

REVELATION CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

The earth is God's workshop. He used it in a prehistoric age to try His angelic beings. At that time satan, a mighty angel, and one third of the angels failed to keep God's Word and brought great destruction upon the whole world. It was at that time that huge animals roamed this earth. In the museums of the world, we see great skeletons of the animals that roamed the earth in that prehistoric age. Satan and his angels fell then, and brought the judgment of God upon that age, and all (natural) living creatures died, and God threw the earth away from the sun, and darkness was upon the earth, and the earth froze as it tossed in space for perhaps millions of years in darkness.

In Genesis one, we see God begins to bring the earth back into order. God starts a Garden that He called the Garden of Eden. It was beautiful beyond description, and that is where time began as we know it. This was long before the great flood that changed the earth into what we have today.

Before the flood, the earth was watered by moisture, or dew; as the sun went down, the air cooled, and it caused dew on the earth. That's the way God watered the earth. There was no **rain before the time of the flood** (Genesis 2:6-7), but there was a mist that went up from the earth to water the whole face of the ground.

Before the flood and in the Garden of Eden when God put man on earth, His plan was that the whole world would be populated, and be a place where the climate and everything would be right, and His throne would be on earth, but sin came and the plan was put on hold.

Now let's look at another point in the Book of Revelation concerning time..., 42 months, 3 ½ years, or 1260 days, all amounts up to 360 days in a year. God's original calendar is 30 days each month. Twelve times 30 equals 360, that was the number of days in a year. We know that 360 degrees is a perfect circle. That's the way God started this thing. Thirty days per month, 360 days per year, that's perfect, but now we have 365 ¼ days which shows that the earth is tossed out of its original relationship to the sun. It's not running 360 days a year, but 365 ¼ days per year; which shows that it's out of continuity and it's tilted backward, but John saw it perfect again in his vision.

In Genesis 1:6-8, God divided the water and placed it above and below the firmament (the sky line as the natural eye sees, is called the firmament). This filtered out the hot rays of the sun and made a perfect climate. Then the seed that had been frozen for ages began to come forth, thus making the Garden of Eden, a perfect place, but very small. Then God created man and woman and placed them in this garden, and told them to multiply and replenish (repopulate) the earth (meaning it had been populated before this time; that was in the prehistoric age), **AND SUBDUE IT**. In other words, as they multiply and need more space, conquer the earth and make a Garden of Eden ALL over the earth,

but man sinned and lost his authority over the earth and the earth has not been subdued. But in John's vision, he saw the earth subdued and it was the Garden of Eden all over the planet. The story is very compacted here, but it will become as clear as crystal as we study this together.

If you'll read the first chapter of Genesis and get the true meaning of it, you'll see how God separated the waters that were on the earth, especially in the Garden of Eden, picked it up, and caused dry land to appear, etc. The original plan of God is for the earth to be a perfect place and with a perfect climate, but man sinned against God and He sent His judgment with a flood. We've got the same amount of water that God created millions of years ago. Water is something that you can't destroy. You can freeze it and make it solid. You can boil it, and it'll go into steam. You can pour it on the ground and it'll seep into the soil; but the air picks it right back up and it will finally find its way back into the sea. Then it comes down again in the form of rain, snow, etc.

Today we have roughly two-thirds of the earth covered in water. John saw it back in its original state, it's the same earth, the same planet, the same place, but there's no more sea.

Verse 1: *"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea."*

We've got enough water on this earth right now to cover the whole earth. We don't even know the depth of the seas in places. The water is here on earth now. John saw this earth and there's no sea. What happened? Good question isn't it? Now let us answer the question. Where did all this water from? The answer is found in Genesis, chapter 6 and 7, as we read the account of the great flood. In the seventh chapter, verse eleven, we read the account. It reads, "All of the fountains of the deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened." This means that all the water that served as a vapor belt fell to the earth for forty days and nights, creating the great flood, and that is why we have the great seas today. The earth was thrown off its axis and the flood came, changing the climate from being perfect in the Garden of Eden to what we have today. So we have the seas today, because the water that was in space fell to the earth, but here in Revelation twenty-one, we see the new heaven and new earth and there is no more sea. It's been restored back to its original.

