



THE REVELATION of Jesus Christ

Chapter 21:1-27

House of Intercessory Prayer Ministries

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Revelation Ch. 20 - Recap

- Satan's arrest and imprisonment for 1000 years
- 1000 years reign
- Satan's temporary release and his deception
- Satan thrown into the lake of fire
- Great White Throne judgment
- Judgment according to their works as written in the books

Revelation 21

Perfect Heaven & Earth (where angels ministering God) (Gen 1:1)	Perfect Heaven & Earth
Corrupted at the fall of Lucifer (Gen 1:2)	Corrupted Heaven & Earth
Re-creation of what was created in the beginning (Gen 1:3-31) (6 days)	Re-creation of the current world
God's alternate plan to create mankind	Creation of Adam & Eve
Corrupted mankind by Lucifer	Adam & Eve sinned
God's plan for redemption (for the entire mankind) & destining Lucifer's eternity	By giving His only begotten son.
Lucifer working against God's plan of redemption by gathering people for him	Current world
God gathering His own and complete annihilation of wicked by fire (2 Peter 3:10)	Rapture/Second coming
A rewarding and filtering mechanism of millennium towards perfection	1000 Years reign
Judgment of Lucifer and his company	Judgment
Re-creation/refurbishing/refreshing of heaven and earth	Perfect Heaven & Earth re-created

Revelation 21

Heaven is a place characterized by,

- Laughter without tear
- Life without death
- Singing without mourning
- Contentment without crying
- Pleasure without pain

Lord Jesus Christ is there, Holy Spirit is there & God the Father is there.

In this chapter we are introduced to the new things: 1st and 5th verse
New Heaven and a New earth

New Jerusalem, All things are new, everything is new.

Read II Peter 3: 5-7 the old heaven & earth, present heaven & earth.

2 Peter 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Revelation 21

John says there is no more sea - Heaven and earth without any body of water. Dr. Henry Morris: *“ There will be, in fact, no need for a sea on the new earth. The present sea is needed for a reservoir for the maintenance of the hydrologic cycle. In the new earth, all men and women who live there will have their glorified bodies with no more need of water. Their resurrected bodies will be composed, like that of the Lord Jesus, of flesh and bone but apparently with no need of blood to serve as a cleanser and restorer of the body’s flesh as it is at present. This, in turn, eliminates the major need for water on earth (blood is about 90% water, and present day human flesh is about 65% water).”*

Imagine what the world would look like with no ocean and no lakes.

Isaiah 66:22 “For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me,” says the Lord, “So shall your descendants and your name remain.- It is eternal.

Revelation 21

Some people believe that God is going to annihilate the present globe. (read 2 Peter 3:10&12) Is He going to blow up the heaven & the earth? Is He going to start everything new?

Yes, He is going to destroy the evil with fire. All the evil will be gone. But the heaven & the earth, He is going to remake, refresh it, refurbish it.

Commentator Lenski: *The newness of the heaven and of the earth shall be like our own. We shall be the same persons and have the same soul that we now have; but made entirely new. Our newness will be like the newness of the earth and the heaven.*

Another commentator *Albert Barnes* says, “If the earth is to be renovated by fire, such a renovation will give an appearance to the globe as if it were created anew, and might be attended with such an apparent change in the heavens that they might be said to be new”.

The current earth and heaven are going to be cleansed by fire, like the old earth and heaven were cleansed by the flood.

Revelation 21

Along with the new heaven and earth, there is a new city.

New City called, the city of Jerusalem.

- In the book of Genesis, Abraham not until we read in the book of Hebrews we are known that he was looking for a city whose builder and maker is God.
- Everymen and women of God had something deep in their hearts is God has something for us beyond this life. Not until 21st and 22nd chapter of Revelation such detail of the eternal home is known.

But many face the problem of interpretation. Some writers spiritualize everything.

