

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." ⁶ And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷ He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸ But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." 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." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God. Her light *was* like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. ¹² Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are *the names* of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: ¹³ three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. ¹⁴ Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ¹⁵ And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. ¹⁶ The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal. ¹⁷ Then he measured its wall: one hundred *and* forty-four cubits, *according* to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel. ¹⁸ The construction of its wall was *of* jasper; and the city *was* pure gold, like clear glass. ¹⁹ The foundations of the wall of the city *were* adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation *was* jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, ²⁰ the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. ²¹ The twelve gates *were* twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city *was* pure gold, like transparent glass. ²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb *is* its light. ²⁴ And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵ Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶ And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷ But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. ³ And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. ⁶ Then he said to me, "These words *are* faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." ⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, "See *that you do not do that*. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." ¹⁰ And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. ¹¹ He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still;

he who is holy, let him be holy still.”¹² “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work.¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.”¹⁴ Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.¹⁵ But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

Introduction

Within the Christian community many teachers have come up with wonderful ideas about Heaven.

However sincere they may have been, their ideas are not represented in Bible.

What we are going to do today is to discover from the Bible, exactly what Heaven is going to be like and who is going to live in this wonderful place for all eternity.

We are mainly going to expose revelation chapter 21-22.

However we will look into other passages of the Bible where they reinforce what these chapters teach.

It is impossible today to teach you everything that the Bible mentions about Heaven.

The reason being is that the Bible speaks about heaven 500 times and we don't have time to cover all of these references.

1. Q. What does it mean by a “New” Heaven and a “New” Earth? (v. 1)

The first thing that John tells us is that in the future there will be a “New” heaven and a “New” earth. The first heaven and the first earth had passed away.

It is important that we get the first verse correct before we start going over the material in Chapter 21-22.

Turn with me to Isaiah Chapter 65: v. 17-19.

¹⁷ “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth;
And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create;
For behold, I create Jerusalem *as* a rejoicing,
And her people a joy.

¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
And joy in My people;
The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her,
Nor the voice of crying.

2,750 years ago Isaiah prophesied that in the future God would create a New Heaven and a New Earth. The Greek word that is used here for “New” means new in character rather than new in time.

This suggests that God will somehow make better the present earth and make better the present heaven.

In 2 Peter Chapter 3: v. 10 we are told that in order to create this New Heaven and New earth, God is going to somehow burn up the present situation and then make a wonderful New Heaven and New Earth.

This may seem a big thing for us to imagine but for God it will be easy.

God created our present heaven and earth in 6 days. By that I mean 6 times 24 hour periods.

It will not take God long to re-create something that will be much better than what we have today.

The New Earth will be re-created with the idea of the Resurrected people in mind.

We will see this later by the number of things that we won't see in the New World.

The one thing that we are told about the geography of the New Earth is that there will be no more sea. Two thirds of the world as we know it today is water.

God will create a New Earth that is watered in a different way.

The ancient people didn't like the sea.

By the time of John's vision people were sailing the sea, but very often kept close to the coastline everywhere they went.

The simple answer for their fears is that they did not possess a compass for navigating the seas. That came later.

It wasn't just the Jews who hated the sea, nobody liked it either.

Genesis 2: v. 4-6.

⁴This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and *there was* no man to till the ground; ⁶but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.

It maybe that God would do something similar as he did before when he created this first earth.

However, we know it will be new, and better suited for the Resurrected people who will dwell on this earth.

What we need to be clear about and that is that **God is** going to create this New Earth, without the help of man.

It is going to be a wonderful place to live in that will be much better than we could even imagine.

2. God will come down with His Holy City - v. 2-3.

We are told here that God will come down to this New Earth, with His Holy City, the New Jerusalem.

In a moment we will look at the size, and description of this city, but it is important that we notice that God is coming down not just with a Newly created Jerusalem, but God is coming down to this New Earth to live.

God is going to dwell, or live with His Resurrected people.

God's Resurrected people will be able to speak with God.

If you find this concept difficult to understand, please turn with me to **Genesis Chapter 2: v. 15-17.**

And Gen. 3: v. 8-10.

Genesis Chapter 2: v. 15-17.

¹⁵Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Gen. 3: v. 8-10.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?" ¹⁰So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

God clearly had conversations with Adam in the garden of Eden.

God spoke to Moses from a bush that was burning but was never burnt. (consumed)

Exodus 3: v.2-7.

²And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush *was* not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." ⁴So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand *is* holy ground." ⁶Moreover He said, "I *am* the God of your father—the God of

Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.⁷ And the LORD said: “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who *are* in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.

