

O.T. and N.T. times.

THE CITY LIETH FOUR SQUARE (Rev. 21:16)

- The size of the city indicates that it will have sufficient space for the believers of all ages.
- “Twelve thousand furlongs” is approximately 1,350 miles.
- The city is portrayed as a cube.
- In the O.T. the Holy of Holies (God’s Sanctuary) where God met His people was a perfect cube.
- The entire city will be filled with God’s glory and holiness.

THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY AND THE LAMB ARE THE TEMPLE (Revelation 21:22)

- There will be no need for a physical temple.
- God’s presence and nearness will permeate the entire holy city.

THEM WHICH ARE SAVED (Revelation 21:24-26)

- The new Jerusalem does not include the whole new earth, for the city has gates through which the righteous may enter and leave.
- The New Jerusalem will be the capitol of the new earth.

NO NIGHT THERE (Revelation 21:25)

- This refers only to the holy city, for John does not say there is no night on the earth.
- Some believe there will be night outside the city, for God has promised that day and night will never pass away (Gen. 8:22; Ps. 104:5; 148:3-6; Is. 66:22-23; Jer. 33:20,21,25).¹

¹ 1. Most from Full Life Study Bible, p. 637-

INSERT - LIFE OF CHRIST

FORTY EIGHTH STUDY

(*Note: N.T. & O.T. = Old and New Testaments)

NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH (Revelation 21:1)

- The final goal and expectation of the N.T. faith is a new, transformed, and redeemed world where Christ abides with His people and righteousness dwells in holy perfection (cf. Ps. 102:25,26; Is. 65:17; 66:22; Rom. 8:19-22; Heb. 1:12; 12:27; 2 Pet. 3:13).
- To erase all traces of sin, there will be a destruction of earth, stars, and galaxies. Heaven and earth will be shattered (Hag. 2:6; Heb. 12:26-28) and will disappear like smoke (Is. 51:6); the stars will melt (Is. 34:4) and the elements dissolve (2 Pet. 3:7,10,12).
- The renewed earth will become the dwelling place of both man and God (Rev. 21:2,3,10; 22:3-5).
- All the redeemed will possess a body like Christ’s resurrection body, one that is real, visible, and tangible, but incorruptible and immortal (Rom. 8:23; 1 Cor. 15:51-56).

NEW JERUSALEM (Revelation 21:2)

- The New Jerusalem already exists in heaven (Gal. 4:26); it will soon come to earth as the city of God for which Abraham and all of God’s fait-

ful awaited, and of which God is Architect and Builder (Phil. 3:20; Heb. 11:10,13,16).

- The new earth will become the headquarters of God and He will remain with His people forever (cf. Lev. 26:11-12; Jer. 31:33; Ezek. 37:27; Zech. 8:8).

WIPE AWAY ALL TEARS (Revelation 21:4)

- The effects of sin such as sorrow, pain, unhappiness, and death (Rev.7:16,17; Gen. 3; Is. 35:10; 65:19; Rom. 5:12), are gone forever, for the evil things of the first heaven and earth have completely passed away. Believers, although remembering all things worth remembering, will evidently not remember that which will cause them sorrow (Is. 65:17).

HE THAT OVERCOMETH (Revelation 21:7)

- God Himself declares who shall inherit the blessings of the new heaven and the new earth -- those who faithfully persevere as Christ's overcomers.
- Those who do not overcome sin and ungodliness will be cast into the lake of fire.

THE FEARFUL, AND UNBELIEVING (Revelation 21:8)

- God mentions several classes of people who will have a part in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone.
- (1) The "fearful" are those who fear the disapproval and threat of humans more than they

value loyalty to Christ and the truth of His Word. Their personal safety and status among others mean more than faithfulness to Christ. They include the compromisers among God's people who give up the fight and do not conquer (cf. Mark 8:35; 1 Thes. 2:4; 2 Tim. 2:12,13).

- (2) The "unbelieving" include former believers in Christ who overcome by various sins, such as those listed here. To profess Christ and then practice such evil is an abomination unto God.
- (3) Many churches today proclaim that it is possible for a person to be simultaneously a true child of God and an immoral person, liar, adulterer, homosexual, or murderer. Such people contradict the clear words of God here (cf. 1 Cor. 6:9,10; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 5:5-7).

THE BRIDE, THE LAMB'S WIFE (Revelation 21:9)

- This metaphor (or symbol) for the new city means that God's people dwell within it. John uses symbolic language to describe the holy city, whose glory cannot be totally comprehended by human understanding (see Revelation 21:9-22:5).

TWELVE GATES (Revelation 21:12-14)

- The wall of the city suggests the security which the saved have in the new city.
- The twelve gates represent Israel (Rev. 21:12) and the twelve foundations represent the Church (Rev. 21:14).
- This emphasizes the unity of God's people of