When this new heaven and earth takes place and we go into the eternity of God, He sets this old earth back up straight. He sets it back on the path a little closer to the sun where it makes one circle around the sun every 360 days instead of 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days. God is not going to destroy the water that's on the earth. He's going to pick it up and make a vapor belt between us and the sun. He's going to put all of this water back, as He began to do in Eden, to filter the sun rays and cause the temperature to be the same all over the earth. There will be no places on earth where it's frozen up. There will be no deserts on the earth; because the Word says that the deserts will blossom forth like a rose. God is going to make a perfect climate for the natural people to live in, and that will be on this earth.

There's where the water from the sea goes. There will be no sea, but there will be bodies of water; because in the Garden of Eden there were rivers of water. There will be lakes. It will just be a paradise here on earth. That's what John saw in the earthly realm.

Verse 2: *"And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."*

When John saw the city, New Jerusalem, coming down, it was prepared as a Bride adorned for her husband. But the saints of God are already on earth. The people that were born and lived in the millennium are still on earth.

This is God, the Eternal Spirit, Jehovah, the Eternal One, that always has been and always will be, coming right down on this earth to take His abode with what He has redeemed. His presence just brings to completion and magnifies what He has been doing since time began. Although John saw this city coming down, we know that it was already here. So the interpretation of verse two is: The anointing of God coming upon the saints as He moves His throne to the earth. This lights an area 1500 miles square. The glorified saints dwell here, as you will understand from reading chapters 21 and 22. (Remember here, the beasts that John saw in other chapters of this book did not exist in actuality, but was symbolic, so is it with this city. It's God's Spirit coming upon what is already here.)

At the beginning of the millennial reign Jesus comes to the earth, but God, the Eternal Spirit, still remains in the heavenly realm. But here, after the millennial reign, God Himself, the Eternal Spirit, comes to earth; not the man Christ Jesus, but God. John saw God coming to earth and taking His position. It's that Spiritual Kingdom of God that God brings to earth. You came into it when you got right with God. Yes, it's God moving His headquarters to this earth as the eternal age starts.

Hebrews 11:8-10 says, *"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."* Abraham had a revelation of this city. The place he went to look for it, in the land of Canaan, is the exact place that the city of God is going to be in that hour. It just wasn't time for it in Abraham's day.

Verse 3: *"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God."*

Verses 2 and 3 go together. It is New Jerusalem coming down, God coming to take His abode upon the earth. The Word of God has got to run in continuity. It can't say one thing one place, and say something else in another. It's got to keep a continuity of thought. We've dealt with the new earth. Now we will deal with New Jerusalem coming down and God beginning to dwell on earth.

Let us read another scripture in Hebrews that's related to New Jerusalem. We are going to show you that this is not a natural city that John saw coming down; but whatever it is that comes down, comes down upon a natural earth.

Watch this, because the Word of God has got to line up right. New Jerusalem can't be one thing in one place and another thing in another place. It's got to be the same thing all the way through. Hebrews 12:22--*"But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels."*

I want to ask you a question. When you got right with God, did you go over to Jerusalem, to Mount Sion? No, you didn't go anywhere; but you went somewhere in the Spirit. It says that you've come to an innumerable host of angels. I didn't see a one, did you? It says that you've come into the city of the Living God. When you accepted Jesus Christ, you came into that city of the Living God. What did you see when you came into it? You probably didn't see anything. Yet you came into the city of the Living God. You became part of it. But the thing I want you to notice is..., that you came to it and you didn't see a thing.

