

# A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

October 24, 2021

Revelation 21

## REVELATION 21:12

*"having a wall great and high; having twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names written thereon, which are (the names) of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel."*

Revelation 21

## DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY

- Having the "glory of God"
- Light was like was liked to a "jasper stone" (4:3)
- Clear as crystal
- Most scholars conclude this is like a diamond
- The beauty and grandeur of the city reflect the glory of God
- Brilliant light is pure and perfect (22:5)

Revelation 21

## DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY

- Wall was **great and high**
  - Built as protection for ancient cities – thick high wall
- **12 gates – 12 angels** at the gates
  - People of God – only those who maintained garments may enter. Abundant entrance. 2 Peter 1:11
- **Names** written on the gates
- Names of the **12 tribes of Israel**. (cf. Hebrews 9:15; 11:10, 13-16).
  - Faithful of OT times in the heavenly city.
  - Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Joseph, Benjamin

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## REVELATION 21:13

*"on the east were three gates; and on the north three gates; and on the south three gates; and on the west three gates."*

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## REVELATION 21:14

*"And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb."*

## Revelation 21

**ENTRANCE OF THE CITY**

- Entrance from the city was available from **four directions**.
- 3 east – 3 north – 3 south – 3 west
- People from every **kindred, tongue, people, and nation**. (Revelation 5:9; 7:9)
- Gates of the ancient cities were **closed at night** for protection

## Revelation 21

**ENTRANCE OF THE CITY**

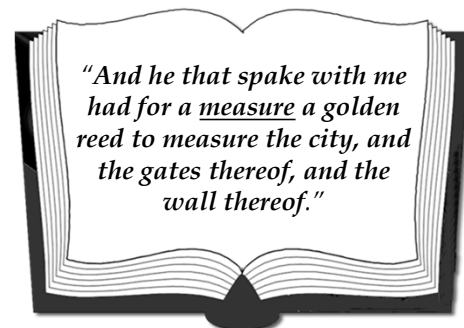
- **12 Gates** of the **heavenly city** which are never closed – **abundant entrance!**  
2 Peter 1:11
- The gates will not need to be shut because no enemies exist to invade the city.
- They have all been cast into the lake of fire (19:20; 20:10, 15; 21:8).

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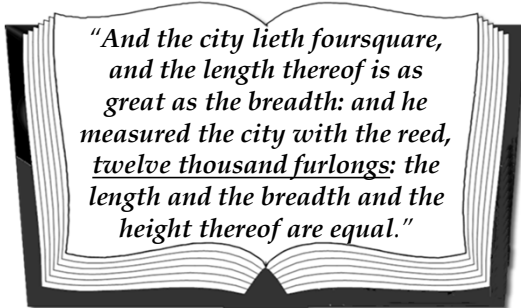
**FOUNDATIONS OF THE CITY**

- Wall of the city had **12 foundations**
  - One foundation for every gate
- Names of the **12 apostles** of the Lamb
  - Those of the NT era who will enter the city have also **walked by faith**
  - Built by the gospel that had been preached
  - Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Canaanite, Mathias (?)
  - **John** would have seen his own name!

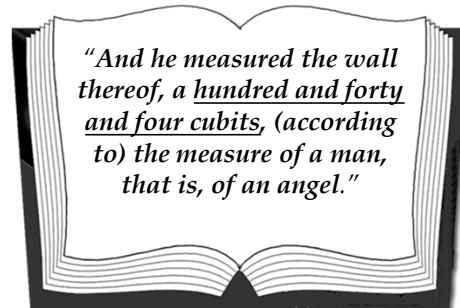
## Revelation 21

**REVELATION 21:15**

## Revelation 21

**REVELATION 21:16**

## Revelation 21

**REVELATION 21:17**

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### MEASURING THE CITY

- Golden reed (*or rod*) was used to **measure**
- Ensure “**perfection**” of the city (*in its provisions*)
- The **gates** (*means of entrance*)
- The **walls** (*security of protection*)
- Measurement was a “**perfect cube**”
- Its **length, breadth, height** was 12,000 furlongs (**1,500 miles**)
- **12** = people of God **1,000 x ten** = complete full number
- **Literal?** NO! Could not fit into Palestine!

