Healing of the Nations

Healing of the nations
So this one is a little exploratory I've read about the healing the nations in the past, and I actually have a study on the leaves of the tree that are the healing of the nation, but it's peculiar in that there would be healing of a nation necessary when there is no more pain sorrow sin death all enemies are confronted and condemned, and separated from The children of God and from God himself there's no more darkness perpetual light no more need for sun moon so why do we need then the healing of the nations unless there are future nations so in the Mormon religion there's multiple tears of heaven Paul talks about a level of heaven that he went to And in the Jehovah witness religion there are gonna be 144,000 they get to go to heaven and then everybody else is gonna be perpetually on the Earth so there's these various interpretations that supposedly come from the Bible and then there's the Bible references themselves And I'm wondering if the Bible does allude to more people after the millennial rain if there still be reproduction, and if there will still be nations that come thereafter, which still isn't answer the healing part of the nations, but where Abraham is gonna have descendants greater than the number of the stars in the sky And I've never remembered the stars in the sky, but it seems like if you take People that have lived on the earth in the last few thousand years is that equivalent and how does he have more than the sand of the seashore been to the seashore and I think that if I were to try enumerate them, it would be more than billions of granules of sand so what I'm wondering is does a form of humanity continue after enduring revelation 21 and 22 indication of this

Your question touches one of the most interesting tensions in **Revelation 21–22**. You noticed something many readers miss:

If **death, pain, sin, and curse are gone**, why would there still be **"healing of the nations"**?

Let's walk carefully through the text first, then explore the major interpretations.

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1. The Text That Raises the Question

The phrase comes from the closing description of the **New Jerusalem**.

Revelation 22:1–2

"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.
In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life…
and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

Immediately afterward John says:

Revelation 22:3

"And **there shall be no more curse**."

And earlier:

Revelation 21:4

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and **there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain**."

So the tension is real:

- No curse
- No pain
- No death
- Yet **healing (G2322 – *therapeia*) of the nations**

You are asking exactly the right question.

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2. The Word "Healing" Does Not Necessarily Mean Medical Repair

The Greek word used is:

θεραπεία (therapeia)

In the 1st century it had a broader meaning than modern "healing."

It could mean:

- service
- care
- restoration
- health-giving maintenance
- well-being

It's the root of our word **therapy**, but therapy can also mean **ongoing sustaining care**, not emergency healing.

So one possibility is:

The leaves sustain the life and well-being of the nations rather than cure disease.

This fits the next verse:

“There shall be **no more curse**.” (Rev 22:3)

Meaning the tree is **life-sustaining**, not disease-removing.

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3. The “Nations” Still Exist in the New Creation

This is another observation many miss.

Revelation 21:24–26

“**The nations of them which are saved** shall walk in the light of it…
and the **kings of the earth** do bring their glory and honour into it.”

So even in the **New Earth / New Jerusalem state**, John still describes:

- nations
- kings
- cultural glory brought into the city

That means **human distinctions still exist**.

Unity does not erase diversity.

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4. Important: This Scene Is After the Millennium

The sequence in Revelation:

1. **Second coming**
2. **Millennial reign** (Rev 20:1-6)
3. **Final rebellion** (Rev 20:7-10)
4. **Great white throne** (Rev 20:11-15)
5. **New heaven & new earth** (Rev 21–22)

So Revelation 22 is describing **the eternal state**, not the Millennium.

Which makes the “healing of nations” even more interesting.

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5. Does the Bible Suggest Reproduction After This?

Scripture gives **almost no direct statement** about reproduction in the eternal state.

But we do have one relevant teaching.

Jesus said:

Matthew 22:30

“In the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.”

This suggests:

- **No marriage**
- likely **no reproduction**

This is why most Christian theology concludes:

Human population is fixed after resurrection.

---

6. So Why Nations?

Several possibilities exist.

1. Cultural Nations (Most common view)

“Nations” may simply mean **redeemed peoples from every ethnic group**.

Revelation repeatedly emphasizes this.

Revelation 5:9

“out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation”

So “nations” may describe **redeemed diversity**, not political entities.