Be reasonable now, what if John was picked up and carried away in the Spirit to a high mountain and the angel said, "I want to show you the heavenly city, New Jerusalem." If God had not given John a vision of something tangible in his vision; then John would have said, "I didn't see a thing." We would be reading today where John was carried away in the Spirit to see the New Jerusalem, and he didn't see a thing. Then how would we get the mind of God and the thought of God what the New Jerusalem is? But God let him see a vision of something as though it was tangible, so we could interpret it to you, but it was all intangible.

Hebrews 12:23-24--*"To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect. And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."*

We can't change the Word of God. The Word of God has got to run true, and it has got to run in continuity. You came to New Jerusalem, into the city; then you came to the general assembly; then you came to the church of the firstborn which are in heaven. Then you came to God which is the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect; then to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant. You came to all of that when you came to God, when you turned your back on the world and said, "I'll accept Jesus and His Word," then you came into the city New Jerusalem. Did you see anything? No, but to John in his vision, it was tangible. It was a natural city.

I want to show you further what John saw when that city came down. It was just as clear as glass. When the new city came down in verses 2 and 3, what was it that came down? It was the Great God that came to earth to live among His people, to magnify the virtues of His saints throughout all the ages. Now we will watch this "city" become as clear as crystal. Praise the Lord!

Verse 4: *“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”*

Death is abolished. So there will be no death among these natural nations. They will never die. Why? God, the source of life, has come to earth.

Did the earth pass away? No, only the former things passed away, but the planet is still here. All of this down through verse 8 goes together.

Verse 5: *“And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.”*

Verse 6: *“And He said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.”*

Verse 7: *“He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.”*

“He shall be My son,” doesn’t mean that His daughters won’t be in there, too. You could say, *“He that overcomes will inherit all things and be the children of God,”* because it includes sons *and daughters*, in other words, *“God’s children.”*

Verse 8: *“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”* (Verses 11-15 of chapter 20 are the same as verse 8 here, and are explained in chapter 20.)

Verse 9: *“And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.”*

Here again *“one of the seven”* is not one of the seven earthly messengers, but is *“one of the seven spiritual angels.”*

This time John is not going to see God come to earth, but he is going to begin to see something literally materialized. **There’s not two New Jerusalems.** There’s just one; but you can’t see the Spiritual Kingdom of God. When the angel said, *“Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife,”* John actually began to see something in a visionary form that he could write down, so we could get the meaning of it. What it is, is God coming down in a certain locality and all the redeemed saints are there with Him, which makes up that city.

Verse 10: *“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,”*

Verse 11: *“Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;”*

If something is as clear as crystal, the only way we can see it, is that it reflects light off of it. You take a perfectly clear glass and look through it; you don’t even know it’s there except the light reflects on it, because it’s as clear as crystal. This city John saw coming down was as clear as crystal. Where did you go when you got right with the Lord? You came into this city, but you didn’t see it, because the anointing of God had not been put upon it. God has not come down and tabernacled with men yet. It’s all that God has redeemed. He comes down

and lives with His redeemed in this eternal age. Before the angel showed John the inner city, which is the Bride, he showed him the external of the city.

Verse 12: *“And had a wall great and high, and had 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:”*

Before we go on with this message we have to decide, “Is it a literal city?” Is it something we can see? This verse said that it had a great and high wall. Will there be a wall that we can walk up to and lean against? Will it be that, or will it be the city; the kingdom of God, that we came into when we got right with God. That’s what it is. It’s the Spiritual Kingdom of God that we came into. There is no literal city at all coming down, because the foundations of the wall are named after the apostles of the Lamb. When Peter left, did he carry a bag of cement, and stones with him to lay that foundation? No. **But he carried a faith in his heart that was tried through fiery trials. He carried a revelation.** He carried a stone all right; a revelation of the Word. I want to show you how God typed this out. There are three gates on each side of this city within the wall.

