

# ***Final chapters 21,22***

21:1-8 voice and speech

21:9 -27 description of the bride/wife/city

22:1-5 river, tree, light

22:6 -21 concluding voices (angel, Lamb, Jesus, Spirit and Bride, writer, witness)

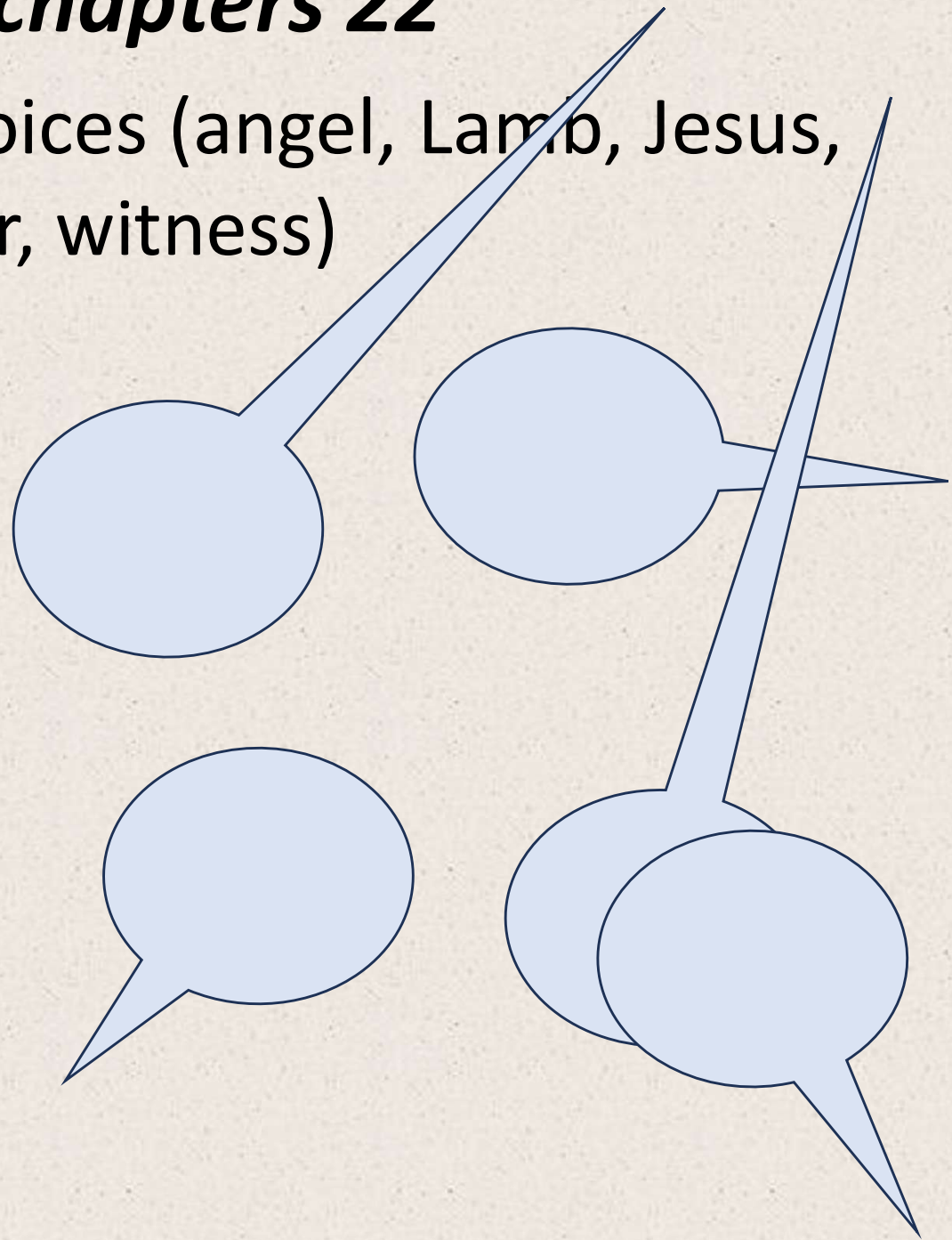
# 21:9-26

- theological architecture  
// grandest of designs
- Like tabernacle/temple
  - where God and humans meet
- **Gates** x12: angels -> tour guides, 12 tribes + 12 apostles
- **Size** – huge, covers known world
- **Foundations**: jewels like Priest's clothing
- **Temple** (absence of): presence everywhere
- **Traffic** = wealth of nations, nothing impure



