

SERMON OUTLINE

In Revelation 21:9-22:5 we are shown 6 components that show a more detailed look at the New Jerusalem, the bride-city from God (vs. 9-10).

I. The New Jerusalem contains the glory of God (21:11).

II. The New Jerusalem consists of the people of God who reflect His glory (21:12-14, 18-21).

III. The New Jerusalem provides perfect security for the people of God because of the perfect glorious presence of their God (21:15-21).

IV. The New Jerusalem comprises the glorious presence of God and the Lamb (21:22).

V. The New Jerusalem radiates the glory of God (21:23-27).

VI. The New Jerusalem contains only life (22:1-3a).

VII. The New Jerusalem is the place in which God's servants intimately worship Him and reign with Him forever (22:3b-5).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, April 14, 2019

Passage: Revelation 21:15-27

Memory Passage: Revelation 21:22

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 21:15-27.** Write a paragraph recounting what you have learned so far from chapter 21.
- (b) What is the purpose of measuring (vs. 15-17 and, for extra credit, Ezekiel 40-48)? Compare and contrast this with the measuring that took place in 11:1-2.
- (c) What is the significance of the fact that the city was measured to be “foursquare, its length the same as its width” (cf. Ex. 27:1; 28:16; 30:2; 1 Kings 6:20)?
- (d) What do the numbers “12,000” (v. 16) & “144” (v. 17) symbolize (remember: the city itself symbolizes God’s people)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 21:15-27, Ex. 28:18-21, 29-30, 1 Kings 6:30, 2 Chron. 3:4-9, Is. 54:1-17 (note ESV fn. for vs. 11-12), Ez. 28:13-14.** How do these OT passages shed light on the meaning of the precious metals and stones John sees in Rev. 21:18-21?
- (b) Why are these stones, representing Israel in the OT economy of the priestly garments, embedded in the foundations of the New Jerusalem, which bear the names of the 12 apostles?
- (c) Explain the symbolism of the pearls of which the gates are made (cf. 17:4; 18:12; Matt. 13:45-46).
- (d) What do these precious metals and stones represent?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 21:15-27, Jer. 3:16-17, John 2:19-22, Eph. 2:19-22.** Considering these 3 passages (and we could list many more!) and all you have learned in Revelation, write a paragraph to fully explain Rev. 21:22.
- (b) Should we expect to see no physical sun or moon in the New Jerusalem, or is v. 23 saying something more?
- (c) God’s glory is specifically mentioned in v. 11 and v. 23. Explain how vs. 11-24 serve to reveal and magnify God’s glory in the New Jerusalem.
- (d) Since all unbelievers are already judged and in the lake of fire, all believers make up the New Jerusalem, and nothing unclean can ever enter into the city, what is symbolized by the nations bringing their glory and honor through the perpetually open gates (cf. Is. 60:1-11)? And, why are the gates never closed in this vision?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 21:15-27.** Application: In the eternal state God’s people are fully protected from any enemies. Are we protected from our enemies today, and how does the promise of eternal security affect our endurance of trials today? How does it affect our willingness to witness the gospel, or be faithful to any other command in Scripture?
- (b) Throughout this passage, we are shown in different ways, different parts of the vision, that God’s glory resides in and is reflected from and through His people in the New Jerusalem. In what ways does God’s glory shine through believers today? In what ways might you be hindering God’s glory from emanating from your life?
- (c) Consider for a moment that fact that you are already the temple of God, and this is a foretaste of your eternal state. In what ways should this encourage you to fall more in love with Jesus? In what ways should this empower you to fight sin?
- (d) Hebrews 12:14 says, “Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.” Meditate on this verse with your own life in mind and write down at least 4 areas God reveals to you that you should crucify your sin in order to have His holiness more permeate your life.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 21:15-27.** Re-read the passage slowly, meditating on each verse. Take time to write down any further application the Holy Spirit brings to your mind, anything you learn about God’s character, any aspect of Biblical theology you better understand, or any OT allusion you understand more fully. Don’t rush this process of meditation! Let it simmer on low!

DATE: April 14, 2019

PASSAGE: Revelation 21:15-27

The New Heaven and New Earth (Part III)