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2. Nations Living on the New Earth Outside the City

Some scholars think:

- **New Jerusalem** is the capital city
- people live across the **New Earth**
- they periodically come to the city

Supporting verse:

Revelation 21:24

“the nations… walk in the light of it.”

Meaning they exist **beyond the city walls**.

---

3. The Leaves Sustain Eternal Life

The **tree of life** appears again from Eden.

Genesis 3:22 shows why it mattered:

“lest he take also of the tree of life, and live for ever”

Meaning the tree **sustains immortality**.

So the leaves may function like:

life-giving participation in God's life

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7. Your Question About Abraham’s Descendants

God promised Abraham:

Genesis 22:17

“as the **stars of the heaven**, and as the **sand which is upon the sea shore**.”

This is usually understood two ways.

Stars = heavenly people

Sand = earthly people

Paul hints at this duality.

1 Corinthians 15:40–41

“There are also **celestial bodies**, and bodies terrestrial…”

And Hebrews says Abraham expected something greater.

Hebrews 11:16

“they desire a **better country, that is, an heavenly**.”

But the final state actually **combines heaven and earth**.

Revelation 21:2

“the **New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven**.”

So the promise resolves into **one renewed creation**.

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8. What About Mormon or Jehovah Witness Ideas?

Those systems are trying to answer the same question you noticed, but they build structures **not explicitly taught in Scripture**.

Examples:

- Mormon **multiple heavens**
- JW **144,000 in heaven / rest on earth**

The Bible never actually divides redeemed humanity permanently like that.

Instead it emphasizes:

“one new man” (Ephesians 2:15)

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9. A Very Interesting Observation

Notice what disappears in Revelation:

- temple
- sun
- sea
- curse

But **three things remain**:

1. **Nations**
2. **Kings**
3. **Tree of life**

That suggests something profound:

God does not erase human culture — **He redeems it**.

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10. A Possibility Worth Considering

Some theologians propose that the leaves symbolize **perpetual communion with God**.

Not healing sickness.

But **continual participation in divine life**.

Like spiritual nourishment.

This fits with your Eden connection.

The tree was never about medicine.

It was about **life from God**.

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11. One More Curiosity

Revelation intentionally echoes **Ezekiel's vision**.

Ezekiel 47:12

"the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the **leaf thereof for medicine**."

John is clearly drawing from that prophecy.

So the "healing" may represent:

the full restoration of what Eden lost.

Final Thought

Your question is insightful because it reveals something subtle about Revelation:

The final world is not static.

It is **alive**.

Flowing river
Fruit every month
Leaves continually given

The imagery suggests **ongoing participation in God's life**, not a frozen paradise.

If you'd like, we can also explore something **very striking** many people miss:

Why the Tree of Life appears on BOTH sides of the river in Revelation 22.

That detail opens up a fascinating structural connection between **Eden, the Cross, and the New Creation.**

Yes

Let's examine that **very strange detail** carefully, because it's one of the most overlooked clues in Revelation.

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1. The Strange Geometry of the Tree of Life

John writes:

Revelation 22:1–2

"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.
In the midst of the street of it, and **on either side of the river**, was there the tree of life…"

This description is unusual.

The Greek grammar can imply:

- a **single tree spanning both sides**
- or a **grove of the same tree**
- or a **tree whose life flows across the river**

But John intentionally says:

"on this side and on that side."

So we have:

```
Tree of Life | River of Life | Tree of Life
```

Yet it is still called **"the tree"** (singular).

That is extremely interesting.

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2. This Mirrors Eden

In Eden we first see:

Genesis 2:9

"the tree of life also in the midst of the garden"

So:

- **Tree of Life**
- **River flowing out of Eden**

Genesis 2:10

“And a river went out of Eden to water the garden…”

Eden already had:

- Tree
- River
- Life flowing outward

Revelation is intentionally reversing the fall.

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3. The River Comes from the Throne

Notice the new source.

Revelation 22:1

“proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb”

Life now flows from:

God → Lamb → River → Tree → Nations

This is a complete life chain.

