

**SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER?
REV 22:1-5 / 5-8-19 / WED**

I. FIRST, CONSIDER WHAT WE WON'T BE DOING IN HEAVEN.

- A. First, heaven will not be an endless or eternal church service.
- B. Second, heaven will not be endless or eternal rest.

II. SECOND, WHAT WILL HEAVEN BE LIKE?

- A. First, heaven will be like the Garden of Eden.
 - 1. Like Eden, a river will be there-**22:1-2a--Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 down the middle of the great street of the city....**
 - a. A river was in Eden-Gen. 2:10.
 - b. John's imagery comes from Ezekiel 47:1.
 - c. In John's day, water was a symbol of physical life.
 - d. Jesus says water is a symbol of eternal life-*John 4:13-14*.
 - 2. Like Eden, a tree will be there-**22:2b...On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.**
 - a. There were two special trees in Eden-**Gen. 2:9b**.
...In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
 - b. John's imagery again comes from *Ezekiel 47:12*.

¹² Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing."

- c. In Eden, man was forbidden to eat from the tree of life—
Gen. 2:22.
 - d. In heaven, we will eat from the tree of life and it will bring
healing.
 - 3. Like Eden, a curse is mentioned-**22:3a**---**No longer will there be
any curse.**
 - a. In Eden, the curse was given.
 - b. In heaven, the curse will be removed--*Gal. 3:13*.
- B. Second, heaven will be like the best job you have ever had.
 - 1. Mankind was created to work and be productive, and is not a
curse-*Gen. 2:15*.
 - 2. In heaven we will have productive, meaningful work to do-v.3b &
5b.

**22:3b--The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the
city, and his servants will serve him.**

22:5b--.... And they will reign for ever and ever.
 - 3. What are the benefits of this job in heaven?
 - a. Personal knowledge of God-**22:4a**—**They will see his face,
and his name will be on their foreheads...**
 - b. Personal knowledge of self--**22:-4b**---**....and his name will
be on their foreheads.**
- C. Third, heaven will be like an endless day in paradise.
 - 1. Darkness represents....
 - a. Spiritual blindness-***I John 2:11***.
 - b. Sin-*John 3:19*.
 - c. Hell-2 *Peter 2:4*-KJV.
 - 2. In heaven, there will be no darkness—22:5a-- **There will be no
more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light
of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light....**