## ***Final chapters 22***

22:6 -21 concluding voices (angel, Lamb, Jesus, Spirit and Bride, writer, witness)



# ***Final chapters 21,22***

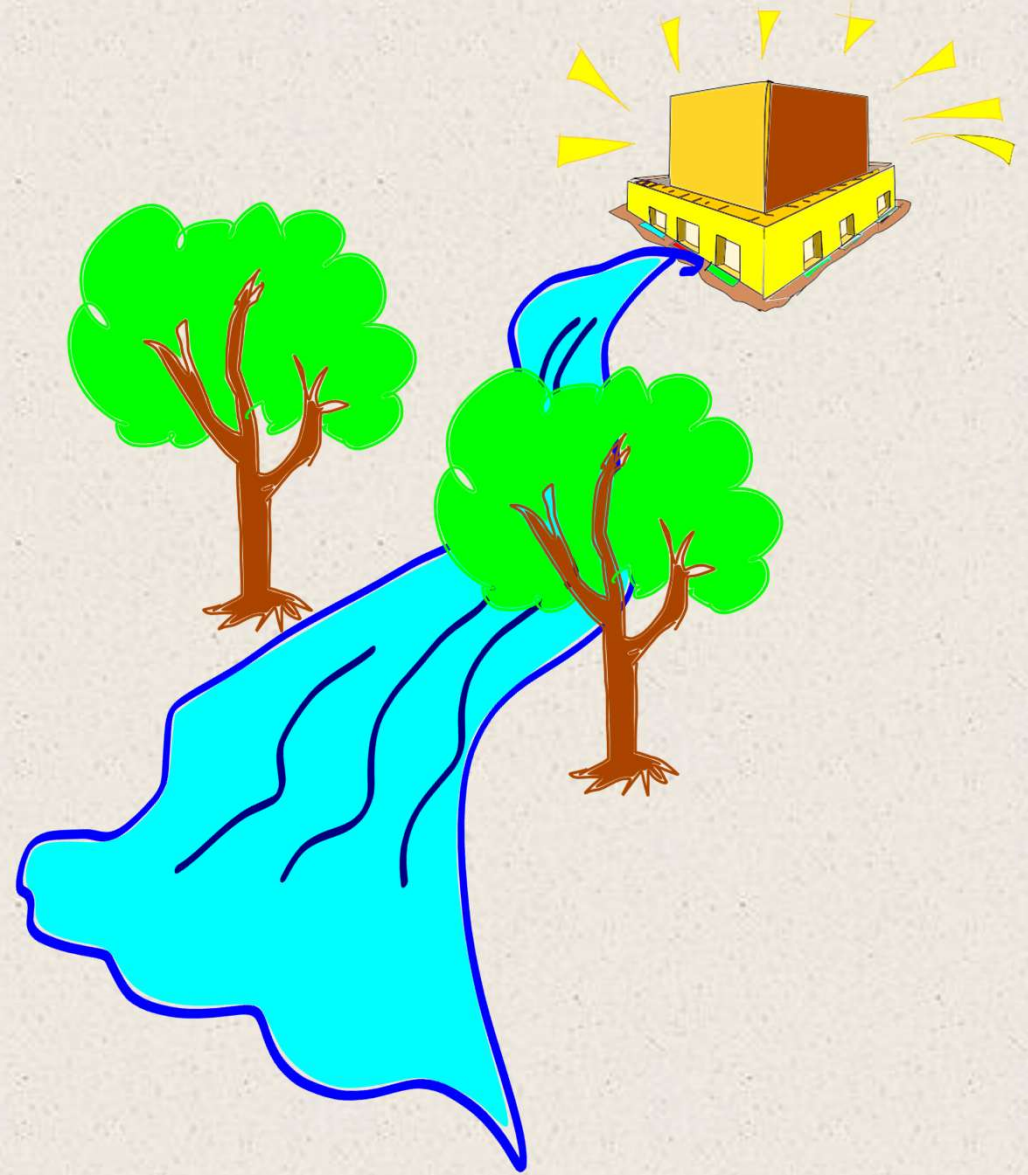
## **22:1-5 river, tree, light**

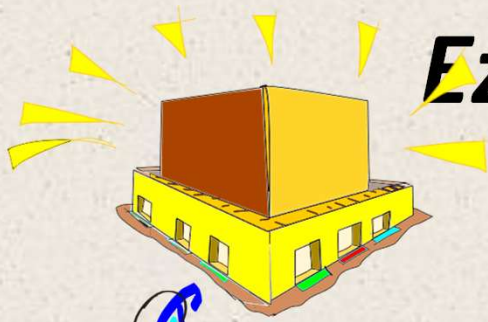
- By comparing Ezekiel's visionary temple
