



The Book of Revelation

Revelation Chapters 21-22 Eternity

Remember, this is the only book of the Bible that has a written promise for those who hear, read, understand, and adhere to its words.

Revelation 1:3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

1] And 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.

New heaven and new earth; **Isaiah 65:17 For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.**

I believe that not only the former earth and the physical aspects, but also all former things that are not associated with anything beyond the thousand-year reign.

A high level of understanding will deal with anything that has to do with sadness, grief, pain, and we just won't remember it anymore.

This is the climax of what we should intentionally say when we say, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." The ultimate meaning of these verses is that we are praying for the new heaven and the new earth.

Hebrews 11:13-17 "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them."

2 Peter 3:10-13 "But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the very elements themselves will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be found to deserve judgment. 11 Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what holy and godly lives you should live, 12 looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. 13 But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness."

Please note that the authors of these two books encourage readers to eagerly anticipate the second coming of the Lord and their entry into that eternal city they will inhabit. The New Heaven and the New Earth will reveal the New Jerusalem.

Just like the heavens and the earth, then now we exist, which was created by the word of God. You see God speaking to remove the old heaven and earth and to shine in the new heaven and the new earth.

Old Heaven and Earth to disappear! Notice that John views this outside of space and time. He's in the realm of eternity.



“...no more sea”: the word sea here I believe represents the natural sea waters or oceans, saltwater bodies. Not needed for its cleansing action anymore: *70% of earth covered to an average depth of 2.3 miles, antiseptic salinity (3.5%) purges, cleanses, and preserves our planet.*

But I also believe that it represents the gentile nations, specifically those who the beast came out of. The sea can represent nations of evil.

Revelation 13:1-2 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

In heaven there will be only one race of people, children of God, the bride of Christ.

In biblical times, the sea often meant danger, storms, separation, and instability. **Job 26:5-6; Isa 27:1; Jonah 2:1-6; Lk 8:30-3; Ps 69:14-15.**

- 2. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**

“Down, out of heaven”: Doesn't necessarily touch the earth! Heaven is a definite place. A new home. The Ultimate UFO!

Hebrews 11:10, 16 “for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.”

As we continue to study, we will see that the names of the twelve tribes and the apostle are put on its gates and foundations.

- 3. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.**

Notice how often we hear a voice being spoken in this book and many other places in the Bible, followed by manifestations. This serves as another confirmation that God does nothing except through the spoken word.

The Bible says we are made in his image, according to his likeness, God is training us to speak by faith so that we can see manifestations too. This is a part of our overall destiny because our destiny is to be like him.

1 John 3:2-3 “Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

The Bible said we shall be like him, but we shall see him as he is.

- 4. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”**

If there are tears in heaven, where do they come from? I believe they arise from the lost opportunities and rewards we will face when we stand before the bema seat of Christ.

- 5. Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."**
- 6. And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts."**
- 7. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.**



Notice again here that the reward and inheritance go to the overcomers. There is a difference between being an overcomer and just being saved. Saved people have overcome death through their confession in Jesus Christ. Overcomers defeat the flesh, the world, and Satan to some degree.

A fresh start! (I sure could use that!) Can we even imagine what this means? All things!

“Overcomer” = 1 John 5:4.

- 8. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.**

This is a vivid and instructive list of those who do not want to be with God at this time to inherit all the new things in the heavens and in the earth.

Note that those mentioned first are the fearful and the unbelieving. The term "fearful" refers to those who do not possess awe or reverential respect for Almighty God. **(Mark 4:40; John 14:27; 2 Timothy 1:7,8).**

Notice also: the status of the lake of fire and the lost is unchanged. Sin and its potential is totally excluded; and, the lake of fire is eternal; final.

- 9. Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."**

- 10. And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,**

John has now been teleported into the future, but he mentioned that the Angel carried him away in the spirit. This indicates that the realm of the spirit, whether referring to a person or an object, can move interdimensionally—from the present to the future and possibly even to the past.

- 11. having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.**

- 12. Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:**

- 13. three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.**

- 14. 14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.**

What I want to emphasize is that just as the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve apostles have their names inscribed on the gates and foundations as part of their acknowledgment, reward and inheritance, we must recognize that our acknowledgment, rewards, and inheritance in heaven are also very real. Jesus will distribute these rewards based on the work He has assigned to us and the opportunities we have taken to fulfill that work.

