22:3).**

In the eternal state, everything will be blessed, and the tree of life represents that blessedness. There will be perfect sinlessness, perfect government, perfect service to God, perfect communion, and perfect glory. It is impossible for us to imagine being totally separated from sin and living in a glorified state before God. But the Lord assures us that “these words are trustworthy and true” (Revelation 22:6).

- **He is generous. (Genesis 2:8-14; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Revelation 22:1-5)**
 - He exceeds the glories of the first two offerings of the Tree and River of Life.
 - Providing sustaining life. (Genesis 2:8-14)
 - Providing enhanced life. (Ezekiel 47:1-12)
 - Providing eternal life. (Rev. 22:1-5)

I. *The name of the throne elevates the magnitude of God. (1a) “the throne of God and the Lamb...”*

II. *The description of the throne highlights the character of God. (1b-2)*

III. *The placement of the throne underscores the heart of God. (3-5)*

- A. He loves His own. (3)
 1. Jesus removed all those devoted to destruction (3a; 19:19-21; 20:7-10).
 2. Jesus welcomes the worship from all those destined to believe. (3b; Gal. 3:13 – becoming a curse for us!)
 - Note: the word for “worship” (latreuō) serve or willingly carry out religious duties
- B. He enjoys fellowship with His own. (4)
 1. God and the Lamb welcome intimate fellowship.
 2. Face-to-face interaction. (4a; Matt. 5:8; I Cor. 13:12; I John 3:2)
 3. Personal identification with the one sitting on the throne and the Lamb (4b)
- C. He provides prosperity for His own. (5)
 1. No more limitations on time. (night will be no more)
 - The source of light will never go out. (the Lord God will be their light)
 2. No more limitations on impact. (they will reign forever and ever...)
 3. The opportunity to serve will never come to a conclusion. (no disability; no retirement; no death)

Apply the Text:

- Stop drinking water from broken cisterns when you have direct access to the springs of living water. (Jeremiah 2:13; John 4:10, 13-14) – **Choose Him.**
- Reflect on what God does. – **Trust Him.**
 - He is your protector.
 - He is your provider.

- He is your friend.
- Respond to who God is. – **Worship Him.**
 - He is good.
 - He is gracious.
 - He is generous.
 -
- Look forward to the final regeneration. – **Look for Him.**
 - A resurrected body.
 - A renovated city.
 - A revitalized garden.