“Then he showed me the river whose waters give life, sparkling like crystal, flowing out from the Throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the broadway of the city; also, on either side of the river was the Tree of Life with its twelve varieties of fruit, yielding each month its fresh crop; and the leaves of the Tree were for the healing and the restoration of the nations. There shall no longer exist there anything that is accursed (detestable, foul, offensive, impure, hateful, or horrible). But the Throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall worship Him [pay divine honors to Him and do Him holy service]. They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.” - Revelation 22:1-4 (AMPC)

From the beginning of time, God intended the entire creation to be one with Him.
He is to be entirely the source of life for all living things.
Everything about the New Jerusalem speaks of Jesus Christ and our oneness with Him.
Literally, on Earth and in Heaven, all things consist, hold together in Him.

“He planned for the maturity of the times and the climax of the ages to unify all things and head them up and consummate them in Christ, [both] things in Heaven and things on the Earth.” - Ephesians 1:10 (AMPC)

His principle of oneness began in the Garden and fills the Holy City throughout eternity.
Oneness creates unity which is necessary for the fulfillment of His purposes.
Here we are preparing ourselves as we put on Christ–His nature. (Ephesians 4:22)
In the Holy City, God’s Glory is to be manifested in absolute unity.
There is nothing Satan fears more than God’s saints joined together in a spirit of oneness, unity, as they conduct Kingdom business.
This River of Life flowing from the Throne symbolizes the Holy Spirit Who cleanses and gives life to those who trusted in Christ on Earth.
The Tree of Life draws its life from this River of Life.
God and His Son Jesus Christ continually create the waters and send them forth to perpetuate life and beauty to the Holy City and its inhabitants.

This river flows out to the uttermost parts of the Earth.
The Throne is of God and of the Lamb. There they rule together forever.
In the middle of the broadway of the city, and on either side of this river, is the Tree of Life.
The fruit is for food, and the leaves are for healing and restoration.
“Healing” here means “health, soundness of body.” (vs. 2)
In the Garden, Adam and Eve were in a perfect state, perfect health, whole, complete, well. The Tree of Life sustained, nurtured them.
In this Holy City, the fruit imparts and sustains our incorruptible life.
Just as the terrestrial tree did for Adam and Eve, this celestial tree communicates its health sustaining properties to us.
Jesus is the River, Jesus is the Tree, Jesus is the healing leaf.
This fruit confers immortality to those who eat of it.
“Healing” can also denote “serving, service, care.” In some ways, the leaves provide “prosperity for the nations.”

In this celestial city, we will gather in unity, in fellowship; we will worship Him and then serve Him in His great Kingdom, sustained by the River of Life, the Tree of Life, and the leaves of that tree.

In the Garden, Adam and Eve in innocence in Paradise were tempted by the serpent, driven away from the Tree of Life and from the pleasant waters of Eden.

But God promised a Redeemer who would crush the head of the serpent.

At the end, the serpent is cast out forever from God’s presence by the Last Adam, the Lord from Heaven, who appears with His Bride, the Church, in a better paradise and in the midst of better waters.

The eternal Tree of Life is there with all its healing, life-sustaining properties, open to all who overcome and there is no more curse.

The grand march of God’s providence concerning man moves in one giant circle.

It begins in Paradise and then moves through strange and untrod paths until it has fulfilled its grand revolution by coming back to the point from which it began.

“Twelve varieties of fruit” continually producing, giving out. (vs. 2)

As in Heaven, so also in Earth.

The productivity of the Tree of Life in eternity is a model of what our Christian life is to be on Earth.

We are to continually eat the truth of God’s Word and to continually yield spiritual fruit, healing those around us.

We are to abide in Him, and He is to abide in us so that we bear much fruit.

“Rather, let our lives lovingly express truth [in all things, speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly]. Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things into Him Who is the Head, [even] Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).” - Ephesians 4:15 (AMPC)

“My little children, for whom I am again suffering birth pangs until Christ is completely and permanently formed (molded) within you.” - Galatians 4:19 (AMPC)

Discussion Questions:

• Everything about the New Jerusalem speaks of Jesus Christ and our ______________ with him.
• Oneness creates ______________ which is necessary for the fulfillment of His purposes.
• There is nothing Satan fears more than God’s saints joined together in a spirit of ______________, ______________.
• In the middle of the Broadway of the city and on either side of the River of Life is the ______________ of Life.
• “Healing” means “health, ______________ of body.
• In this Hoy City the fruit of the Tree of Life imparts and sustains our ________________ life.
• “Healing” can also denote “______________, service, care.”
• The grand march of God’s providence concerning man moves in one giant ______________.