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### MEASURING THE CITY

- Literal measurement? (**1 Kings 6:20**)
- Its **staggering dimension** is simply to depict the fact that heaven will be so enormous it will adequately contain all the saved!
- Wall measure **144 cubits** (*thickness?*) 12x12
- According to the “**measure of a man**”
- Indicates, in an apocalyptic way, **full security** for the people who dwell within its confines. Ultimate “**holy place**”

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### “Victory in Heaven”

**I. Perfect Fellowship With God (verses 1-8)**

A. God’s people who overcame will be with God (verses 1-7)

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A. God’s people who overcame will be with God (verses 1-7)

1. New heaven and new earth (verse 1)
2. No more sea (verse 1)
3. New Jerusalem (verse 2)
4. God dwells with them (verse 3)
5. Former things passed away (verse 4)
6. Drink the water of life freely (verse 6)
7. Inheritance as God’s children (verse 7)

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### “Victory in Heaven”

**I. Perfect Fellowship With God (verses 1-8)**

A. God’s people who overcame will be with God (verses 1-7)

B. Those who are not God’s people will not be there (verse 8)

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### “Victory in Heaven”

**I. Perfect Fellowship With God (verses 1-8)**

**II. The New Jerusalem (verses 9-27)**

A. Angel showed John the great city (verses 9-11)

B. Exterior of the city (verses 12-21)

C. Interior of the city (verses 22-27)

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## REVELATION 21:18

*"And the building of the wall thereof was jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto pure glass."*

## Revelation 21

## REVELATION 21:19

*"The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;"*

## Revelation 21













## REVELATION 21:20

*"the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprass; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst."*

## Revelation 21

## REVELATION 21:21

*"And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the several gates was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass."*

THE PRECIOUS STONES SEEN IN THE HOLY CITY – NEW JERUSALEM		
#	New Jerusalem Rev 21:19-20	STONE
1	Jasper	
2	Sapphire	
3	Chalcedony	
4	Emerald	
5	Sardonyx	
6	Sardius (Ruby)	
7	Chrysolite	
8	Beryl	
9	Topaz	
10	Chrysoprass	
11	Jacinth	
12	Amethyst	

"And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was JASPER; the second, SAPPHIRE; the third a CHALCEDONY; the fourth, an EMERALD; the fifth, SARDONYX; the sixth, the sard; the seventh, a CHRYSOLITE; the eighth, BERYL; the ninth, a TOPAZ; the tenth, a CHRYSOPRASS; the eleventh, a JACINTH; the twelfth, an AMETHYST. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl; and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." Rev 21:17-21

"Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner; And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: where unto also they were appointed." 1 Pet 2:7, 8

"To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." 1 Pet 2:4, 5

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light, which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God, which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evil-doers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation." 1 Pet 2:9-12

It is wonderful to see that in spite of how much we have failed in administering the mind of God we are seen, by sovereign grace, to display in perfection the glories of God in perfect administration throughout the 1000 year Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ!

"... Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever." Rev 5:13

## Revelation 21

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALLS

- What we read helps the reader to envision heaven as **beautiful** and **precious**.
- Wall was built of **jasper** – like a diamond
- City was **pure gold** – like **clear glass**
- Foundations of the wall of the city adorned with all kinds of "**precious stones**"
  - **First** – jasper {diamond}
  - **Second** – sapphire {clear blue stone}
  - **Third** – chalcedony {green carbonization of copper}

Revelation 21

### CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALLS

- Foundations of the wall of the city adorned with all kinds of “**precious stones**”
  - **Fourth** – emerald {greenest of stones}
  - **Fifth** – sardonyx {onyx-broken white – layers of red/brown}
  - **Sixth** – sardius {red stone}
  - **Seventh** – chrysolyte {yellow amber}
  - **Eighth** – beryl {tinged of yellow, blue and green}
  - **Ninth** – topaz {yellowish green color}