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4. Why Is the Tree On Both Sides?

This creates a visual that resembles something else in Scripture.

Think about the **cross**.

At the crucifixion there were:

```
Thief   Jesus   Thief
```

Three crosses.

Luke records Jesus telling one thief:

Luke 23:43

“Today shalt thou be with me in **paradise**.”

The word paradise is the same word used for **Eden**.

So the cross becomes the doorway back to the tree.

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5. The Cross Is Literally Called a Tree

The apostles repeatedly call the cross a **tree**.

Acts 5:30

“whom ye slew and hanged on a **tree**.”

Acts 10:39

“whom they slew and hanged on a tree.”

1 Peter 2:24

“who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the **tree**.”

The Greek word there:

ξύλον (xylon)

means **tree or wood**.

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6. Access to the Tree Was Lost

After the fall:

Genesis 3:24

“So he drove out the man…
and a flaming sword…
to keep the way of the tree of life.”

Humanity is now **cut off from the tree**.

---

7. The Cross Reopens the Way

Jesus identifies himself as the source of life.

John 14:6

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

The cross becomes the **new tree of life**.

Which is why Revelation says:

Revelation 2:7

“To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the **tree of life**, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.”

The access is restored through Christ.

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8. Now Notice Something Stunning

The river flows from:

the throne of God AND the Lamb

Meaning:

The Lamb remains central **forever**.

Even in eternity the new creation is still connected to **the sacrifice**.

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9. The Tree Produces Fruit Every Month

Revelation 22:2

“twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month”

Which means:

Time markers still exist.

This suggests the new creation is **dynamic**, not static.

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10. Leaves for the Healing of Nations

Now the picture becomes clearer.

The tree that once stood in Eden:

- cut off by sin
- restored through the cross
- now spans the river of life
- feeding all redeemed nations

Life is continually flowing outward.

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11. One More Subtle Detail

The throne is shared.

Revelation 22:3

“the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it”

Not two thrones.

One throne.

God and the Lamb reign together.

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12. The Whole Bible Forms One Arc

The story forms a perfect structure.

Beginning	End
Garden	City-Garden
Tree of Life	Tree of Life
River from Eden	River from Throne
Humanity expelled	Humanity restored
Cherubim guard tree	Nations freely eat

The Bible ends **exactly where it began**, but redeemed.

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13. One Last Insight Related to Your Earlier Study

You mentioned the **Tree of Life vs Tree of Knowledge** earlier.

In Eden mankind chose:

knowledge apart from God

In the New Creation mankind receives:

life from God

No more independent moral determination.

Only life flowing from Him.

If you'd like, there is another **astonishing pattern hidden in Revelation 21–22** that almost nobody notices:

The New Jerusalem itself is shaped like the Holy of Holies.

Once you see it, the whole structure of the Bible suddenly makes even more sense.

So in the book of John chapter 6, Jesus kind of freaks some people out because they came to hear the profit with words of wisdom, and Jesus gives them words of wisdom, and he says you have to eat me. You have to drink me and the word he uses his flesh eat my flesh drink my blood so from the blood is life from Jesus side, came water and blood. Abel‘s blood calls from the ground the word is life. Jesus is life so Jesus is the vine where the branches there’s the wood of the cross. There’s there’s some symbolism here across the entire Bible from Genesis to revelation, and when Jesus is making this statement, you have to eat me and drink meand then you see a revelation too and 22 they’ll come to me and eat, and they’ll drink from the river, this clear river of life that goes out to the nations. How does all this work?

You’re noticing a **very real thread that runs through the entire Bible**. The imagery of **eating, drinking, blood, water, tree, vine, and life** is not random. Scripture uses those symbols repeatedly to describe **how God’s life enters human beings**.

Let’s walk through the pattern slowly, from Genesis to Revelation, because it really does form one continuous picture.

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1. Life in the Beginning Was Received by Eating

The first command involving life in Eden was about **eating**.

Genesis 2:16–17

“Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:
but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat…”

Life in Eden was sustained by **receiving what God provided**.

At the center stood **the Tree of Life**.