- Things: river, tree, light
- Relationships with persons: service, sight, success

# ***22:1-5 things: river, tree, light***

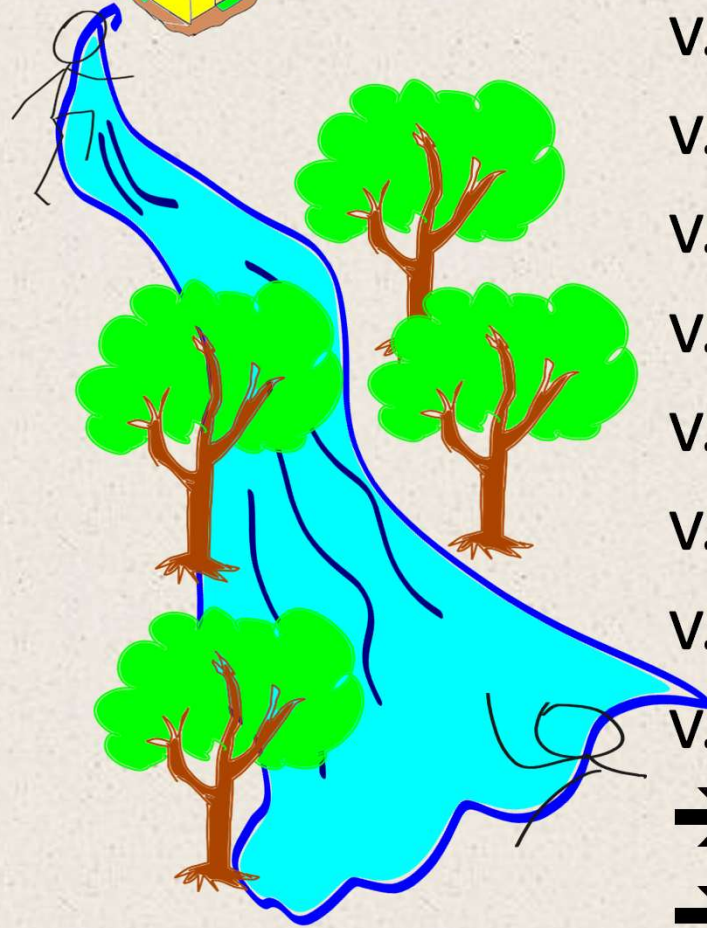
22:1-5 river (garden/city)

See Ezekiel's vision ...  
... compare with John's  
fulfilment ...





