

THE CITY OF THE SAINT'S EXPECTATION
REV. 21:9-27

Introduction:

- A. The saints have looked for a city.
 - 1. Abraham "looked for a city which hath foundation, whose maker and builder is God." Heb. 11:10.
 - 2. He has prepared a city for those having faith. Heb. 11:16 "But now they desire a better country, that is an heavenly; Wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for he hath prepared for them a city."
 - 3. Our expectation is future. Heb. 13:14 "For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come."
 - 4. It is a city in heaven. Heb. 12:22 "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable host of angels."
 - 5. Jesus is preparing it for the saints. John 14:2 "I go to prepare a place for you." "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

- B. This city is a present from Christ to His Bride. v9
 - 1. "And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife."
 - 2. The fifth angel with the fifth vial poured it out upon the beasts's wife, Babylon. Rev. 16:10.
 - 3. "The seat of the Beast."
 - 4. seat = thronos = throne

- C. This city is built in heaven. v10
 - 1. "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God."

2. descending = Katabaino = to descend from a higher to a lower place.

D. This city bears the image of god.

1. "Having the glory of God; and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even Jasper stone, clear as crystal."
2. Made in the glory of heaven and bearing heaven's glory.

I. THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE CITY.

A. "And had a wall great and high."

1. The wall has a height of 1,400 miles.
2. v17, a cubit is the length of a forearm.
3. The wall is pure jasper. v18
 - a. The entire wall is of hispis = a stone of various colors but probably the color of fire is intended.
4. The wall has 12 foundation stones. v19,20
 1. Jasper = red.
 2. Sapphire = blue.
 3. Calcedony = green.
 4. Emerald = bright green.
 5. Sardonix = layered stone, red and white.
 6. Sardius = blood red.
 7. Chrysolite = yellow topaz.
 8. Beryl = green, ranging sea green to opaque blue.
 9. Topaz = greenish yellow.
 10. Chrysoprasus = apple green.
 11. Jacinth = bluish purple.
 12. Amethyst = A variety of quartz, in color a clear transparent purple or bluish violet.
5. Each foundation stone bears the name of one of the Apostles. v14

- B. "and had twelve gates."
 - 1. There were three gates on each side, v13.
 - 2. The gates are twelve pearls, v21.
 - 3. An angel stands at each gate, v12
 - a. "And at the gates twelve angels."
 - 4. They have names written on them, v12.
 - a. "and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel."

- C. The size of the city, v15-16.
 - 1. v15.
 - 2. "It lies foursquare."
 - 3. 12,000 furlongs = stadion 607 feet or 1,400 miles.

- D. The city has streets, v21.
 - 1. "and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass."
 - 2. street = plateia = a broad way, a wide street in a city.

- E. The city has no artificial lighting system, v23
 - 1. "And the city had no need of the sun, neither the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."
 - 2. lighten = photizo - to give light, to shine.

II. THIS CITY HAS NO TEMPLE. V22

- A. "And I saw no temple therein."
 - 1. This is the one thing we would expect.
 - 2. No church buildings of every denomination.

- B. "for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it."
 - 1. A temple is a place where God dwells on earth.
 - 2. God dwells here, so there is no need for a temple, this is His permanent home.

III. THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE WORLD TO THE CITY.

- A. It lights the nations, v24a.
 - 1. Its brilliance enlightens all the earth.

- b. The rulers of the earth honor it, v24b.
 - 1. honor = time = esteem, respect.

- C. All will have access continually, v25.
 - 1. "The night shades will never call."

- D. The nations will honor it, v26.
 - 1. nations = ethnos = a multitude.

- E. It will never be defiled, v27.
 - 1. defileth = koinoo - to render unholy.
 - 2. abomination = bdelugma = an object of disgust.
 - 3. lie = pseudos - falsehood, lying, a lie.
 - 4. These evil things are not in heaven, they cannot enter the New Jerusalem.

