

THE UNVEILING OF JESUS CHRIST

"That Heavenly City"

Revelation 21:1-22:5

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Eternal State (Heaven) is going to be a reality for us beyond our wildest expectations.
2. Imagine a place where there is no more "**bad news**"!!
 - a) No more pain. No more weeping. No more death. No more heartache.
3. We will dwell with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, forever.
 - a) This was God's intention from the beginning of creation.
4. One day there will be a New Heaven. A New Earth. And a New Jerusalem.

I. THE NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

1. **Revelation 21:1, 5**
2. Things in the Millenium look pretty good.
 - a) **Isaiah 11:6-9**
 - b) **Isaiah 35:1-10**
3. There is somewhat of a mystery on what happens when God makes the New Heaven and the New Earth.
 - a) **Hebrews 11:13, 16**
4. According to **2 Peter 3:13**, the main difference between this world and the next is Moral, "**In which righteousness dwells.**"
5. **Isaiah 65:17; 66:22**
 - a) "**Shall remain before me**"
6. **QUESTION:** How is God going to bring the New Heaven and earth into existence?
 - a) **2 Peter 3:10-12**
7. **Revelation 21:1**
 - a) "**and I saw a new heaven and a new earth**"
 - b) "**for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away**"
 - 1) Does John mean that the heavens above us is destroyed?"

2) **NO** - what it means is that this earth will be renovated and redeemed.

8. **LISTEN UP:** I think that this earth is our home forever!!!

a) The Gk. word for "**passed away**" does not mean **extinction** or **annihilation**.

1) What it means is **a change from one place to another**.

b) When John says, "**passed away**" it means it passes from one condition to another.

1) It means to go through a **renovation**.

9. **2 Peter 3:6-7**

a) "**stored up for fire**" - is the cleansing fire, The rejuvenating fire, The purging fire.

10. **W.A.Criswell** said this:

a) "**As for me, I like the prospect of our home being forever on this earth.**"

b) "**We shall break bread together in the new and happy land; we shall dine together world without end.**"

c) **Luke 24:36-43**

II. THE NEW JERUSALEM

1. The longing for a city from God goes all the way back to the book of *Genesis*.

a) We learn in the book of *Hebrews* that Abraham, was looking forward to the city.

1) ***Hebrews 11:10***

2. When studying the Bible, we must use good Hermeneutics.

a) **Hermeneutics is the science of interpretation.**

b) A good rule of thumb is "***When common sense makes plain sense, seek no other sense.***"

A. THE SIZE OF THE CITY OF GOD

1. The size of this city will accommodate all the saved since the beginning of time.

a) ***Matthew 7:13***

b) ***Matthew 7:21***

2. **Vs 15-16**

a) "***The city lies four-square***"

1) Four-square simply means that the city is a box whose height and length are exactly the same.

b) "**stadia**" = 1380 miles

3. That means the area on which it sets (footprint) would comprise of **1,904,400** square miles.

4. **WOW!!!** But since it is a cube, we measure $W \times L \times \text{Height} = 2,628,072,000$ Cubic Miles.

5. The base of the city is roughly 10 times the size of France and Germany.

a) And 40 times the size of England.

6. Because the city is a cube, there will be multiple levels.

a) **John 14:2-3**

B. THE DETAILS OF THE CITY OF GOD

1. IT'S A HOLY CITY

a) Our cities have **sin and filth and pollution and crime and poverty and disease and anger and turmoil**. THEY ARE NOT CITIES OF GOD

b) The CITY OF GOD will have none of those things, for it will be Holy.

1) And every resident will be Holy.

2. THE PEARLY GATES

a) Revelation 21:21

1) "*and the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl.*"

b) Vs 10-14

3. THE FOUNDATION

a) Vs 19-20

b) We may not know exactly what these stones look like, but what we do know is that they will be beautiful!!

1) More beautiful than anything we can imagine.

c) The City of God will reflect the beauty of the Son of God and the infinite blessings He has provided.

4. THE STREETS OF GOLD

a) Vs 21

1) "*and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.*"

b) Somehow, this gold is so pure that light seems to go right through it like golden glass.

c) **Vs 23**

- 1) The city is illuminated solely by the *Glory of God*.
- 2) Cf. *Exodus 3:1-5*
- 3) *1 John 1:5*

5. THE TREE OF LIFE

a) **Revelation 22:1-5**

- 1) Chrystal clear water flows from the throne of God on either side of which was the Tree of Life.
- 2) That which was taken away in the Garden of Eden is restored.

b) **Vs 2**

- 1) Yes, we will be eating in eternity.
- 2) *Luke 24:42-43*
- 3) *Matthew 26:29*
- 4) **Vs 2**

a. Fruit on the Tree of Life renews itself once a month.

CONCLUSION:

1. Revelation 21:27

2. The only way to enter the City of God is by Reservation.

a) Your name must be written in the Lamb's Book of Life!!!

3. "*Is Your Name Written There?*"