

Revelation 21

Verse 1

- Some see this just as a remaking of the present universe and earth, but the word “new” should be taken literally. There will come a brand-new heavens and a brand-new earth.
- The current earth and heavens will “pass way”; simply they will cease to exist as they are now and will be replaced with ones that are untouched by evil and sin.

Verse 1

- Hebrews 1:10-12
- Isaiah 51:6
- Isaiah 65:17-19

Verse 1

- 2 Peter 3:10-13 - ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. ¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Verse 2

- The New Jerusalem will be a city on the new earth where Jesus and the Father will dwell.
- This city exists now in heaven. - Galatians 4:26 - ²⁶ but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.
- Notice that just as God came down into the Garden of Eden to meet with Adam and Eve, God now comes down to permanently dwell with us.

Verses 3-4

- The Tabernacle was the first place God's presence dwelt with man. Now, the whole earth will be His dwelling place forever.
- "In a sense, heaven and earth will merge" – Stanley Horton
- "Wipe every tear" – All the effects of sin are finally removed. There will be no more sin, sickness, death, heartache or pain. (Isaiah 65:19)

Verse 5

- Genesis 1:1 – God created. God, through Jesus created the heavens and the earth and once more God will create through Jesus Christ a new heaven and new earth.
- “These words are faithful and true” because the One who speaks them is called Faithful and True!

Verse 5

- Revelation 3:14 - ¹⁴ “And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:
- Revelation 19:11 - ¹¹ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

Verses 6-7

- “It is done”, in the NLT, “It is finished”. The work and promised are established in heaven and they cannot be undone.
- Matthew 5:18 - ¹⁸ For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

Verses 6-7

- “The Alpha and Omega” – That is to say, “The Eternal God”. The One who was, is and is to come.
- Colossians 1:15-18 - ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Verses 6-7

- “I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.” – The same promise Jesus gave while on earth He still gives to anyone who is thirsty for God’s presence and forgiveness.
- “Inherit all things” – Inherit every promise God has made throughout the entire Bible, culminating in what we are now reading; eternity with the Godhead in perfect peace and joy. (Romans 8:14-17)

Verse 8

- Cowardly or fearful – This is not someone who is timid or occasionally doubts as we all do. This seems to be those who professed Jesus and then turned their back on Him, for whatever reason.
- Unbelieving – Those who reject Christ Jesus and His work on the cross.

Verse 8

- The Abominable – Corrupt in the NLT. Those who are devoid of character and personal integrity and practice or tolerate immorality (AMP) (Romans 1)
- Murderers – Just as it sounds, the willful taking of a life without justification.
- Sexually immoral – All who practiced any kind of sexual sin.

Verse 8

- Sorcerers – sorcerers [with intoxicating drugs] (AMP). In the NLT it is rendered “those who practice witchcraft”.
- Idolators – Those who worship anyone or anything besides the One True God

Verse 8

- Liars – Those who live, act and talk deceitfully. This is a great offense to God. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and The Life.
- To lie is to go against the very nature of God. It is small in our eyes, but a big sin in God's eyes.

Verses 9-11

- “I will show you the bride...” – John then sees in a new vision the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven, that is the abode of God.
- This has led some to think the city is the bride. In Old Testament Scriptures, the city and its inhabitants were seen as the same.

Verses 9-11

- Jasper here is our diamond. It was also the first stone on the High Priest's breastplate.
- The city shines with God's glory which our new resurrected bodies can now handle.

Verses 12-13

- The fact that the city has walls speaks of eternal security and also that it has very definite dimensions.
- The twelve gates will have the twelve tribes inscribed on them. The list is probably the same as in Revelation 7 (The sealing of the 144,000)

Verses 12-13

- The New Jerusalem is a city on the New Earth. The saints may go in and out of the city and enjoy all that God has made.
- The New Jerusalem seems to simply be the center point of the earth where the Godhead reside.

Verses 12-13

- Each gate has an angel and not Peter.
- Since all wickedness is banished and defeated, the angels are not there for defense, maybe they as others are constantly giving God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit praise.

Verse 14

- Some see the foundations layered on top of each other.
- Some see the foundations as pillars raising up from the foundation.
- Still others see the city as having twelve levels since the city is a perfect cube.

