



Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship

Every word inspired.

Every word proclaimed.

“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28

The Eternal State

Part 6

“Heaven”

Rev. 21:17-27

Oct. 13, 2019

Quiz

1. What 3 structures in prophecy is a measuring rod used?

1. Millennial Temple
2. Tribulation Temple
3. New Jerusalem

2. T or F At each of the gates in the New Jerusalem are names of the 12 apostles.

F 12 tribes of Israel

3. “for the accuser of _____ has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.”

our brethren

4. T or F "Fallen, fallen is Assyria the great, she who has made all the kings drink of the wine of the passion of her immortality."

F Babylon nations immorality

5. T or F The New Jerusalem is in the shape of a cube, 1,500 miles equally in its length, width, and height, with 12 gates – 3 on the north, 3 on the east, 3 on the south and 3 on the west., and having 12 foundation stones.

T

11 having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper.

12 It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel.

13 There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west.

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 The one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall.

16 The city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal.

17 And he measured its wall, seventy-two yards, according to human measurements, which are also angelic measurements.

18 The material of the wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

19 The foundation stones of the city wall were adorned with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation stone was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;

20 the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

“And he measured its wall, seventy-two yards,”



“according to human measurements, which are also angelic measurements.”

- John makes a point that these measurements are given according to human measurements, which are also angelic measurements.
- So in other words these are real literal measurements. A foot equals a foot and a mile equals a mile, whether you are man or angel.

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“The material of the wall was jasper;”

- Jasper, as in verse 9, is diamond.
- These are diamond walls, all 4 of them, 1,500 miles high.

“and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.”

- Gold is not clear, it is opaque.
- I haven’t seen it and you haven’t seen it. It is totally different.
- Why is it clear? To maximally radiate the glory of God. That is the purpose and design of the city.
- You can’t have anything blocking it.
- The walls are totally transparent to cause all of the color of gold to reflect and refract all of the light from the glory of God into every possible space throughout the entire universe.
- Gold, by the way, is the representation of God’s righteousness.
- New Jerusalem is a diamond set in gold for the glory of the Lord.



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- Eight of these twelve stones are found in the breastplate of the high priest.



- 1) Jasper - diamond
- 2) Sapphire - clear blue
- 3) Chalcedony - yellowish green/light blue
- 4) Emerald - deep green
- 5) Sardonyx - white with layers of red
- 6) Sardius - fiery red
- 7) Chrysolyte - golden yellow
- 8) Beryl - sea green
- 9) Topaz - greenish yellow
- 10) Chrysoprasus - golden green
- 11) Jacinth – reddish-orange
- 12) Amethyst - purple



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"Although stones can take on different hues or colors, it is clear that the twelve foundations will be structured to refract the shining brilliance of God's glory and holiness. Such beauty will transcend anything mankind has seen since the inception of God's creation. The scene is one of breathtaking beauty, a spectrum of dazzling colors flashing from the New Jerusalem throughout the re-created universe."

- John MacArthur

12 The Number of New Jerusalem



Revelation 21:12

"It had a great and high wall, with **12 Gates**, & at the gates **12 Angels**; & names were written on them, which are the **Names** of the **12 Tribes** of the sons of Israel."

Revelation 21:14

"And the wall of the city had **12 Foundation Stones**, & on them were the **12 Names** of the **12 Apostles** of the Lamb."

Revelation 21:16

"The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width. & he measured the city with his rod, **12,000 Stadia**." (1,400 miles or 2,220 km)

Revelation 21:17

He also measured its wall, **144 Cubits (12 x 12)** by human measurement, which is also an angel's measurement.

Revelation 21:21

"the **12 Gates** were **12 Pearls**; each one of the gates was a single pearl."

Revelation 22:2

"in the middle of its street on either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing **12 Kinds of Fruit**, yielding its fruit every month; & the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

RevelationScriptures.com

“And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl.”

Why pearls?

1. Being made of pearl speaks of great value.

"Among the ancients, pearls were ranked highest among precious stones, because their beauty derives entirely from nature, improvement by human workmanship being an impossibility ..."

