

Revelation 21:1-22 The Blessedness of Heaven for the Child of God

Introduction: A New Section

1. Revelation sets forth Christ's work and His coming in all the new dispensation.
 - a. It leads to the development of the Antichristian kingdom and then its destruction.
 - 1) The seven seals, trumpets, and vials bring about this development and the destruction.
 - 2) Satan and his host, the false prophet, the antichrist, and all the wicked are cast into hell.
 - b. The last two chapters are positive – revealing the new creation, and the blessedness of the saints.
2. Keep in mind the questions: What is the glory and blessedness of the new creation for the child of God? How is it revealed here?

I. The Tabernacle of God with Men – vss. 1-8.

A. The Tabernacle and the New Jerusalem.

1. The new Jerusalem:
 - a. Is this a literal city?
 - b. What is the symbolism of Jerusalem? (See Gal. 4:26; Heb. 12:22,23.)
 - c. What does it mean here?
2. The tabernacle of God.
 - a. What main purpose did the tabernacle serve? (Ex. 25:8)
 - b. How is the tabernacle connected with the new Jerusalem?

B. In the New Creation.

1. What does it mean that the “first heaven and the first earth were passed away”?
 - a. When and how did this happen? (See II Peter 3:10ff.)
 - b. Was anything remaining?
2. John sees a “new heaven and a new earth.”
 - a. What do you think he saw?
 - b. In what ways will this creation be “new”?
 - c. Why is there no sea? (What does the sea do in this earth that God would not want to happen in the new?)
3. The new Jerusalem comes from heaven to the earth.
 - a. Will the Church not dwell in heaven?
 - b. How will the new heaven and earth be connected? (See Eph. 1:10.)

C. The Blessed Condition.

1. What things will be missing from this creation that will make it blessed?
2. How will the needs of the Church be supplied?
3. To what does the water of life refer?

D. The Citizens.

1. Who will be there, according to vs. 7?
2. Who will NOT be there, according to vs. 8?

II. The Holy City – vss. 9-22.

A. Notice the description of the city.

1. How does John see the city? Why from there?
2. Its size.
 - a. What shape does the city have?
 - b. How long is 12,000 furlongs?
 - c. How high, in our measurements, were the walls?
3. Notice how many times the number '12' appears. What is the significance of that number?
4. The foundation:
 - a. How did this look – 12 foundations?
 - b. Look up Ephesians 2:19-21 for a similar expression.
5. The material of the city.
 - a. What was it made of?
 - b. What did it look like?

B. What does it mean?

1. Is this a literal city? How can we tell?
2. Does this refer to the Church or to heaven? How can we know?

C. The glory of the city.

1. In what ways is the city great, as the angel said?
2. How does John's description reveal the perfection of the city?
3. How is the beauty and glory of the city revealed?
4. Why is there no temple in the city?