That is why you see me passionately encouraging people to take advantage of opportunities to evangelize and serve in the church, as well as to use their gifts and talents, whether in their families, in the church, or in the marketplace.

- 15. And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.**

- 16. The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.**



This city that John is told to measure is approximately 1500 miles square. Many believe that the new Jerusalem will take the place of the holy of holies, where the Almighty Father God and Jesus Christ reside along with the saints.

- 17. Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.**
- 18. The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.**
- 19. The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation 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 chrysolite, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.**
- 21. The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.**

God is a God of beauty; **1 Peter 4:10** Peter wrote of the “**manifold**” (*many shades*) **grace of God**, referring to the various gifts derived from that grace.

Precious Stones- These stones may also be related to the stones in the breastplate of the high priest (**Ex 28:15-21; 31-34; 39:10-14**).

There is great difficulty in associating the specific stones since the terminology is not consistent throughout the literature, and John is also making his own translation from the Hebrew to Greek equivalents. (**Isaiah 54:11-12**).

The twelve gates made of pearl.

Streets are pure gold like glass.

As we read John's description of the city, we must understand that he's in a completely different dimension. He records things accurately, but they are based on how they exist in the spirit, which can differ significantly from what we are accustomed to in this fallen natural world we inhabit.

The church will be the fairest jewel of all (**Mal 3:17, 18**).

- 22. But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.**
- 23. The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.**

The presence of God and the most significant manifestation from the presence of God, Jesus Christ, will illuminate not only the city but the entire universe.

- 24. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.**
- 25. Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there).**
- 26. And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.**



The term "kings" in this context refers to those who are deemed worthy to rule and reign alongside Jesus Christ during His thousand-year reign and beyond.

Luke 19:16-19 Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.' 17 And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.' 18 And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.' 19 Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'

This indicates that we, as representatives of God and Jesus Christ, we will share in a certain level of glory with both the Father and the Son. This is truly exciting news!

The open gates symbolize total safety within this city and throughout the universe, ensuring that there is no darkness. This represents the idea that all evil will have been eradicated.

It does not say they will live there; the New Jerusalem will give light unto the earth.

27. But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Notice that the words defile, abomination, and lie are constant characteristics mentioned of satan and his cohorts. This lets us know that there will be no more traits of what Satan represents.

God has apparently accomplished His original purpose with man.

Ephesians 2:5-10 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Revelation 22

- 1. And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.**
- 2. 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.**



Every month”: there will be a form of time there.

“Leaves”: no sickness, yielding continuous health.

No more sin; no more death. Nothing will be lost. Heaven will be a place of peace and joy yet ceaseless activity.

3. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

4. And they shall see his face; and his name *shall be* in their foreheads.

Moses couldn't see God's face even though he wanted to because of Moses's fallen state.

Even though we are born again believers, we can't see the face of the Father because our redemption process is not complete.

The saints will see His face firsthand! The full glory of God has never been available to sinful man, for God's fire consumes sin.

But in our glorified state we will be able to see Him because we will be without sin.

Psalm 17:15 As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.



5. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

In this highest level of reality, Jehovah Yahweh God will provide all the light that is needed.

Those within the vicinity of the New Jerusalem will receive the radiant light of God's glory. "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all".

They will have no need for the sun, although the sun may still be present in the eternal state.

...they shall reign for ever and ever. Notice once we become rulers and reign with Christ that status will never be taken away.

6. Revelation 22:6-8 Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.

7. "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

This is the last of seven blessings mentioned in the book of Revelation.