## ***Ezekiel 47 - visionary temple***



v.1 temple faces east

v.2 water trickles from south

v.3 man with measure

v.3 ankle deep

v.4 knee deep

v.5 uncrossable-swim only

v.7 many trees

v.8 salt water → fresh, fish

v.9 fruit trees: unending, food, healing

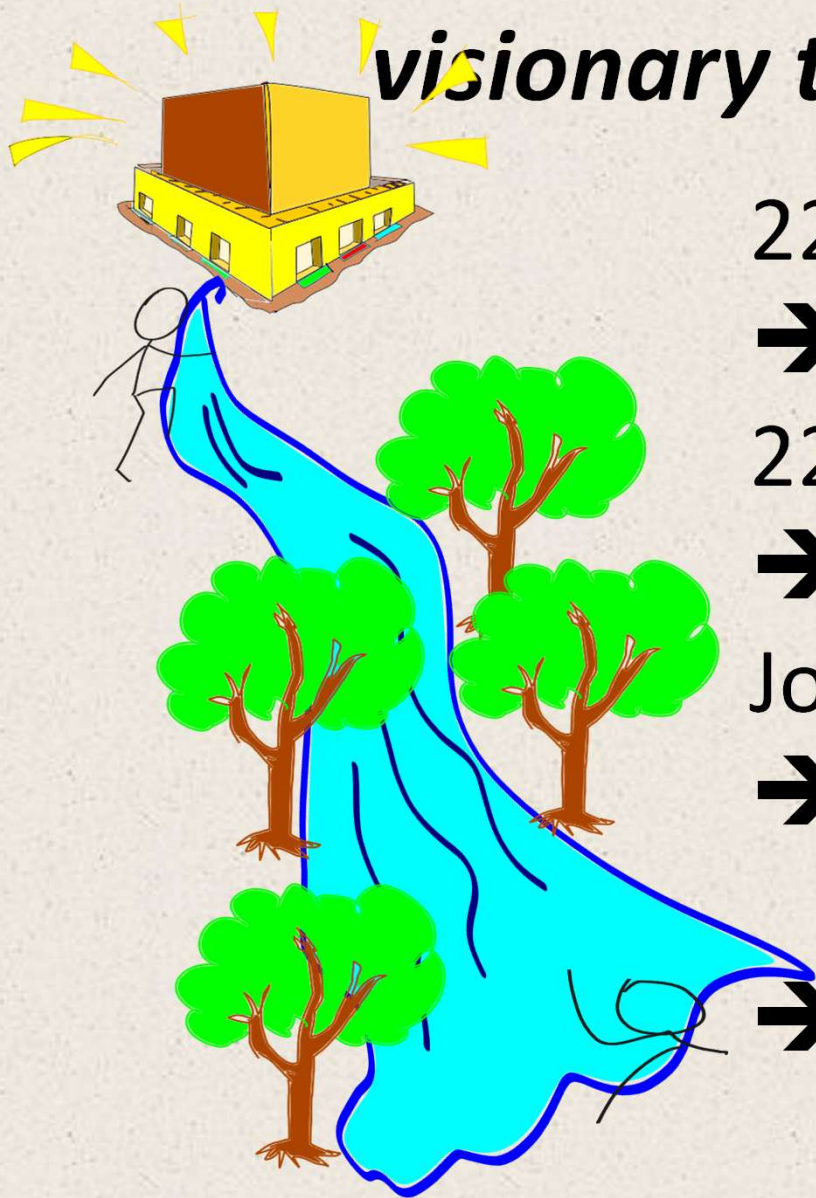
→ Psalm 1:3

→ Picture of super-abundance, Edenic  
fruitfulness, restorative healing

→ ***Who would like to be there?***

→ "At home" – land v13ff

# *visionary temple fulfilled: river*



22:1 water of ???

→ John 7:37 which water??

22:1 flowing from ???

→ Healing river

John 19:34, 35

→ Water of life flowing from the wounded side of Jesus

→ “stoop down and drink and live”

→ 22:17 – who is dried up and dying of thirst ... take the water

## ***22:1-5 things: tree***

Garden that was in Eden

- Genesis 2:8,16, tree
- 3:17 ground cursed
- 3:21-24 banished from the source of eternal life

