

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1282

September 1, 2019

Revelation 22:2, “*In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, [was there] the tree of life, which bare twelve [manner of] fruits, [and] yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree [were] for the healing of the nations.*”

We are now in September and harvest is here. Some crops are already being harvested, and if not, they soon will be. This happens every year. We expect it and count upon it. This is an exciting time of year for those who grow crops. The literal fruits of one’s labor are ready and they can now enjoy those fruits.

In Revelation 22:2 we see in Heaven that the tree of life bears twelve manner of fruits and bears them every month. This represents the many different blessings in Heaven and shows they will never end. Twelve is used as one of the special and complete numbers in the Bible.

Twelve fruits shows that the blessings are numerous and varied. There are joys that all of us will enjoy. The pleasures of Heaven will never end. They are perfect. They will never grow old. Psalm 16:11, “*Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence [is] fulness of*

joy; at thy right hand [there are] pleasures for evermore.”

In this life, when we harvest fruits at this time of year, we are able to enjoy the fresh fruits for only a few days or weeks. We then have to preserve the fruits by canning or freezing. The fruits in Heaven are produced every month. They do not grow old or stale.

No doubt the LORD is talking about all the blessings in Heaven as opposed to physical fruit. The LORD can make our spiritual bodies enjoy a type of food and fruit along with all the other blessings. The Bible talks about food and water in Heaven. Psalm 78:25 refers to angels’ food in regard to the mana given in the wilderness. “*Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.*”

One of the things I miss most during the winter are the green leaves of the trees. The leaves turn colors in the fall, which are beautiful, but then fall off. They do return in a few months. With the tree of life bearing it’s fruit every month, I picture the leaves always staying green. Just as leaves on earthly trees provide life-giving food to trees, the leaves on the tree of life heal us.

That is not suggesting that we have any sickness or anything negative in Heaven. Eating from the tree of life gives eternal life. The leaves heal us from all that plagued us on Earth and keeps us eternally healed. The leaves provide a healing whereby we will never be plagued with the sickly things in this life — be they physical or spiritual.

Heaven is totally about life — eternal life. The first verse of Revelation 22 says, “*And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.*” The pure river in Heaven is called water of life. The tree of life in verse two is on either side of the river. This seems to indicate the tree of life being large and reaching across the river. It’s leaves and fruit are within reach of everyone there and will never cease producing.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM



—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher**, **Steve Seaton**, **Shirley Parson**, **Brad Terry**, **Denise Miller** (the sister of Sharon Franklin) and **Enola Zigler** (aunt of Mike Burd)

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The tree of life was originally in the garden of Eden to give eternal life to man. Genesis 3:22, “*And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever.*”

When mankind sinned, the LORD blocked access to the tree of life. Genesis 3:24, “*So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.*” Sin always deprives man of spiritual blessings, and the way to the tree of life was blocked.

How can we regain access to the tree of life? Proverbs refers to various things as being a tree of life such as wisdom, the fruit of the righteous, hope, and a wholesome tongue. These things in our lives lead us toward to the tree of life which is once again mentioned three times in Revelation. 2:7, “*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.*” 22:2, “*In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, [was there] the tree of life, which bare twelve [manner of] fruits, [and] yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree [were] for the healing of the nations.*” 22:14, “*Blessed [are] they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.*”

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Sunday, August 25, 2019		
Classes	23	I Peter 1:1-4
Preaching	35	Revelation 22:1-11
Contribution	\$824.00	
Evening	18	Matthew 22:23-46
Wednesday, August 28, 2019		
Classes	15	II Chronicles 28:1-27

Bible Quiz

How many fruits and how often does the tree of life bear?

Last Week’s Answer— Three years, six months (James 5:17)

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Jesus by His perfect sacrifice upon the cross once again provides us with access to the tree of life. It’s there and available for each of us if we live and die for the LORD. Let’s all make sure we will partake eternally of the tree of life.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)