Genesis 3:22

“lest he take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever”

So the original design was:

Life from God → received by eating what He provides.

But humanity chose a **different food source**: knowledge apart from God.

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2. Blood Represents Life

Very early Scripture establishes this principle.

Leviticus 17:11

"For **the life of the flesh is in the blood**."

Blood = life.

This is why Abel's blood cries out.

Genesis 4:10

"the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground"

Life unjustly taken calls for justice.

This idea continues throughout the sacrificial system.

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3. Sacrifice Became the Means of Restoring Life

Israel's sacrifices symbolized a transfer:

life for life

Leviticus 17:11

"I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls."

Blood was not magic; it symbolized **life offered in place of life**.

But those sacrifices were temporary.

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4. Jesus Identifies Himself as the True Source of Life

In John's Gospel, Jesus repeatedly says He **is life itself**.

John 6:35

"I am the bread of life."

Then He pushes the metaphor further.

John 6:53

"Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you."

This shocked people.

John 6:60

"This is an hard saying; who can hear it?"

Many disciples left.

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5. Jesus Was Speaking Spiritually, Not Cannibalistically

Later in the same chapter Jesus clarifies.

John 6:63

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing:
the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

So "eating" and "drinking" means:

receiving and trusting His life and sacrifice.

Faith is described as **consuming the life of Christ**.

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6. The Vine and Branches

Jesus expands this idea further.

John 15:5

“I am the vine, ye are the branches.”

Branches do not produce life independently.

They receive life from the vine.

Again the same idea:

life flows from Christ into believers.

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7. Water and Blood from Jesus’ Side

When Jesus died, something remarkable happened.

John 19:34

“one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out **blood and water**.”

John emphasizes that this was witnessed.

Early Christians saw deep symbolism here.

Blood = **atoning life**
Water = **cleansing / Spirit / new life**

This echoes Jesus’ earlier teaching.

John 7:37–38

“If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.”

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8. Communion Continues the Pattern

Jesus gave a ritual to remember this.

Matthew 26:26–28

“Take, eat; this is my body…
Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the covenant.”

Bread and wine symbolize:

receiving Christ’s life through His sacrifice.

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9. Revelation Returns to the Same Imagery

In the final vision we see the completion of this theme.

Revelation 22:1

“a river of water of life… proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.”

And again:

Revelation 22:2

“the tree of life… bearing twelve fruits.”

Life flows from God through the Lamb and nourishes humanity.

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10. The Same Invitation Appears at the End of the Bible

Revelation 22:17

“Let him that is athirst come.
And whosoever will, let him take the **water of life freely.**”

The final message of the Bible is:

Come drink life.

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11. The Entire Bible Follows One Life Pattern

Beginning	Fulfillment
Tree of Life	Tree of Life restored
Eat and live	Eat Christ and live
River in Eden	River from God's throne
Blood of sacrifice	Blood of Christ
Water of life promised	Water of life flowing

So the entire narrative is about **how God's life enters humanity again after the fall**.

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12. Why Jesus' Teaching Sounded Disturbing

Jesus intentionally used shocking language.

His audience understood:

- blood = life
- eating = receiving life

But they were thinking **physically**.

Jesus meant **spiritually**.

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13. The Core Idea

The message from Genesis to Revelation is this:

Human life was never meant to be **self-generated**.

It was meant to be **received from God**.

In Eden it came from a tree.

After the fall it comes through **the Lamb**.

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14. One More Interesting Layer

Jesus was crucified on **wood**.

Scripture repeatedly calls it **a tree**.

So symbolically:

The **tree that brings life** returns through **the cross**.

The Whole Picture

The Bible's story of life can be summarized like this:

```
Eden Tree → Lost Life
Sacrificial Blood → Temporary Covering
Christ's Cross → Restored Life
River & Tree in Revelation → Eternal Life
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The same theme runs all the way through.

If you want, there is another connection hidden inside John's Gospel that ties this all together even more tightly:

Why John deliberately begins his Gospel with the same words as Genesis — "In the beginning."

That literary choice unlocks even deeper symbolism about the **new creation through Christ.**