

Part 10 - JET TOUR THROUGH REVELATION
Heaven on Earth – Our Eternal Home (Rev. 21:9-22:21)

INTRO: Finally, we come to the end of our study as we look further into our final heaven.

REVIEWING:

I. THE RENOVATION OF THE OLD ORDER (21:1)

Earth and heaven as we know it is remodeled, redeemed, resurrected. Earth's history. It is new in quality. It is heaven on earth. Paradise regained but better. God Himself built it (Heb. 11:10; 12:22-24)

II. THE PRESENTATION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM (21:1-8)

- A. A Prepared City (v. 2a; Jn. 14:2-3; Heb. 11:10) – comes down to new earth as eternal capital city (vv. 2, 10)..
- B. It's Like a Beautiful Bride Coming Down the Aisle on wedding day (v. 2b).
- C. Description:
 - 1. Its **SPLendor** (vv. 9-11) – like an enormous diamond it radiates the glory of God
 - 2. Its **SIZE** (vv. 15-16) – Perfect cube (?) 1500 miles long and wide and high. Room to house 100 billion at 75 acres each! 3 pics . . .

NEW MATERIAL

- 3. Its **STRUCTURE** (vv. 17-27)
 - a. There were 12 layered (stacked on top) **FOUNDATIONS** and on each was inscribed names of 12 disciples—church age (v. 14). They were decorated with every kind of precious stone—not concrete (vv. 19-20). Demonstrates stability and permanence. See Heb. 11:10.
 - b. Its **WALL** is 1500 miles high (8 million feet) and 216' thick and consists of Jasper, a transparent, diamondlike stone, allowing God's glory to radiate from the city's center and shine through (vv. 12,17-18). Wall-to-wall glory! Walls serve no functional purpose (no enemies), symbolize security and protection.
 - c. Walls had 12 **GATES** (allowing entry and exit), 3 on each side with an angel (honor guard) at each one (vv. 12-13). Gates named after tribes of Israel (Jewish OT saints). Salvation came through the Jews (Jn. 4:22). Each gate is (not like) a pearl (v. 21a). Gate is place of entry and pearl is the product of suffering. Jesus

suffered and died so we could enter! Gates always open—access to heaven (v. 25).

- 4. The **MAIN STREET** is pure gold (v. 21). Not 24 carats but 100% pure so can see through. On earth men worship gold and walk on God. In heaven opposite true. Place of movement and travel.
PIC – River . . . Trees of Life

III. The SUFFICIENCY OF THE CITY (22:1-5) – No needs – total provision.

- A. Its **DRINK** will be the river of the water of eternal life (22:1-2). Fountain of eternal refreshment is the very throne of God flowing through main street (22:2)!
- B. Its **FOOD** will be the tree of life (22:2) – Removed after sin entered (Gen. 2:9; 3:22, 24; Rev. 2:7; 22:2, 14, 19). Fruit for every month (time & seasons?). Jesus ate and drank after his resurrection (Lk. 24:30, 40-43; Jn. 21:4-15; Acts 1:4). Jesus indicated we have feasts and banquets in heaven (Lk. 22:18, 29-30; Matt. 8:11; Rev. 19:9). We will eat and drink for pure enjoyment (Rev. 21:6; 22:2). We will never need to diet because we'll never get fat! Its leaves are health-giving (therapeia). Root meaning is the idea of serving and ministering. The leaves promote the enjoyment of life in the New Jerusalem, and are not for correcting ills that no longer exist (Rev. 21:4).
- C. Its **LIGHT** will be the glory of God (Isa. 60:19; 22:3-5; 21:11,23; 1 Jn. 1:5).

Note: What will we be like? What will we do?

IV. HEAVEN'S FINAL CHALLENGE (22:6-21)

- A. Keep the Word of Truth (22:6,7,10) – *Accurate* so trust it (v. 6). *Authoritative* so obey it (v.7). *Accessible* so get in it and share it (v. 10).
- B. Worship God (vv. 8-9) – We are made to worship. *GOD ALONE* deserves our worship. He only is worthy (Matt. 4:10).
- C. Trust in the Finished Work of Christ (22:11-16) – It settles: *What are We* (v. 11) – lost or saved. *What We Get* (vv. 12-13). *Where We Are Going* (vv. 14-15). *Whose We Are* (v. 16).
- D. Listen to the Witness of the Spirit (vv. 17-21) *Invitation to the Lost* (v. 17 “Come”). *Warning to All* (vv. 18-19). *Hope* (vv. 20-21).

CONC: Amazing! Beyond words. No wonder Paul writes 1 Cor. 2:9 . . . and why will we be there? JESUS – and His Fabulous Forgiveness!