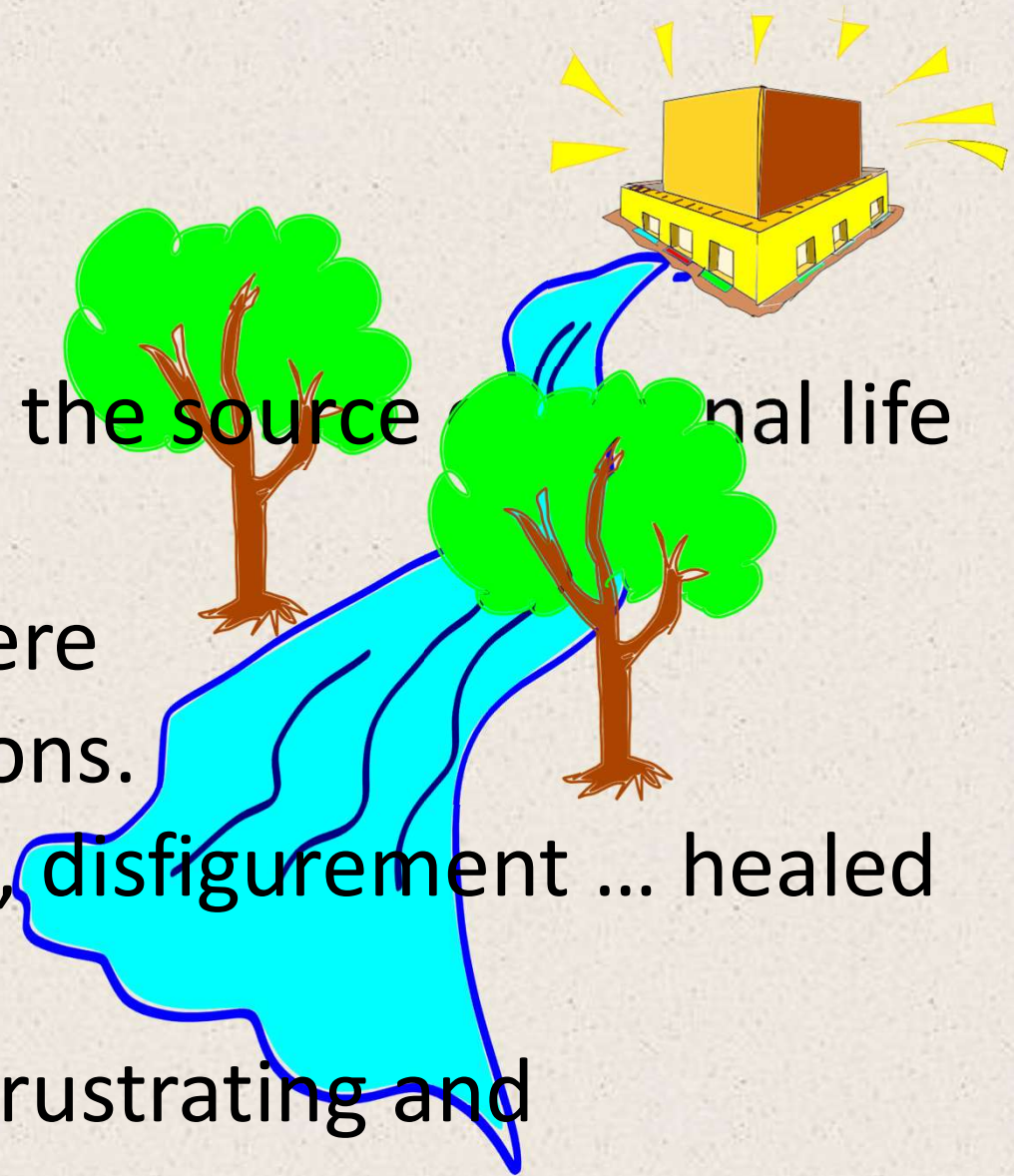
Rev. 22:2 tree is everywhere

22:2 – healing of the nations.