Revelation 21

### CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALLS

- Foundations of the wall of the city adorned with all kinds of “**precious stones**”
  - **Tenth** – chrysoprase {pale green}
  - **Eleventh** – jacinth {rich blue color}
  - **Twelfth** – amethyst {more brilliant}

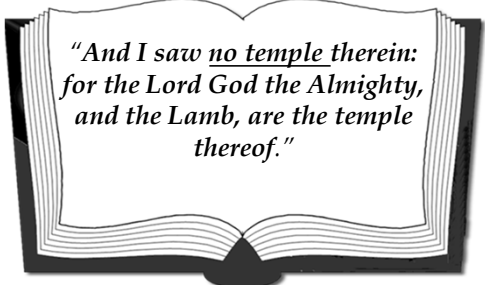
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### CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALLS

- 12 gates were 12 pearls
- Each individual gate was 1 pearl
- Been said “**pearls**” highest ranking among all precious stones
- Street of city like **pure gold**
- **Transparent** like glass
- Glorious **entrance** for those who dwelled there
- Glorious **light of God** reflected its shining appearance

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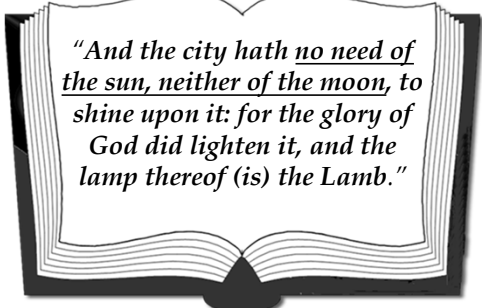
### REVELATION 21:22



*“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God the Almighty, and the Lamb, are the temple thereof.”*

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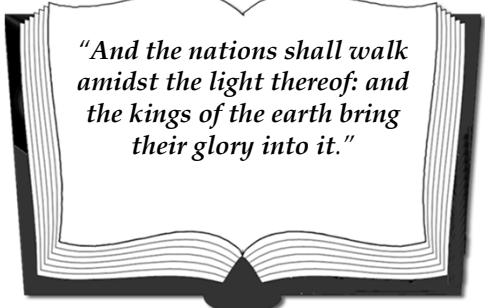
### REVELATION 21:23



*“And the city hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine upon it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof (is) the Lamb.”*

Revelation 21

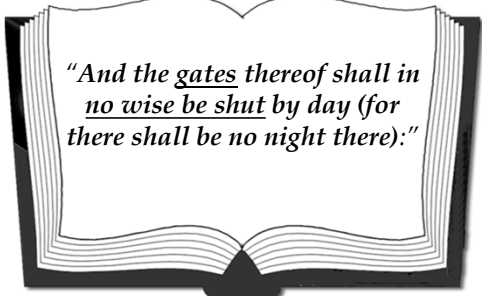
### REVELATION 21:24



*“And the nations shall walk amidst the light thereof: and the kings of the earth bring their glory into it.”*

Revelation 21

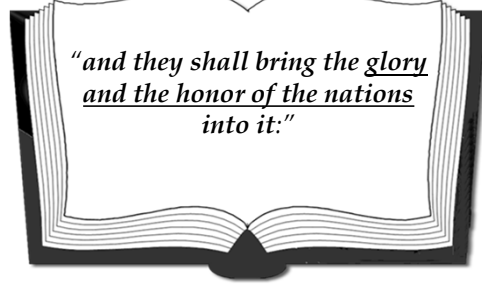
**REVELATION 21:25**



*"And the gates thereof shall in no wise be shut by day (for there shall be no night there):"*

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**REVELATION 21:26**



*"and they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it:"*

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**GLORY OF THE CITY**

- Those who hold to the **earthly temple, earthly Jerusalem**, as the goal of this book, these passages destroy that theory!
- John saw **NO** temple there
- **Lord God** and the **Lamb** are the temple!
  - NT construction of a building unnecessary
  - **Christians** are the temple (1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 2:19-22)
  - However, following final judgment, **God and the Lamb** are the **temple**!
  - Theories of our day have it backwards!
  - In the new heaven and earth, **GOD** is the temple!
  - **Fellowship** is direct and constant!

