

THE NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH Part 3 **Revelation 21:21b-22:9**

Inside The City (21:21b-27)

The street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass (21b) = was pure gold, not like pure gold.

I saw no Temple (22) = to this point there has been a temple. – Rev. 7:15, 11:19, 14:15 & 17, 15:5-8, 16:1, and 16:17.

- There will also be a temple in the millennial kingdom – Ezekiel 40:5ff.

For the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple (sanctuary) = In the new Jerusalem believers will always be in the presence of God. – Rev. 21:3

The glory of God has illuminated it, and its lamp is the Lamb (23)

- Glory of God = the Shekinah glory of God will provide the illumination.
 - Shekinah = the manifested glory of God.
 - Isaiah 60:19-20
- Its lamp is the Lamb = Matthew 17:1-2

The Nations (24-27)

- Nations (ethne) = Gentiles as in non-Jews. These are those who did not follow Satan's end of the millennium rebellion (20:7-10).
- Kings of the earth (24) = those Gentile rulers who did not follow Satan.
- Shall bring their glory into it (24) = describes them as believers
 - Compare Rev. 21:27 with Rom. 8:30
- Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life (27) = Rev. 13:8, 17:8, 20:15.
- Nothing unclean ... (27) = the message of verse 27 is a warning to the readers of this book.

Paradise Made New (22:1-5)

And he showed me (1) = the same angel who began this tour in 21:9-10 now shows John the paradise-like atmosphere of the New Jerusalem.

River of the water of life:

- Clear as crystal = reflecting the glory of God as being perfectly holy and pure.
- Coming from the throne of God and the Lamb
 - Water is symbolic of eternal life – Is. 12:1-6, John 4:13-14
 - Eternal life comes from God – Eph. 1:3-14
 - Compare with Zechariah 14:4-11

The tree of life (2) = the counterpart to the tree of life in Eden – Gen. 2:9, 3:22-24

- Tree of life was a Jewish expression for a blessing – Proverbs 3:18, 11:30, 13:12, 15:4

Healing of the nations (2)

- Nations (ethne) = refers to Gentiles same as in 21:24
- Healing (therapeia) = therapeutic or health giving. The root of this word carries the idea of serving. In other words, the leaves promote the enjoyment of life in the New Jerusalem.
 - Perhaps we should think of autumn colors and the beauty of spring blossoms.
 - Healing of sickness, disease, and sin will not be needed in the New Jerusalem. – 21:26-27

No longer be any curse (3a)

- The curse – Gen. 3:14-19
- The removal of the curse – 21:2-4

The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it (3b-5)

- His slaves will serve Him (3)
- They shall see His face (4) = Mat. 5:8
 - Compare with Ex. 33:18-20
- His name shall be on their foreheads (4) = leaving no doubt as to whom the citizens of the city belong. – Rev. 7:3, 14:1
- They shall reign forever and ever (5)

No longer any night (5) = the Shekinah glory is the light that will never go dim.

Closing statements and reactions (22:6-9)

John confirms what he has seen and written (6)

Jesus confirms the words of this prophecy (7)

- Also a call to obedience – John 3:36

John's reaction and the angel's response (8-9)