➔ Every wound, sickness, disfigurement ... healed

22:3 Curse removed

➔ Human life no longer frustrating and unproductive



## ***22:1-5 things: light***

22:5 night <> darkness, evil,  
hopelessness, trouble

c.f. Ephesians 5:8-14

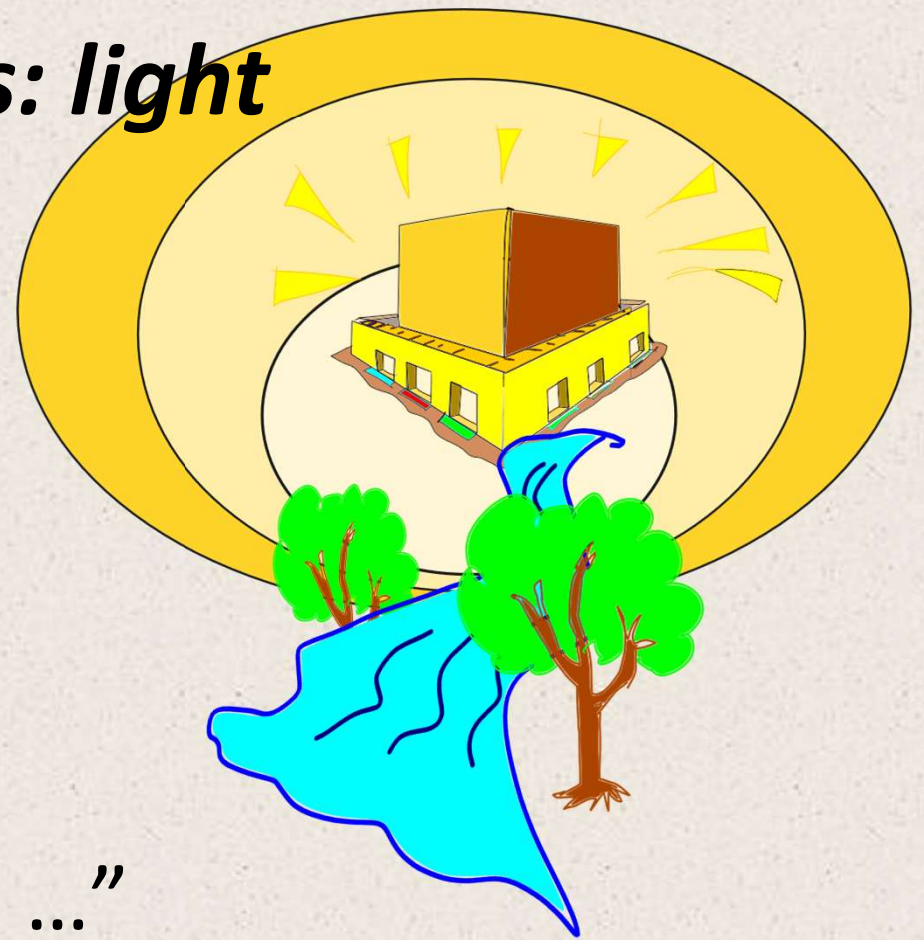
➔ Already children of light

V.5 no need for lamps, sun,  
moon ...

➔ “the LORD shine upon you ...”

➔ “shine Jesus shine ...”

