

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF REVELATION THROUGH BIBLE PROPHECY

11 The World of Tomorrow

There seems to be a lot of confusion about the subject of heaven! Why all the hazy, ambiguous opinions when God has a master key to unlock our knowledge of heaven? It was through God's Holy Spirit that His prophets could share with us some of the beauties of the New Earth and the Holy City, the New Jerusalem!

The description of that Holy City is breathtaking! **Revelation 21:1-2**: "I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Few illustrations present such happiness and beauty as that of a bride preparing for her wedding day!

Revelation 21:14, 19 continues: "The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. . . . The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones." **Verse 16** specifies the magnificent size of the New Jerusalem: There'll be plenty of room for every person who wants to be a citizen. Jesus promised in **John 14:2** that in his Father's house there are indeed many mansions! And He's prepared a place there for us. **Revelation 21:21** says, "The twelve gates were twelve pearls. . . . And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass."

This earth made new, Earth II, will be the Garden of Eden restored. **Isaiah 35:1** says, "The desert shall . . . blossom as the rose." In this promised home, pain can't exist. There'll be no cancer, heart attacks, arthritis, or fevers—no illness, *period*—forever! **Isaiah 33:24 & 35:5-6** promise: "The inhabitant will not say, 'I am sick.'" **Revelation 21:4** echoes this same wonderful picture: "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

In the New Jerusalem, our relentless search for the fountain of youth will find fulfillment. We'll find it at last in that holy city. **Revelation 22:1-2** tells us: "He showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Here is the fountain of youth! We'll enjoy perfect bodies and boundless energy to explore the wonders around us.

The redeemed won't inherit thin air. Instead of floating aimlessly in some holy space, they'll be on solid ground, and they'll be active! **Isaiah 65:21-22** tells us heaven is the place where we can actually DO what we only dream about today. "They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat. . . . My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." Our hands, designed by God to work out the visions of our minds, will build and create freely. We'll be able to produce anything we can conceive! And our energy will be renewed and refreshed week by week as we have wonderful worship and close

communion with our Creator. In **Isaiah 66:23** God tells us: “From one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me,’ says the Lord.” The Sabbath celebration brings us new life and vision even on this marred old Earth, but it will energize us even more amid the splendors of heaven.

One day soon, this earth will be the center, the capital, of God’s universe! In **Revelation 21:3-4** a voice from heaven says, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and *He will dwell with them*, and they shall be His people. *God Himself will be with them* and be their God. . . . They shall see His face.” Soon you’ll hear Jesus’ voice, richer than any music, saying, “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” **Matthew 25:34**.

- John 14:1-3** Heaven is a real place—we can take Christ’s word for it!
- 2 Peter 3:10-13** Our Lord has promised to create a new heavens and a new earth.
- Revelation 21:2, 10** The Holy City, New Jerusalem, will descend from God out of heaven.
- Isaiah 45:18** God created this world to be inhabited.
- Micah 4:8** The first or original dominion will be restored to the human race.
- Philippians 3:21** God will give us glorious immortal bodies. (1 Corinthians 15:51-54)
- 1 Corinthians 13:12** But we won’t lose our identity—we shall be known and recognized.
- Isaiah 35:3-6** All physical deformities will be cured. (The eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf unstopped, and the crippled healed.)
- Isaiah 65:17** God will create a new heavens and a new earth.
- Isaiah 65:21-23** Heaven is real: “They shall *build houses* and inhabit them; they shall *plant vineyards* and eat the fruit of them.”
- Isaiah 65:25** The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox. God’s new kingdom will be one of tranquil peace.
- Matthew 8:11** We shall fellowship with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the greatest minds of the ages forever!
- Revelation 21:3** God Himself shall be **with** us—up close and personal—and be our God!
- Revelation 22:3-4** We shall lovingly serve our God forever and enjoy the closest fellowship with Him.
- Revelation 21:16-17** God’s new city is 12,000 furlongs—or 1500 miles square! Its great wall is 144 cubits—or 216 feet high. Its glories will far exceed the fondest imagination.
- Revelation 21:18-21** This spectacular city has walls whose foundations are gems, street of pure gold, and twelve gates of **pearl**, each gate a *single* pearl—an architect’s dream!
- Revelation 21:23-25** “There shall be no night there.”
- Revelation 21:1** There’ll be “no more sea,” with its salt water no one can drink and its broad expanse separating loved ones.
- Revelation 21:7-8, 27** The *entrance requirements* for the Holy City, New Jerusalem, are listed.
- Revelation 22:17** And the Spirit and the Bride say, “Come”—a heavenly invitation!
- 1 Corinthians 2:9** “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”
- Psalms 16:11** “In Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”