In the Book of Numbers, chapter two, Moses told the children of Israel how to camp. They were to camp around that tabernacle in the wilderness. What were the children of Israel doing camping around the tabernacle? They were God’s guards. Every Israelite soldier would have to die before anything could get into that tabernacle. The tabernacle was on the inside of the encampment. Numbers 2:1-2--*“And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father’s house; far off about the tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch.”* There were four ensigns. The ensign of the tribe of Judah was the lion. One ensign was like the ox. We studied this in the fourth chapter of this book. One was like the face of a man and one was like a flying eagle. God showed a pattern by the way they camped. Paul tells us what God told Moses in the Book of Hebrews. He said to *“Make everything after the pattern you saw in heaven.”* What Moses really saw in heaven was a picture of the Church, God’s redeemed.

Let’s read some more in Numbers. Numbers 2:3--*“And on the east side toward the rising of the sun shall they of the standard of the camp of Judah pitch throughout their armies.”* That’s the way those that were under that banner camped. There were three tribes or three gates to each side. Three fours are twelve. There were four sides to the wall. Three tribes camped under each banner. Inside of that encampment was the tabernacle that was built in the wilderness. Remember it says in Revelation, that the tabernacle of God has come down among men.

Let’s read Numbers 2:10. *“On the south side shall be the standard of the camp of Reuben according to their armies.”* That’s two sides guarded.

Numbers 2:18 says, *On the west side shall be the standard of the camp of Ephraim according to their armies.”* That’s the east, the south, and the west, which means that three sides are guarded.

Numbers 2:25 says, *“The standard of the camp of Dan shall be on the north side by*

their armies." That's the east, south, west, and north—all four sides guarded. There are twelve tribes of the children of Israel. **What they did was form a wall that no one could penetrate and get into that tabernacle.** They had three tribes on each side. If you would care to read about this, you will find more of it in Numbers, chapter two.

I want to show you what John saw in the Book of Revelation. John, being a Jew, knew more about this than we do. The reason I'm going over this is to get us Gentiles acquainted with how Israel camped and how the tabernacle was, so you'll see what God showed John that came down in the twenty-first chapter of Revelation. Do you see the way they camped? Three tribes on each side. Again Revelation 21:12 says, *"And had a wall great and high, and had 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,"* Watch how they camped here in Revelation. It's just exactly like they did in the natural.

Verse 13: *"On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates."*

Just like it was when Moses told them how to camp; there were three gates on each side, making the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. What does it show? This plan of salvation started with the nation of Israel. Not that there wasn't people redeemed before the nation of Israel. Those that died even before the flood whose names were on the book of life came up in the first part of the first resurrection and became part of the redeemed of God. (Matt. 27:51-53)

Now let's look at the Gospel writers that recorded what Jesus said and did, before the Book of Acts. How many Gospel writers do we have? Matthew is the lion. Mark is the ox. Luke is the man, the physician; and John represented the flying eagle. That's those four guards guarding that Book of Acts, the Spiritual Kingdom of God that the early Church came into in the early days; one on each side of the Church in the earth. The Book of Acts shows us *that* Church in action.

In the fourth chapter of Revelation we find these four guarding beasts. They're still guarding something in this hour. The lion, the ox, the man, and the flying eagle are camping around and guarding the real tabernacle or temple of God. They're all in the earth in this last day. **The last one has come in our day under the message of the seventh messenger, William Branham. That flying eagle came to guard Bible truth.**

Do you see the gates? It's the twelve tribes of Israel starting God's spiritual plan. When people built a city in ancient times, they always set the gates first. Then they built the wall around the gates, so that the wall would support the gates.

I want to show you the plan of God as He built this city in Revelation 21. It was in the building all the way through. John saw it in its perfected form. When were the gates set? They were set in the Old Testament. It was God dealing with the twelve tribes of Israel.

