

# Paradise Restored

The River and the Tree of Life

## 4. *The New River*

Revelation 22:1 “And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.”

At one time the rivers of the earth were clear, and perhaps there may be still some mountaintop stream that is unpolluted, but for the most part the rivers of the earth are not clear but contain pollutants. One of the fastest growing industries in the world is now clear, healthy (hopefully) bottled water.

Here John tells us of a new river that flows from the Throne of God, its water as clear as crystal and life giving. It is called the “*Water of Life*” because of its life-giving properties. Earthly rivers have their source from a mountain spring, but the “River of Life” has its source from the “Throne of God.”

This is the water that Jesus referred to when He encountered the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus told her what He tells us today, John 4: 10, ... “If you had asked Him He would have given you living water. ... v14, whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”

## 5. *The New Tree of Life*

Revelation 22:2 “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.”

The streets are to be lined with trees, as are also the banks of a wonderful river. These trees are not mere shade trees, but beautiful fruit trees, called the “Tree of Life,” that bear twelve kinds of fruit, a different kind each month. The fruit of these trees is for “Overcomers Only.”

Revelation 2:7 "... To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

The leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations that shall occupy the new earth. Not that there will be any sickness, but to preserve them in health, as Adam would have been preserved in health if he had eaten of the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden (Gen.3:22-24).