- a. The first blessing is found in **Revelation 1:3**: "**Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.**" The book of Revelation is unique in that it is the only book of the Bible with a direct blessing promised to those who publicly read it and their hearers.
- b. The second blessing of Revelation is found in **Revelation 14:13**: "**Then I heard a voice from heaven say, 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.'**" God pronounces this blessing just before the seven bowl judgments of **Revelation 16**. People who become believers and die during the tribulation will find rest and reward with the Lord.
- c. The third blessing is found in **Revelation 16:15**: "**Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed.**" Jesus warns those in the tribulation, just prior to the *Battle of Armageddon*, that He will soon come as a thief. Those who believe in Him will be blessed.
- d. The fourth blessing is found in **Revelation 19:9**: "**Then the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' And he added, 'These are the true words of God.'**" This marriage supper between the Lamb and His Bride, the church, will take place in heaven, and God's people from all ages will be on hand to celebrate. A wedding feast is a common picture of the kingdom in Scripture (**Matthew 22:1–14; 25:1–13**).
- e. The fifth blessing is found in **Revelation 20:6**: "**Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.**" The various resurrections mentioned in the Bible are divided into two general categories: the first resurrection is the resurrection of the just, and the second of the unjust (Daniel 12:2; Luke 14:14; Acts 24:15). The



first resurrection leads to eternal life; the second resurrection leads to the second death (Revelation 20:13–15).

- f. The sixth blessing is found in **Revelation 22:7**: “**Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.**” Again, Jesus promises a blessing to those who keep or obey the teachings of Revelation. Reading and hearing the Word is not enough, if not followed by obedience.
- g. The seventh blessing is found in **Revelation 22:14**: “**Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.**” Salvation comes from having one’s robes washed in the Lamb’s blood (Revelation 7:14)—an amazing picture of the purity that comes with salvation and the price Jesus paid for our redemption (see Ephesians 1:7). Only blood-washed believers have the right to partake of the tree of life from which mankind has been barred since the Fall; only those with robes of righteousness have access to the Holy City (see Psalm 118:20; Isaiah 35:8).

8. Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

9. Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

This angel informs John that he, too, serves God and is not to be worshipped. Instead, he should do the work for the one who is to be worshipped: Jehovah Yahweh Almighty God.

The Angel fulfilled his assignment, now it's up to John to pin down what the Angel had shown him.

God will use angels and other unseen forces to do what we can do. But it's up to us to do what we can do.

I don't believe that we should command the angels as well. I don't see anywhere in the Bible, Old or New Testament, where a person is commanded an angel. They pray to God and God sent the angels.

10. And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.

In this passage, John is instructed not to seal up the words of the prophecy in this book. This contrasts with the book of Daniel, which is the companion book in the Old Testament. In **Daniel 12:4**, it states, “**Shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.**”

The difference between what Daniel was told to shut up the book and John was told not to shut up the book is the time in which it was written. When Daniel was given his vision, he was told in **Daniel 8:26** “**... Which has been told is true; But keep the vision secret, For it pertains to many days in the future.**”

But we see in verse 10 the Angel told John that “**...the time is at hand**”

We must recognize that God is the source of revelation. Until God provides this, human interpretation is often just speculation based on what seems right or true to the natural mind.



11. He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

In this situation, everything is finalized. There will be no more forgiveness, no more opportunities for repentance, and no more grace. If you are born-again, then you are saved; if you are righteous, you are righteous; if you are unclean, you are unclean; and if you are a sinner, you are on the path to eternal damnation and hellfire.

12. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

This scripture serves as both comfort and a warning to the saved and the unsaved. If you are saved, you should strive to fulfill your assignment by performing the works that God has given you so you can expect the tribulation times and receive your just reward.

When we are really convinced of the imminent coming of Jesus Christ, it will allow us to be diligent in our thoughts, words and actions.

13. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

What Jesus is saying here, whatever He starts, He will finish.

Philippians 1:6-7 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

Isaiah 46:9-11 I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. 10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. 11 From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

14. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

The commandments in this scripture can be summed up in **Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.**

15. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

Unless a person receives Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, they do not possess the righteousness necessary to be with Him. As a result, their actions will reflect the state of their fleshly mind and they will be judged on that alone.

16. "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Again, Revelation chapters 1,2,3,19-22 are the most important chapters in this book.

17. And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.



Jesus is willing to offer eternal life to anyone who desires it. Notice that it not only says He is calling people to come to Him, but the bride, or the church, is also required to say, "Come!"

18. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

19. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

If we keep this scripture in context, I believe John is only referring to the Book of Revelation. However, I also think this principle applies to the entire Bible: we should not add anything nor take anything away. If we lack understanding, we should allow the scripture to interpret itself.

20. He which testifies these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

21. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

*Times: remember that the Lord has always rescued the righteous from judgment
(The Flood and the judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah).*