God spoke to Joshua before the Battle of Jericho. (Joshua 5: v. 13-15)

There are many times that God spoke directly to individuals in the Bible.

As conversation is the essential element in any relationship, we will be able to talk with God in some way.

We are not told how that will happen, but as everything will be new, we can't have a concept of this life as yet.

I expect that there will only one language in Heaven, and it won't be Japanese, the Kanji is too difficult. From Genesis Chapter 11 it appears that there was originally only one language in the world at one time. The Bible tells us that God confused our speech.

Genesis 11: v. 7-9.

⁷ Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.” ⁸ So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. ⁹ Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Perhaps God has arranged a Heavenly Language which we will know instantly without having to learn it?

Q. What won't be in Heaven? – v. 4

We are told in v. 4 what will not be in Heaven, rather than what will be in Heaven.

The reason for this is probably that we may NOT understand the New things that God has for us in Heaven, but we will understand all the bad things of this earth that we would not want in Heaven.

It would be no good God telling us about all the wonderful New things in Heaven, if we had no concept of this life-style etc.

Imagine trying to explain to the Apostle Paul about smart phones and the internet.

I don't think he would understand or even be encouraged.

In the same way God must deal with the things that we know about now, and explain to us that these awful things that we experience on the Old Earth, will not be in the New Earth.

Let us notice the things that will not be in the New Earth.

a) **No more death or decay** - This is an amazing thing for us to be encouraged about. Death is a horrible thing.

It separates us from people who we love. It is a slowly aging process.

We would all rather look young than old, but on this Old Earth it is not possible.

However, God promises us that in our Resurrected bodies, we will dwell with Him on a New Earth and our bodies will not decay.

We will always look young.

There will be no beauty Salons in the New Earth.

Nobody will be selling make-up, or skin enhancing products.

We will all look beautiful and not age in any way.

If there was a medicine that you could take today that would keep you looking young and beautiful then everybody would want to buy that medicine, even if it costs lots of money.

There will never be a medicine you can buy that will stop the aging process in this world.

However, there is a “faith” that you can have that will one day provide you with a body that will be beautiful and never age.

You can only obtain that wonderful body by putting your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ left the glory of heaven to come to this sin sick world in order to provide something better for us.

There is more to life than just to live, decay and die.

Jesus offers you the opportunity for something better.

Q. Will you put your faith and trust in Jesus today so that you might obtain something better?

b) There will be no sorrow, or crying or pain.

Everybody in life experiences sorrow, crying and pain at some period in their lives.

These experiences are not nice but they are unavoidable.

We live in a cursed world, with sinful people, and bodies that are slowly decaying.

The good news is that there will be none of these experiences in the New Earth.

It is hard to imagine a perfect world when we have never experienced it.

However, if you take away sorrow, crying, and pain from your past experiences, you will have at least some idea of your future life on this "**NEW EARTH**", if you know and love Jesus as your own personal saviour.

In v. 5 God promises that He will make **ALL THINGS NEW.**

What we need to realise that it is not NEW in the way that we see NEW.

In this world, we can buy a new car, or a new house or a new apartment, or new clothing, but in a few years, they become old and worn out.

When God makes NEW, it doesn't wear out, it keeps on going.

Deut. 29: v. 4-5.

⁴Yet the LORD has not given you a heart to perceive and eyes to see and ears to hear, to this very day. ⁵And I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn out on your feet.

Only God is able to create something that is new and that will never wear out.

Q. Who is going to be in this New Earth, with their New Body?

The answer to this question is found in Chapter 21: v. 7-8 and v. 27.

The key to answering this question is found in v. 27.

We are told that only those people whose names are written in the "**Lambs Book of Life**" will be living on the New Earth.

There are 8 references to the "Book of Life" in the New Testament.

Seven of these references are in the book of Revelation and one is in Philippians 4: v. 3.

Only two of the references actually say "The Lamb's Book of Life", the other references just say the "Book of Life".

A careful study of these references will tell us that these books are all exactly the same.

So the Lambs book of life is a book that contains the names of all those people who have trusted in the precious of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, to forgive them their sin, and cleanse them from all unrighteousness.

We don't have a copy of that book.

However, the Lord Jesus Christ will give us the assurance in our hearts that our names are written in that book.

Jesus, by the Holy Spirit, gives us that assurance, when we put our faith and trust fully in Him.

Once our names are written in the Lambs book of life, they will not be crossed out.

Jesus knows our hearts, and when our hearts, repent of our sins and when our hearts trust in Jesus, and when our hearts have tasted a new life and a new love, we will never want to return to the Old Life.