Verse 14

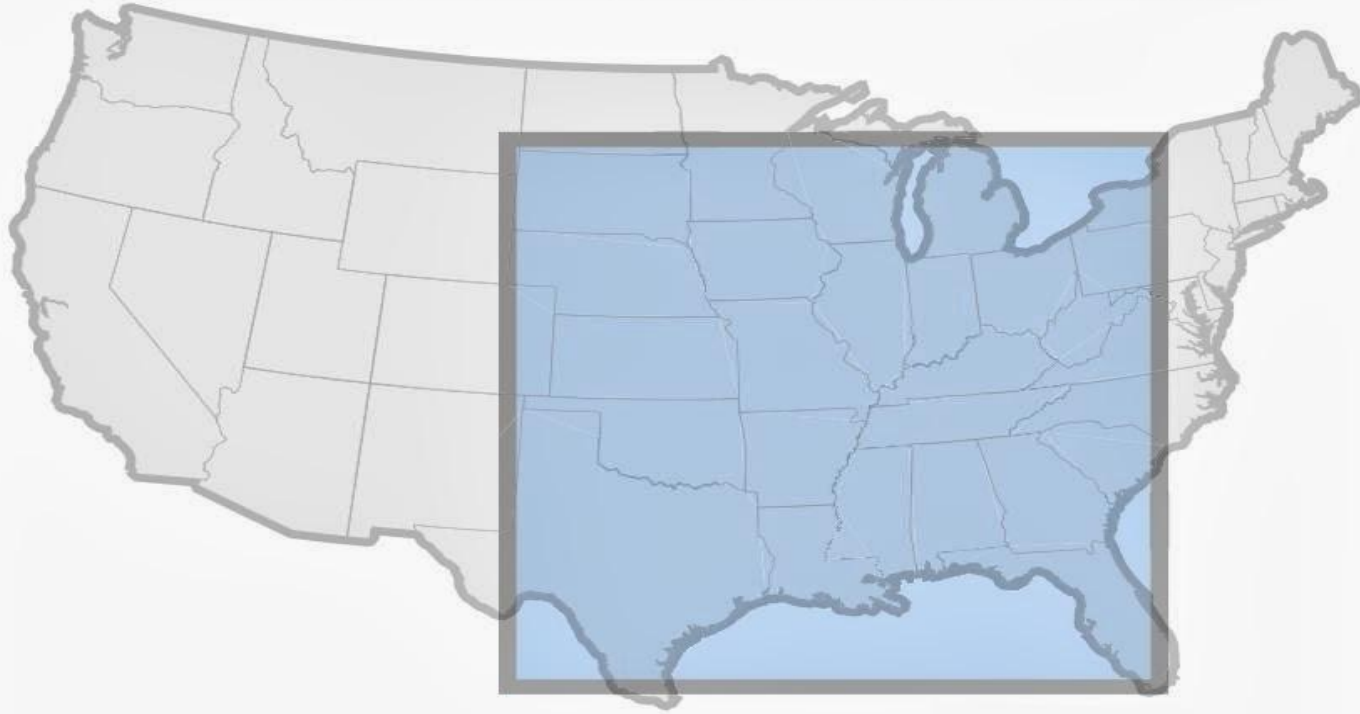
- The Apostles represent the Church age just as the Twelve Tribes represent the Old Testament saints.
- Ephesians 2:19-22 - ¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Verses 15-16

- The city is roughly 1380 – 1400 miles cubed.
- The Most Holy Place was also a cube.
- It is estimated that 20 billion people could live in a city that big.

Verses 15-16

**The new Jerusalem is
a cube with one side 12,000 furlongs (About 2,220 km, 1,379 miles)**



Verses 17-18

- Some see this as not the height of the wall but the thickness of the wall.
- 144 cubits would be about 215 feet. Either way there must be a wall for the gates to attach to.

Verses 17-18

- Remember, that the builder and maker is God and He can have designs, color and gems our minds have not conceived of.
- Hebrews 11:9-10 - ⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

Verses 19-20, The Foundations

Jasper/Diamond



Sapphire



Verses 19-20, The Foundations

Chalcedony



Emerald



Verses 19-20, The Foundations

Sardonyx



Sardius



Verses 19-20, The Foundations

Chrysolite



Beryl



Verses 19-20, The Foundations

Topaz



Chrysoprase



Verses 19-20, The Foundations

Jacinth



Amethyst



Verses 21-22

- Finally, we get to the “pearly gates”, but it is not in heaven, all your cartoon got it wrong.
- Heaven still has an alter and a tabernacle. The day will come when they will no longer be needed for, we may approach our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ freely and in person.

Verses 23-24

- The new heavens will not need sun or moon because God's glory illuminates not only the city, but the universe.
- With our glorified bodies we will no longer need the darkness of night to sleep and regain strength.
- "The nations" – Normally this means Gentile nations. From the beginning we have had the promise that the gift of God through Jesus Christ would be for both Jew and Gentiles.

Verses 23-24

- Isaiah 11:10 - ¹⁰ “And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious.”
- Isaiah 42:6 - ⁶ “I, the Lord, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, (49:6)

Verses 25-27

- ²⁵ Its gates will never be closed at the end of day because there is no night there. ²⁶ And all the nations will bring their glory and honor into the city. ²⁷ Nothing evil will be allowed to enter, nor anyone who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty—but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (NLT)