Do you see the gates are the children of Israel when they stood for the Word of

God in the Old Testament? A question was asked in Romans, "What profit is it to be an Israelite?" Paul said, "Much every way: Chiefly because that unto them were committed the oracles of God." (Rom. 3:2) What was it? The true revelation of one God was committed to Israel. They stayed true to that revelation of one God, and they're still standing true to it today. **So in God, inside of God's kingdom, that set the gates for that city.**

Verse 14: *"And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb."*

The wall of the city had twelve foundations. The gates were set in the Old Testament times. The foundations of the wall were laid by the preaching, by the life, and by the message of the twelve apostles as they listened to Peter on the day of Pentecost. When Peter stood up, they said, "What must we do, men and brethren, to be saved?" Peter stood up with whom? With the eleven. As Peter stood up with the eleven he said, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38) And that day three thousand souls came in, but they were all Jews, except for some proselytes, which were Gentiles that had converted to Judaism.

Here came the apostles preaching for the first few years after Pentecost. What were they doing? The gates were already set. In building a city you set the gates, and the wall holds those gates securely. **The revelation that was preached by the twelve apostles of the Lamb is the foundations for the wall and will hold the gates secure.** That's the revelation on one God, and all that God started through Israel in the Old Testament.

The covenant that God made---who was it made to? To the Jews. God has never made a covenant with the Gentiles. We are saved only by being grafted into His covenant with Abraham. We Gentiles come into the revelation of God through what was committed to those twelve patriarchs. The first revelation required to come into the kingdom of God is that **God is one God**. God said, "Hear ye, O Israel, the Lord thy God is one God." The foundations were laid for the wall upon the revelation that God is one God as the apostles preached. The true gospel started with what God did in the Old Testament, and bringing up it to date in the New Testament.

Do you see what the gates of that city are? It's the lives, etc. of the twelve patriarchs of Israel. What are the foundations? It's the message and the Gospel that was preached by the twelve Jewish apostles of the Lamb.

Verse 15: *"And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof."*

Verse 16: *"And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal."*

Verse 17: *"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel."*

What does that measurement signify? It signifies a literal measurement of the place where God will put His headquarters when He comes to live on this earth. That's in the natural, but in the spiritual it signifies a certain measurement, the predestination of God, that there's a certain number to come in to make the complete city of God, all those whose names are in the book of life. God said that He knows them that are His. The size of the city shows the predestination of God. There are a certain number of souls that have got to come in.

Twelve thousand furlongs is actually about 1500 miles square; a city 1500 miles square. The land area where the headquarters of God will be is in the Middle East, right where the Garden of Eden was in the beginning. Fifteen hundred miles is the literal measurement. Predestination is the spiritual measurement.

Verse 18: *"And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass."*

Verse 19: *"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;"*

Verse 20: *"The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst."*

Verse 21: *"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."*

The Bride's revelation of this city is as clear as crystal. We all know that there never has been any gold like unto clear glass. But here, when you look at the city, it was made of pure gold, like unto clear glass. What did Jesus tell this Laodicean Church Age? *"I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire."* What is it? It's the faith of the saints. It's what God has produced in the Spirit throughout the seven church ages, and throughout the Old Testament ages, as people believed God and held on to God. God produced something, and He comes to earth to live among what He has produced in all those ages. You came into this city when you accepted God and His Word. All of this is completed in the eternal age, and it's all spiritual, except the land area.

Do you see what a beautiful city John saw? Peter laid the first foundation, because he was the first one that spoke on the day of Pentecost and in Matthew, chapter 10:2-4, his name is the first in the order of listing of the apostles. Then the other apostles began to lay on this same foundation, thus making the twelve foundations. All those Jewish apostles taught the same thing.

What are these precious stones? Your revelation is a stone. How are those stones made? Some of them are made under tremendous heat. Some are made under pressure. It signifies the lives that the twelve original Jewish apostles lived. They were under pressure and they were under fiery trials, but they laid the foundations as they preached this great plan of salvation, and it is reflected right here in the foundation.

What have we seen about the city so far? We've seen the external part of it.