- They don't see actual streets of Gold, they don't see gates of pearl. Throughout the book of Revelation we see literal interpretation.
- The Golden rule of Hermeneutics "*when the normal sense makes good sense, don't seek any other sense*".
- But the important thing here is that we need to take reservation for this city. There is going to be a time reservation is going to be closed.

Revelation 21

Dimensions of this city:

When somebody asks how heaven is going to accommodate all these people. Can they live in this city which God has created?

- V 15 & 16 – 12,000 furlongs
- The phenomenal length of this city we want to note here. This one reason why some scholars don't take this literally.
- 1 furlong=201m, 12000 furlong=2,412,000m=approx. 1500 miles
- So 1 floor is 2,250,000 sq. miles.
- To better understand,
- Story about a preacher F. W. Boreham who always preach about the city of New Jerusalem. *<Read Notes>*
- If you ask is that still enough? It is just at the bottom floor!!!
- It is a cube city! You may ask how do we get to the different floors?
- We are in heavenly body, you just think 24th floor, you are there, it works by the principle of thoughts. We will not be confined by space, time and gravity. All the cities in the world are mere villages!

Revelation 21

Description of this city:

1. It is a holy city.

Today, cities are opposite of this.

There will be no sin in this city.

No lie will be ever be uttered in 100 million years

No evil word will ever be spoken

No shady business will ever be discussed

No unclean picture will ever be seen

No corruption of life will ever be manifest.

It is a holy city.

2. The city is entered through 12 gates V 21:12, 17, 18, 21 (read)

Some of the commentators just don't believe this.

Adam Clarke says, this must be figurative for it is all out of nature to produce such a big pearl gate. He forgotten one thing, God doesn't need an oyster to produce a pearl. He just has to say it!

Revelation 21

Gates of the city:

Each gate is a pearl V 21

12 gates – 12 tribes names are written V12.

12 gates are part of the wall

V18- the wall glitters like a diamond bracelet.

Wall measured just 250 feet high. Some people argue saying that how come the walls are tiny for such a big city.

The walls are not to protect the city, it defines the boundary. There is no enemies left and there is no danger

Gates of pearl - One writer has written, *“As we enter the city through the gates of pearl it speaks to us of suffering and travail. A pearl is a jewel made by a little animal that is wounded. So it is that we enter heaven through the Lord Jesus Christ who suffered and travailed, shed His blood and agonized on the Cross.”*

Revelation 21

Foundations of the city:

V 21:19-20 12 foundations one over the other.

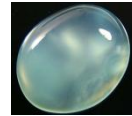
1. Jasper



2. Sapphire



3. Chalcedony



4. Emerald



5. Sardonyx



6. Sardius



7. Chrysolite



8. Beryl



9. Topaz



10. Chrysoprase



11. Jacinth



12. amethvst



Revelation 21

Streets of the city:

Pure Gold: V 18, 21

- Transparent glass – such a pure gold.
- Gold maintains its brilliance, it sparkles in light. In the city of new Jerusalem there is a source of light – the lamb of God V 32:23
- Light in the city of Jerusalem is the light of the Lamb.
- All these light falling on the streets makes the new Jerusalem to appear like a golden gem glittering in the sky.

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” - 1 Corinthians 2:9

Revelation 21 & 22

Tree of life V 22:1-2

Picture of paradise regained.

What was taken away in the garden of Eden is restored in the city of new Jerusalem.

The tree and the river of life once guarded by the cherubim with the flaming sword of Eden reappeared.

This gigantic tree which was forbidden for our first parents is in the central place of heaven or new Jerusalem.

A question asked is will I be able to eat in heaven?

- When the angels came down – Abraham served a meal and they ate with him.
- Jesus in his resurrection body ate
- The marriage supper of the lamb
- Jesus said, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom
- Every month we get a new crop of fruit to eat

Revelation 21 & 22

Denial to the city

Dimension and the description of the city there is a denial to the city.