Once you have tasted something of Heaven on this earth in the form of the New Birth, you will never want to go back to your old life.

I have mixed with people who have tasted a touch on Heaven on this earth in the form of a visitation of God, in true Revival.

I was told by one of these people that there was a hallmark of people saved in a true "Revival".

The Hallmark was that they never fell away and went back to the world.

They always sought to follow Jesus in discipleship.

The reason was two-fold.

Firstly, they were deeply convicted of their sin because they had come very close to the Glory of God.

Secondly, because they had tasted a little of Heaven on this earth, they knew what was to come and it was 1,000 times better than anything they could experience on this earth.

May God give us an experience of Himself, so that we will follow Him, more closely and serve Him more fully.

The story goes of a “Christian” who died and went to Heaven.

The first thing that he said was “If I had known that it was going to be this wonderful, I would have served Jesus more fully and more whole heartedly.”

I hope that if you are a Christian today that you will know enough about heaven to serve Jesus with your whole heart.

A Description of the New Jerusalem – Chapter 21:v. 9-25.

In these verses we are told a number of things about the New Jerusalem.

- a) It is going to come out of Heaven and be placed on the earth. In a real sense Heaven is coming to us, we are not going to it.
- b) The New Jerusalem is going to cover an area of 1,500 square miles. The width, length and height are exactly the same. Therefore, it is possible for 100 Million people to live in this city comfortably. The size of the New Jerusalem will fit neatly into an area about the size of North America.
- c) There are 12 gates into this city and each gate is guarded by an Angel. The names of these gates correspond to the 12 tribes of Israel. Each of these large gates will be a very large “Pearl”. I expect that most of you have been to the Miki Moto Pearl Museum and factory in Toba. His pearls are cultured pearls. Even his biggest pearls, although beautiful are only small. These gates will be amazing in size and beauty.
- d) The city wall has 12 foundations, and on the wall are the names of the 12 Apostles of the Lamb. The construction of the wall is made of Jasper, and the foundations are decorated with all kinds of precious stones. There is a connection between these precious stones and the stones that made up part of the uniform of the “High Priest “

Exodus 28: v. 15-21 (N.K.J.)

¹⁵ “You shall make the breastplate of judgment. Artistically woven according to the workmanship of the ephod you shall make it: of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet *thread*, and fine woven linen, you shall make it. ¹⁶ It shall be doubled into a square: a span *shall be* its length, and a span *shall be* its width. ¹⁷ And you shall put settings of stones in it, four rows of stones: *The first row shall be* a sardius, a topaz, and an emerald; *this shall be* the first row; ¹⁸ the second row *shall be* a turquoise, a sapphire, and a diamond; ¹⁹ the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; ²⁰ and the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be set in gold settings. ²¹ And the stones shall have the names of the sons of Israel, twelve according to their names, *like* the engravings of a signet, each one with its own name; they shall be according to the twelve tribes.

- e) Next we are told that the streets of this city are paved with pure gold that resembles clear glass. – v. 21.
- f) There will be no churches or temples in this New Jerusalem. God Almighty and the Lamb will be its temple. There will be no sun or moon needed to illuminate this city and there will be no night time. The Glory of God and the Lamb will illuminate the city. The city will be totally safe and there will be no need to close or lock the gates.
- g) Everybody who enters the city will honour God. There will be nothing in this city that will spoil or defile God’s name.
- h) Everything in the city will glorify God.

We now come to revelation Chapter 22: v. 1-5 which gives us the final description of the New Jerusalem.

If we turn to Ezekiel Chapter 47: v. 1-12 we will notice a parallel passage to these verses in Revelation 22: v. 1-5.

I will read v. **12 of Ezekiel Chapter 47.**

¹² Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all *kinds of* trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine.”

Most of the other passages in the Bible that refer to water flowing out from Jerusalem could be attributed to the 1,000 year reign on this earth.

In those passages it is easy to see how physical water could flow from Jerusalem in the 1,000 year reign of Jesus on this earth.

In the New Jerusalem we could possibly identify the river of life with the Holy Spirit.

John 7: v. 37-39. (N.K.J.)

³⁷ On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

However, there might be an even simpler explanation.

In very hot lands like Israel, water was simply needed for life.

If you didn’t have water, you didn’t have life.

The river may stand for the abundant life that God provides for His people.

In Heaven, God will still be the provider of “Life”.

In v. 2 of Chapter 22, we discover the tree of life for the second time in the Bible.

Genesis 2: v. 9

⁹ And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life *was* also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 3: v. 22-24.

²² Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever” — ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

We learn from Genesis that the tree of life enables you to live forever.

This tree of life in the New Jerusalem will produce fruit every month.

This fruit will be available for everybody.

The leaves were on the tree for the healing of the nations.

Some commentators of the Bible believe that the leaves represent healing for past hurts.

Certainly in Heaven, all wounds will be healed. All past hurts will be completely healed.

In v. 3 we are told that there will be no more curse.

If we go back to Genesis Chapter 3: v. 17-19 we will notice that at present we live in a cursed earth.

In the New Jerusalem there will be NO CURSE.

Q. What will we be doing in Heaven?

Some people think that they will be playing golf all day or fishing, or following their earthly hobby.

However, the Bible is clear that we are going to be “SERVING” the Lord Jesus in the New Jerusalem.

Chapter 22: v. 3 makes this clear.

If you want to prepare yourself for Heaven, after you have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ to save you from your sins, then there is no better preparation for HEAVEN, that to serve JESUS now on this earth. We are told in v.12 that Jesus is going to reward people for their service.

The reward that believers will receive will be based upon their faithfulness of serving Jesus in this life.

Let us turn to 1 Corinthians Chapter 3: v.9-15 in the New Living Translation.

9 For we are both God's workers. And you are God's field. You are God's building. 10 Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. 12 Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. 13 But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value. 14 If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. 15 But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.

These verses make it clear to us that our service for Jesus is not something that we undertake lightly. Serving Jesus is really about how much you will let the Holy Spirit work through you, rather than what you actually do in any physical capacity.

In v. 9 of 1 Corinthians Chapter 3 we are told that we are God's fellow workers.

If we are working **very closely with the Holy Spirit**, we are serving Jesus effectively.

If we are not working closely with the Holy Spirit, then our service for Jesus will not have any eternal reward.

This is why it is important to serve Jesus in the way and the manner in which He calls you to serve.

Our obedience to the call of the risen Lord Jesus, to serve Him, must be taken seriously.

The key to serving Jesus is to surrender your life every day to Him and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in your service for Him.

One thing that I do know and that is when we are serving Jesus in the right ministry, doing what He wants us to do, then we do have a sense of peace and fulfillment in our lives.

The Holy Spirit does let us know that we are going in the right direction.

Jesus is **not really looking for gifted people, He is looking for surrendered people, so that He can gift them to serve Him.**

It is all about the work **OF THE LORD**, rather than our work for the Lord.

This is why Paul says these words in 1 Corinthians 15: v. 58.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

God's last invitation – Chapter 22: v. 13-21.

In v. 17 we read that God's last invitation is to **'COME'**.

There are two distinct invitations in this verse, both of them start with the word **"COME"**.

The first part is a prayer spoken to Jesus Christ and the second part is addressed to sinners or Non-Christians.

The first part calls for **JESUS CHRIST** to come and the second part calls for **sinners to put their faith in Jesus Christ.**

In the first part of v.17 the Holy Spirit wants Jesus to **"COME"**

It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to point people to Jesus.

He does the work of convicting and convincing men and women of their sin and of their need of Jesus.

John 15: v. 26

²⁶ "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

John 16: v. 7-11. (N.K.J.)

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in

Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Perhaps the Holy Spirit is looking forward to the day, when most of His work will be completed. We are also told that the "BRIDE" wants Jesus to come.

The "BRIDE" is the Church.

This is all those born again believers who Jesus has purchased with His precious blood.

2 Timothy 4: v.8 tells us that all believers should look forward to Jesus appearing.

Ephesians 5: v. 27 tells us that Jesus is looking forward to presenting a Church to God that is **SPOTLESS and without BLEMISH.**

It is hard to imagine that we will be so pure and lovely in Heaven, but we will, because of Jesus.

The second use of the word "COME" is directed to people to come and put their faith and trust in Jesus.

The people who are spoken to are the people who are thirsty and have a sincere desire to come to Jesus.

In the New Testament gospels Jesus often made it difficult for people to come and follow Him.

In the Bible it is a familiar metaphor which pictures "thirst" as a pre-requisite for repentance.

In Isaiah Chapter 55: v. 1 God calls everyone who thirsts to come to the waters of Salvation.

Jesus said in Matthew 5: v. 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, they shall be filled."

Again Jesus said in John 7: v. 37 Jesus said "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."

The question I need to ask you today is "are you thirsty enough for eternal life with Jesus, do you REALLY want to come to Jesus and put your faith and trust in Him?"

If you are thirsty enough, then why not come now, come today. Jesus is waiting for you to come.

Amen.