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[Rev 22:3 NASB95] 3 There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him;

Amplified Bible: "There will no longer exist anything that is cursed [because sin and illness and death are gone]; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve and worship Him [with great awe and joy and loving devotion];"

[Gal 3:10, 13-14 NASB95] 10 For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM." ... 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE" 14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

- If you feel like something is against you. You are right. It is a curse.
- The curse is a force that has similar properties but opposite goals. They are forces that are invisible in and of themselves, but their effects are very visible. See Deuteronomy 28.
- Revelation 22:3 tells of a time when the curse will be removed. It is in the future.
- JFB: Commenting on Rev. 22:3, "God can only dwell where the curse and its cause, the cursed thing sin (Josh. 7:12), are removed."
- It is a force or thing that will be removed.
- Although we have been redeemed from the curse, it is still in operation. That means that it has not been removed yet. While we know that the atonement of Jesus redeemed us from the curse (more on that later), we see that it does not get removed until later. Remember "now and not yet".

What causes curses to operate in our lives, and how do we get free from them?

Knowing how curses work helps us determine how to remove them.

I. What are the causes of the curse operating against us?

- a. Being born as a human makes you a candidate for dealing with the curse.
 - i. From Adam.
 - 1. The curse came/comes when we violate God. It is a natural consequence just like getting shocked when touching a bare electric line.
 - 2. [Gen 3:14-19 NASB95] 14 The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, And dust you will eat All the days of your life; 15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel." 16 To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you." 17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life. 18 "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you will eat the plants of the field; 19 By the sweat of

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your face You will eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."

- 3. Is God pronouncing or identifying the curse? I believe both.
- 4. Adam's curse of death comes to all in him. To be in Christ, frees us from the curse of sin. [1Co 15:22 NASB95] 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.
- ii. From family.
 - 1. Curses, as well as blessings, MIGHT be passed down in the family.
 - 2. NOTICE: [Eze 18:19-20 NASB95] 19 "Yet you say, 'Why should the son not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity?' When the son has practiced justice and righteousness and has observed all My statutes and done them, he shall surely live. 20 "The person who sins will die. The son will not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son's iniquity; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself.
 - 3. David Matthew 1:5-7 Rahab (harlot) Boaz (wealthy warrior) great warrior, sexual sins and children (incest) [Mat 1:5-7 NASB95] 5 Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse. 6 Jesse was the father of David the king. David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa.
 - 4. Ahithophel and Solomon Great grandfather Ahithophel through Bethsheba
 - a. [2Sa 16:23 NASB95] 23 The advice of Ahithophel, which he gave in those days, [was] as if one inquired of the word of God; so was all the advice of Ahithophel [regarded] by both David and Absalom.
 - b. [1Ki 4:29 NASB95] 29 Now God gave Solomon wisdom and very great discernment and breadth of mind, like the sand that is on the seashore.
 - 5. Abiathar and Jeremiah
 - a. [1Ki 2:26 NASB95] 26 Then to Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to Anathoth to your own field, for you deserve to die; but I will not put you to death at this time, because you carried the ark of the Lord GOD before my father David, and because you were afflicted in everything with which my father was afflicted."
 - b. [Jer 1:1 NASB95] 1 The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,
 - 6. If a generational blessing, then maybe a generational curse.
- b. Words released over you can cause a curse.
- c. Practicing personal sin can cause a curse.

II. What do we need to do to live curse-free?

- a. Surrender your life to Jesus Christ.
- b. Release your faith against any curse you see operating in your life.
 - i. [Pro 26:2 NASB95] 2 Like a sparrow in [its] flitting, like a swallow in [its] flying, So a curse without cause does not alight.
 - ii. We proclaim the blood of Jesus has removed the cause. Therefore, we proclaim the curse has to be broken.

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- c. Resist the curse.
 - i. [Jas 4:7 NASB95] 7 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
 - ii. [Jas 5:14-15 NASB95] 14 Is anyone among you sick? [Then] he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him.
 - iii. The faith in Galatians 3:13-14 governs all the promises. Redeemed. Blessed. Empowered. All three of these by faith.
- God wants us to know that as we surrender our lives to Jesus Christ, release our faith, and stand against the curse we will live curse-free.