Read - V 21:8, 21:27

Revelation 21 & 22

What are we going to do there?

<read story>

- Most scholars describe heaven as a holy city
- Heaven is referred to as a country - vastness
- Sometime it is referred as a city - crowded
- Sometimes heaven is called a kingdom – discipline and punctual
- Sometime heaven is called paradise – for its beauty
- According to John Ch. 14 heaven is Father's house – closeness, intimacy and permanency.
- It is a place Jesus is preparing for us.

Revelation 21 & 22

Some of the things that will not be there in heaven

1. Won't be any temple, no church building in heaven V 21:3, 22, 22:4
2. There is no sun 21:23 – God said let there be light, but there is no sun, God be the light
3. No sickness in heaven 21:4
4. No sadness in heaven 21:4
5. There will be no separation in heaven 21:1
For John the sea around him was a separation for the rest in Ephesus, John see a picture of no more separation in heaven.
6. There will be no sin in heaven 21:8, 27, 22:3

Revelation 21 & 22

Three things we are going to do:

1. We are going to sing in heaven

There are 14 songs in the book of Revelation

One such song is in Ch. 19:1-8 (read)

2. We are going to serve in heaven V 22:3

Often repeated phrase – concept of servants V1:1, V7:3 11:18, 15:3, 19:5, 22:6

David Gregg in his book on The Heaven-Life says, “It is work as free from care and toil and fatigue as is the wing-stroke of the jubilant lark when it soars into the sunlight of a fresh, clear day and, spontaneously and for self-relief, pours out its thrilling carol. Work [in heaven] is a matter of self-relief, as well as a matter of obedience to the ruling will of God. It is work according to one’s tastes and delight and ability. If tastes vary there, if abilities vary there, then occupations will vary there”.

Revelation 21 & 22

3. We are going to share in heaven/ fellowship in heaven V19:9

Who will be able to share with us?

Hebrews 12:18, 22-24

One of the exciting things about heaven, we will have unlimited access to the saints of God who went through different experiences of life.

Read what Richard Waitley says,

Richard Waitley who wrote this about the heavenly family. Listen carefully. “I am convinced that the extension and perfection of friendship will constitute a great part of the future happiness of the Blessed. ‘I wish to see and personally know (for example) the Apostle Paul, or John,’ is the most likely to arise in the noblest and purest mind. I should be sorry to think such a wish absurd and presumptuous and unlikely. The highest enjoyment doubtless will be the personal knowledge of our great and beloved Master; yet I cannot but think that some part of their happiness” —that is, our happiness— “will consist in an intimate knowledge of the greatest of His followers also and of those of them in particular whose qualities are to each especially attractive.”

Now, what he’s saying is, “Do you want to talk to Peter? You want to ask him what it was like to deny Christ as well as follow Christ? You’ll get a chance to do that. You want to talk to Martin Luther and ask him, ‘Now, what was it really that motivated you to nail the 95 theses to the castle church door in Wittenberg?’” He will tell you. I don’t know if we’ll be talking about those kinds of things or not, but I do know this, that our wishes and desires will be fulfilled.

Revelation 21 & 22

Read what DL Moody says, "When I was a boy I thought of Heaven as a great shining city, with vast walls and domes and spires, and with nobody in it except white angels, who were strangers to me. By and by my little brother died, and I thought of a great city with walls and domes and spires, and a flock of cold, unknown angels, and one little fellow that I was acquainted with. He was the only one that I knew in that country. Then another brother died, and there were two that I knew. Then my acquaintances began to die, and the number continually grew. But it was not until I had sent one of my little children back to GOD, that I began to think I had a little interest there myself. A second, a third, a fourth went, and by that time I had so many acquaintances in Heaven that I did not see any more walls and domes and spires. I began to think of the residents of the Celestial City. And now so many of my acquaintances have gone there, that it sometimes seems to me that I know more in Heaven than I do on earth."