➔ Place filled with the  
brightness of the glory of  
God

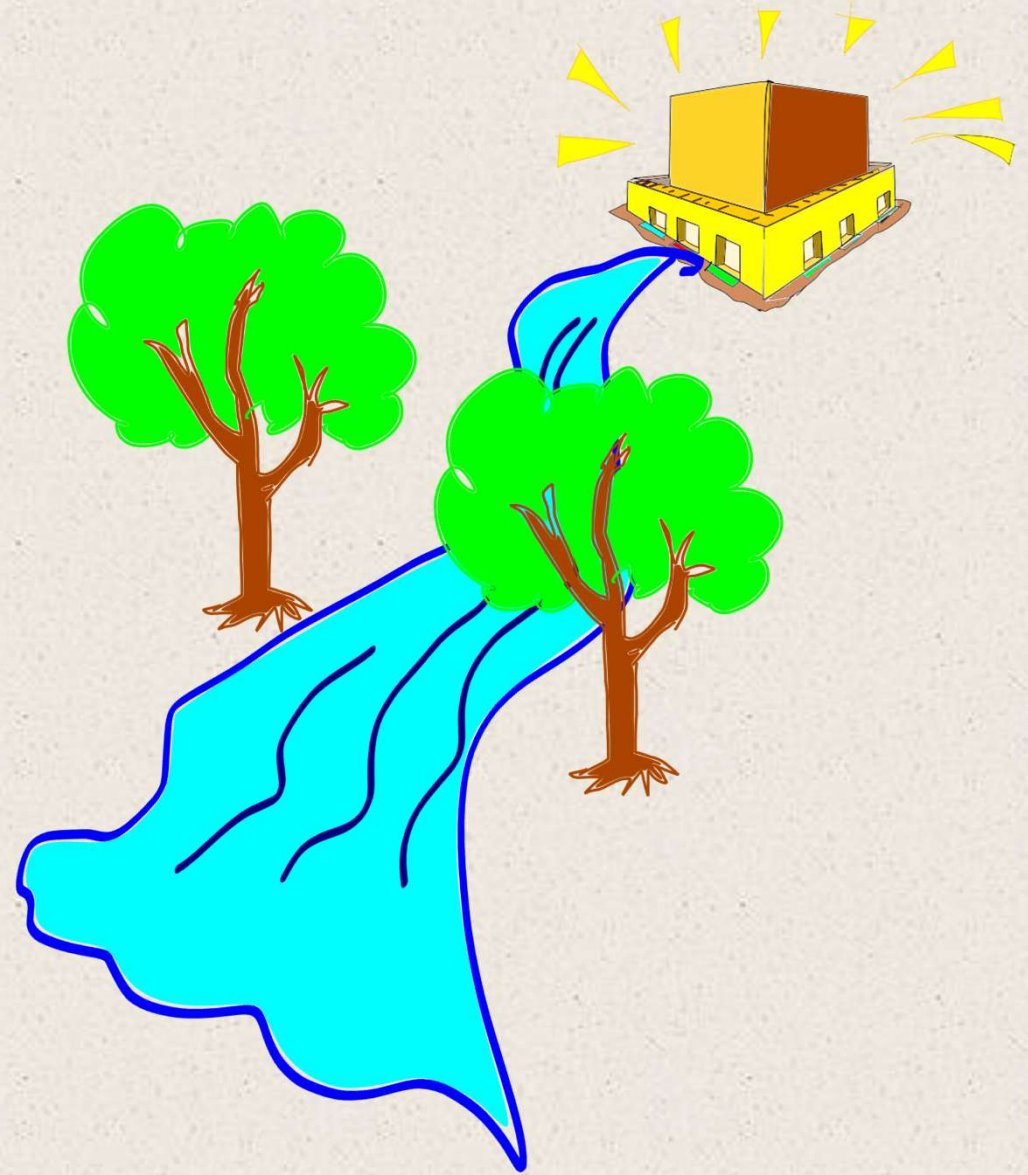


## ***22:1-5 persons/relationships***

21:3 housemates (?),  
family home

21:7 adoption “he will be  
my son”

Service, sight, success

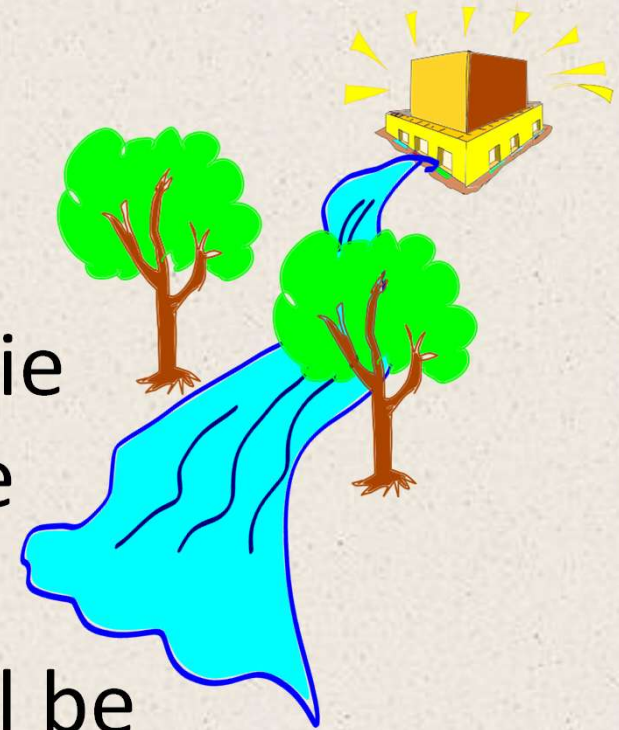


## ***22:1-5 persons/relationships***

So far already:

- 21:2 Bride and husband [man]  
→ glorious love, “feel-good” movie
- 21:3 housemates (?), corporate  
→ happiest, secure, family home
- 21:7 personal adoption “he will be my son”  
→ trusting responsibility

Plus: Service, sight, success



# ***22:1-5 persons/relationships: service***

22:3 “his servants will serve him”

- Latreo

= to serve, (?) religiously

= to be offering pleasing worship

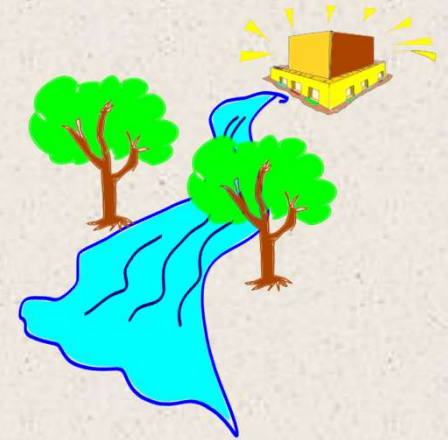
- under God’s smile

= to carry out valuable service

- do tasks: construction, exploration,  
helping Bach polish up key changes,  
translating angel songs into welsh