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**GLORY OF THE CITY**

- City had no need of the **sun**, neither of the **moon** – why?
- The **glory of God** gives its light!
- **Lamb** is the light there!
  - The light of God now shines through His word – **Psalms 119:104-105, 130**
  - But in the new order the light will be from the **glory of God's presence**!
  - No need of the sun – daylight or the moon – nightly reflector
  - Clearly shows this is a **DIFFERENT** place than the earth!

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**GLORY OF THE CITY**

- Glory of the New Jerusalem is so overwhelming that all other glories fade into it and are meaningless by comparison!
- In view of verse 27 it is obvious that the **nations** and **kings** of the earth that walk in the light of this city will consist of people who have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. (5:9; 7:9).
- Gates of the city will **never be shut at all by day** – Why?
- No **night** there!
- No **enemies** to invade the city
- Heaven will have **continuous** light

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**GLORY OF THE CITY**

- Those who have obeyed the word of God, Christ called them the "**salt and light**" of the world (**Matthew 5:14-16**)
- We were assured earlier their "**works followed them**" (14:13)
- Bring glory and honor into heaven by that obedient life
- Stand as a **living testimony** that God did not place on man anything went beyond his capacity to accomplish

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**REVELATION 21:27**

Revelation  
19:20;  
20:10, 15;  
21:8

*"and there shall in no wise enter into it anything unclean, or he that maketh an abomination and a lie: but only they that are written in the Lamb's book of life."*

Revelation 21

**SOME WILL NEVER SEE IT!**

- God gives His **divine promise** that under **no circumstances** will some be allowed to enter:
  - Anything that **defiles**
  - Works **abominations**
  - Makes **lies**
  - Those **not written in the Lamb's Book of Life**
  - Men had **two choices** in life (**Matthew 7:13-14**)
  - Those who choose the "**broad way**" cannot enter into this city!

Revelation 21

**CLOSING NOTES ...**

- Some excellent Bible students see in these last chapters the **church on earth**.
- See God as providing every need for the ones who have been "**washed in the blood of the Lamb.**"
- These truths are taught in other scriptures, but don't fit the **context of Revelation's** theme and purpose.
- Here are some **reasons** to consider ...  
(Robert Harkrider, *Revelation*, Truth Commentaries, page 310)

Revelation 21

**CLOSING NOTES ...**

1. **Chronology** of the text **follows** the **final judgment scene** rather than occurring before. (**20:11-15**)
2. Former things are "**passed away**" (**21:4**), earth and heaven have "**fled away**" (**20:11**), and John saw a "**new heaven and earth**" (**21:1**).
3. Drinking of the **water of life** **is occurring** while others are in the **lake of fire**, the **second death** (**20:15; 21:6-7; 21:8**).  
(Robert Harkrider, *Revelation*, Truth Commentaries, page 310)

Revelation 21

**CLOSING NOTES ...**

4. The rewards are comparable to those spoken earlier in the book as blessings **after** death. The faithful:
  - Wear robes of white coming out of tribulation (**6:11; 7:4**)
  - Serve God night and day in His temple (**7:14-17**); His temple is heaven (**11:19**).
  - Are in heaven where God is the temple (**21:22**). On earth church, He dwells in us – then we dwell in His presence!
- Experience neither hunger, thirst, nor heat of the sun upon them (**11:16**).  
(Robert Harkrider, *Revelation*, Truth Commentaries, page 310)

Revelation 21

**CLOSING NOTES ...**

4. The rewards are comparable to those spoken earlier in the book as blessings **after** death. The faithful:
  - Shall be fed by the Lamb and He shall wipe away all tears (**11:17**).
  - Shall eat of the tree of life which is in the paradise of God (**2:7**).
  - Will be given a crown of life and not be hurt of the second death (**2:10-11**).
  - Shall see God's face (**22:4**); cannot be done on earth (**1 John 4:12**).
- Shall reign forever and ever whereas before judgment they reigned a 1,000 years (**22:5**).  
(Robert Harkrider, *Revelation*, Truth Commentaries, page 310)