- Thomas Constable

Matt 13:45,46

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls,

46 and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Every time the saints will see the gates of pearl they will be reminded of 2 things:

1. The great value of their salvation.
2. Jews and Gentiles are both the people of God by the declared righteousness given at salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Oysters, which produce pearls, were considered unclean under Levitical law.

Lev 11:10

10 'But whatever is in the seas and in the rivers that does not have fins and scales among all the teeming life of the water, and among all the living creatures that are in the water, they are detestable things to you,

But were made clean by a declaration of God . . .

Acts 10:9-15

9 On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray.

10 But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance;

11 and he saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground,

12 and there were in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air.

13 A voice came to him, "Get up, Peter, kill and eat!"

14 But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean."

15 Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy."

“And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

- Note that it does not say streets (plural).
- Maybe there will only be one street that winds and winds and winds its way around the 1,500 mile cubed city.
- Or maybe John only saw 1 street from his vantage point and there are really millions of golden miles of streets.
- Again it is gold and it is transparent allowing all of the glory of God to shine through in its brilliance.

“The constant mention of transparency indicates that the city is designed to transmit the glory of God in the form of light without hindrance.”

- John Walvoord

“I saw no temple in it,”

22 I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

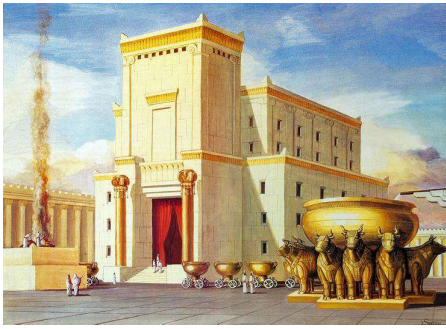
24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

25 In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;

26 and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it;

27 and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Let's review the “Temple” concept
as it runs through the Bible.



1. Solomon's Temple

Date Built: 950 BC by Solomon

Date Destroyed: 586 BC by Babylon

Scripture: 1 Kings 5-8, 2 Chron. 5



2. Zorobabel's Temple

Date Built: 515 BC by Zorobabel

Date Destroyed: 168 B.C. by Antiochus Epiphanes

Scripture: Ezra 5,6



3. Herod's Temple

Date Built: 20 B.C.

Date Destroyed: 70 AD by Titus

Scripture: Matt. 24:1-3

Church Age Temples

2 spiritual temples:

1. The Church corporate.

Eph 2:19-22

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,

20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,

21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,

22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

2. The individual believer.

1 Cor 3:16-17

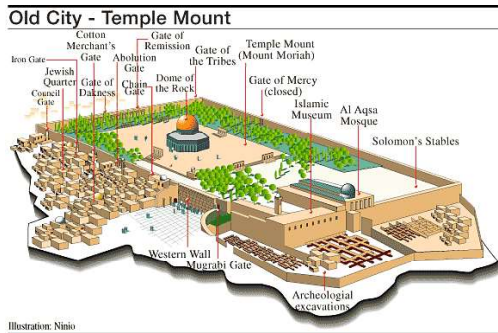
16 Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

17 If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

1 Cor 6:19-20

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.



4. Tribulation Temple

Date To Be Built: Beginning of the Tribulation by Israel - granted by the Antichrist.

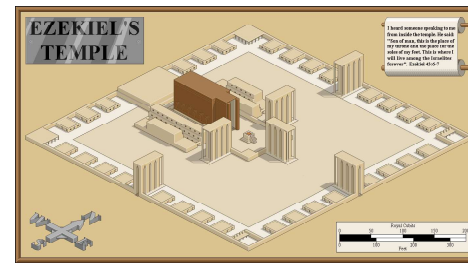
Date Destroyed: Mid-point of the Tribulation by the Antichrist.

Scripture: Dan. 9:24-27, Matt. 15, 2 Thess. 2:4, Rev. 11:1,2

“for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.”

New Jerusalem Temple

- There will be no building.
- God and His Son are its temple.
 - Notice the descriptive words –
 - “Almighty” - a reference to God’s sovereignty and might, as well as His command of powerful force.
 - “Lamb” - the name ‘Lamb’ (αρνιον, literally means ‘little lamb’) is used to refer to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross for our sins.
 - So God dwells in us (we are His temple) and we dwell in God (He is our temple). We have a combination of OT and NT temples combined or coming together into 1 temple – God and His Son. We will live in the temple of God and the Lord Jesus.