→ *e.g. Queen said she’d like toast and jam*

→ Service is an honour and privilege



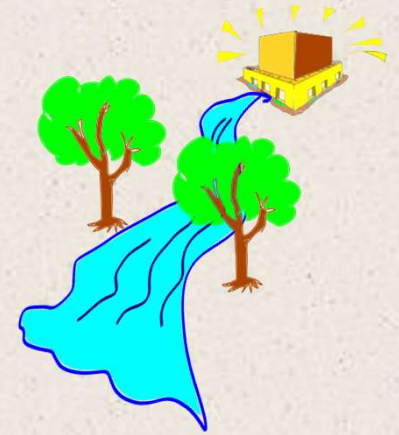
## ***22:1-5 persons/relationships: success***

*v.5 they will reign with him for ever*

*3:21 “sit with me on my throne”*

*5:10 already a Kingdom, they [will] reign*

*20:4 they lived reigned*



Reign = have power to enact, succeed

Previously – death reigned, sin reigned

Romans 5:17 we already reign in life

Romans 8:37 already more than conquerors

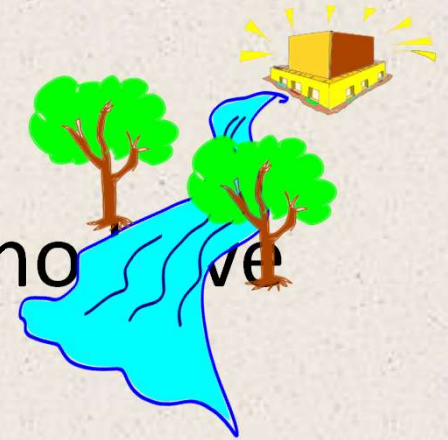
THEN – reign with him

# 22:1-5 persons/relationships: sight

22:4 “they will see his face”

His face bring deepest fear to those who  
rejected him ... 6:16

= full visual expression of his Person, including  
his holiness



When Mr. Stand-fast had thus set things in order, and the time being come for him to haste him away, he also went down to the river. Now there was a great calm at that time in the river; wherefore Mr. Stand-fast, when he was about half-way in, stood a while and talked to his companions that had waited upon him thither; and he said, This river has been a terror to many; yea, the thoughts of it also have often frightened me. Now, methinks, I stand easy, my foot is fixed upon that upon which the feet of the priests that bare the ark of the covenant stood, while Israel went over this Jordan. The waters, indeed, are to the palate bitter, and to the stomach cold; yet the thoughts of what I am going to, and of the conduct that waits for me on the other side, doth lie as a glowing coal at my heart. I see myself now at the end of my journey, my toilsome days are ended. I am going now to see that Head that was crowned with thorns, and that Face that was spit upon for me.

I have formerly lived by hearsay and faith; but now I go where I shall live by sight, and shall be with Him in whose company I delight myself.

I have loved to hear my Lord spoken of; and wherever I have seen the print of His shoe in the earth, there I have coveted to set my foot too.

His name has been to me as a civet-box; yea, sweeter than all perfumes. His voice to me has been most sweet; and His countenance I have more desired than they that have most desired the light of the sun. His Word I did use to gather for my food, and for antidotes against my faintings. 'He has held me, and hath kept me from mine iniquities; yea, my steps hath He strengthened in His way.'

Now, while he was thus in discourse, his countenance changed, his strong man bowed under him; and after he had said, Take me, for I come unto Thee, he ceased to be seen of them.

But glorious it was to see how the open region was filled with horses and chariots, with trumpeters and pipers, with singers and players on stringed instruments, to welcome the Pilgrims as they went up, and followed one another in at the beautiful gate of the city.

# ***The future***

***“the eternal glories gleam afar  
To nerve my faint endeavour  
And not to watch, to work, to war,  
And then to rest for ever”***

I found a friend, O such a friend: James G. Small, 1817-1888

Paul:

Romans 8:18 ***“I consider the present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us”***

John

1 John 3:2 ***“dear friends now we are the children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears we shall be like him. For we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves even as he is pure”***