We're seeing the amount of land it covers. We're seeing where God's headquarters are at, **but we haven't yet looked inside the gates and seen what's really in there.** There's a tree of life bearing her fruit, and we'll get that in the twenty-second chapter.

Verse 22: *"And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it."*

We read in verse three of this chapter that the tabernacle of God was with men. Here, in verse 22, it says that there was no temple in it. What is the temple then? We, the Bride of Christ, are the spiritual temple of God. We make it up. God is in us, and we are in Him.

Verse 23: *"And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."*

Inside the city, if measured in miles, it would be 1500 square miles. The Lamb is the light of that city. The glory of God and the Lamb did lighten it, and we won't even need the sun to light up the city. Does that mean that the sun and the moon will quit shining? Isaiah 30 says, that when God heals up the breach of His people, that the moon will shine as the noonday sun and the sun will shine as the brightness of seven days. All over the earth the sun will keep right on shining. The moon will keep right on shining. The throne only lights an area 1500 miles square. The rest of the earth will need the sun and the moon for light. **In the spiritual sense, the Bride of Christ is what lights this age with the true gospel light.**

Verse 24: *"And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it."*

Here is where I want you to get a revelation. The nations are going to walk in the light of that city and they are going to bring their glory into it. Who are these nations? Where did they come from? When the millennial reign starts, Jesus is going to judge the mortal people on this earth and He's going to let some go into the millennium. (Matthew 25:31-40) They're going to repopulate the earth. When eternity begins, there will be nations of people all over the earth that were not deceived when satan was loosed out of his prison in chapter 20. They are the ones that verse 24 speaks of. These mortal nations of people will live on the face of this earth and they'll have eternal life. They won't be the city. They'll be a different order of saints. These nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it; in other words they will come into this 1500 mile area. They won't have glorified bodies like the Bride will have, in that sense, but God will have a perfect climate all over the earth for them. There will be no more sea. People can walk to Jerusalem any time from any place on earth. There will be a land route from every continent. There will be great rivers and beautiful paradise all over the earth. There will be great lakes and so forth. There won't be any more big seas like we've got now. It will be a beautiful paradise of God.

Verse 25: *"And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there."*

Where will there be no night at? In the city, but the rest of the earth will receive its light from the sun and moon as now, but more perfectly.

Verse 26: *“And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.”*

There will be nations all over the world that bring their glory and honor into this area where God’s throne is established.

God will again moisten the earth like He did before the flood, before it ever started raining. It will be so perfect. Vegetation will be all over the earth. It will be a paradise of God right here on earth. Even as a mortal man, it will be good to live here then. Those nations, the mortal realm of saints, are going to have eternal life. They can visit this city, but can never become part of it. They’re going to live all over the face of the earth, but they won’t dwell permanently in the city. They won’t be part of the city. They will be keepers of the rest of the earth.

Verse 27: *“And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life.”*

How would it be possible in that hour to bring anything into this city that’s abominable or maketh a lie? You can’t do it. That will all be past. **It is now that people are trying to bring things like that into this city, but God is rejecting it every time.** That’s why God sends His angels and separates the wheat from the tares. That city is in the making right now.

Verse 27 throws a lot of people for a loop, because they try to put things in the eternal age that defileth, but the Bride knows that the city is being made now and **God will not accept anything in His True Church that won’t live a Godly life in this day.**

In this chapter we’ve seen the external part of that city, the externals of the habitation of God. We’ve only got the gates, the foundations and the wall, etc. What’s inside of that? The Bride, that city of God. You build a wall around the city, but this wall connects with the city. We’re that city. We’re the Bride. But what’s our protection? Where do we rest our faith? We read about those old patriarchs, and their faith is an example to us. There was a man named Abraham who believed God when all hope was gone, and held fast to the Word. It gives my soul something to rest against when I think about what God did through Israel, as He set the gates in the Old Testament. I can lean against these walls, knowing that the foundations were laid by the twelve Jewish apostles of the Lamb. Amen.