5. Millennial Temple

Date To Be Built: Beginning of the Millennium.

Date Destroyed: End of the millennium with the creation of the new heavens and the new earth.

Scripture: Ez. 40-48, Rev. 21:22

- God and His Son will occupy every square inch of the new creation.
- God won’t dwell upon a mercy seat behind the veil.
- Worship therefore will be everywhere.
 - There will be no need for anyone to go anywhere to worship God.
 - There won’t be any place where they’ll be having worship services.
 - There won’t be any need for a day of worship.
 - Your whole life, which will be free of sin, will be a life of continual, unending worship. There will never be a moment when you’re not in perfect fellowship with Him.

Everyone will live next door to Jesus!
Everyone will live next door to God!

“And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it,”

- the city had no need of the light from the sun or the moon because of the Shekinah glory of God which shines and extends out from the heart of the city throughout the entire universe.
- God created light on the first day, but the sun and moon were not created until the fourth day.

Gen 1:3-5

3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

4 God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

5 God called the light day, and the darkness He called night.

Gen 1:14-16

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;

15 and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night;

22 I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

25 In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;

26 and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it;

27 and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

No need of sun and moon -

Isa 24:23

23 Then the moon will be abashed (embarrassed) and the sun ashamed,

For the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,

And His glory will be before His elders.

Isa 60:19

19 "No longer will you have the sun for light by day,

Nor for brightness will the moon give you light;

But you will have the Lord for an everlasting light,

And your God for your glory.

*****The sun and moon in comparison with the light of the glory of God will be like turning on an outdoor light in the broad light of the sun.***

“for the glory of God has illumined it,”

- when God concentrates all of His attributes to that which is manifest or visible, it comes out as light. It comes out as His glory.
- God expresses Himself in unhindered, unobstructed light.

“and its lamp is the Lamb”-

John 1:4

4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

John 8:12

12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

1 John 1:5

5 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

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**"It truly will be the
Jesus Christ Light and Power Company then."**

- J. Vernon McGee

“The nations will walk by its light,”

- “nations” - εθνη - the diversity of people that are saved from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation. (Rev. 5:9; 13:7; 14:6).
- This indicates that nations will exist in the New Earth.
- How a nation will be determined is not said. Nor its location or citizens.
- Everyone will be sinless, justified, sanctified, and glorified, regardless of ethnicity, culture, language, descent, or race. Everyone is welcome!
- But they will all be unified and will walk in the light.

1 John 1:6-7

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another

“and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.”

- **“kings”** – those who will reign and rule over the nations.
- They are in those positions because of their faithful service while alive on the old earth.

Matt 25:21

21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things;

“In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;”

- In Bible times you never, ever left the gates of a city open, especially at night.
 - 2 reasons:
 1. At night it is dark and you cannot see what is outside of the gates.
 2. It is the time an enemy would want to attack.
- In the capital city there are no enemies and it will never be dark, therefore leave them open.

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“and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it;”

- It was the ancient practice for kings and nations to bring their wealth and glory to the greatest king.

2 Chron 32:22-23

22 So the Lord saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria and from the hand of all others, and guided them on every side.

23 And many were bringing gifts to the Lord at Jerusalem and choice presents to Hezekiah king of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations thereafter.

Isa 60:11

11 "Your gates will be open continually;

They will not be closed day or night,

So that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations,

With their kings led in procession.

*Their will be a constant flow of kings and nations coming through the gates of the city to bring their honor and praise to the highest King – the King of Kings.

“and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying,”

- “unclean” is a continual state. You are not “clean” until God declares you “clean.”
- Similarly, there are those who “practice” (a continual action) abomination and lying.

“shall ever come into it,”

- “οὐ μὴ” – strongest negative – “never ever”, “no possible way.”
- The ultimate in security from any sin, wickedness and evil.
- What do you allow in through the “gates of your life?”

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“but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.”

- The Book of Life is the eternal record of those who are saved for eternity.
- The names were written in it before the world was created in eternity past and the same names are there after the world is gone in eternity future.

Next week we will continue our look at the
interior of the New Jerusalem.