

## THINGS WHICH MUST SHORTLY COME TO PASS

### A STUDY OF REVELATION—PART 35

#### Revelation 21

God has now permanently dealt with Satan and sin. This must happen if Heaven is to be Heaven. The old must be removed before the new can appear.

#### I. WHAT JOHN SAW (REVELATION 21:1)

- A. We are reminded in Scripture that the heavens and earth shall pass away.
  - 1. Revelation 20:11—*“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.”*
  - 2. II Peter 3:10,13—*“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works there are therein shall be burned up. Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”*
- B. Isaiah prophesied a new heaven and earth.
  - 1. *“For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.”* (Isaiah 65:17)
  - 2. *“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain.”* (Isaiah 66:22)
- C. John was allowed to see the new heaven and earth. (Rev. 21:1)
- D. John was allowed to see the capital city. (Rev. 21:2)
  - 1. It will be holy and without spot or the stain of sin. (Rev. 21:2)
  - 2. We know the architect—*“For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”* (Hebrews 11:10)
  - 3. It was time for the consummation; therefore the city is *“prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”* (Rev. 21:2)

#### II. WHAT JOHN HEARD (REVELATION 21:3)

- A. John heard a great voice speaking. (Rev. 21:3)
- B. That voice heralded good news.
  - 1. *“The tabernacle of God is with men”* (Rev. 21:3)
    - a. *“Tabernacle”* means *“dwelling place.”*
    - b. No longer will God be far off but near.
  - 2. God will *“dwell with them.”* (Rev. 21:3)
  - 3. *“They shall be his people.”* (Rev. 21:3)
  - 4. *“God shall be with them.”* (Rev. 21:3)
  - 5. He will personally *“Be their God.”* (Rev. 21:3)
- C. What this means for us.

1. We will enjoy fellowship with our Great God.
2. We will see the one who died for us. *"Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him: for we shall see him as he is."* (1 John 3:2)
3. We will worship Him. (Rev. 4:10)
4. We will serve Him. (Rev. 22:3)

**III. WHAT GOD DOES AND PREVENTS (REVELATION 21:4)**

- A. He will come close enough to wipe away our tears. (Rev. 21:4)
- B. God will prevent those things which cause tears to be *"no more."*
  1. *"No more death"*. (Rev. 21:4)
  2. No more *"sorrow"*. (Rev. 21:4)
  3. No more *"crying"*. (Rev. 21:4)
  4. No more *"pain"*. (Rev. 21:4)
  5. No more things related to the *"former things"*. (Rev. 21:4)

**IV. THE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF THE LORD IS SEEN (REVELATION 21:5, 6)**

- A. He is the one *"that sat upon the throne."* (Rev. 21:5)
- B. He is the one that *"makes all things new."* (Rev. 21:5)
- C. What He says is:
  1. *"True"* (Rev. 21:5)
  2. *"Faithful"* (Rev. 21:5)
- D. A statement of Divine finality is given. (Rev. 21:6)
  1. *"It is done"*
    - a. It stands complete!
    - b. New Heavens are coming!
    - c. God signs His Name on the dotted line.
    - d. His check will not bounce.
  2. He is the God of the beginning—*"Alpha"*. 21:6
  3. He is the God of the ending—*"Omega"*. 21:6
  4. God:
    - a. Started history.
    - b. Will end history.

**V. THREE TREMENDOUS PROMISES ARE GIVEN (REVELATION 21:6, 7)**

- A. Man's spiritual thirst can be satisfied in Christ. (Rev. 21:6)
  1. John 4:14—*"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."*
  2. John 6:35—*"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."*

3. The water cannot be earned but is grace free!
- B. Heaven belongs to those who are overcomers.—*“Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?”*  
(*1 John 5:5; Rev. 21:7*)
- C. A personal family relationship we shall enjoy forever. (*Rev. 21:7*)
  1. He will be our God. (*Rev. 21:7*)
  2. We will be his children. (*Rev. 21:7*)
  3. We are joint heirs with Christ. (*Romans 8:17*)

## **VI. THOSE ABSENT FROM THE NEW HEAVEN ARE SEEN**

### **(REVELATION 21:8)**

- A. They are named:
  1. The “*fearful*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  2. The “*unbelieving*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  3. The “*abominable*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  4. The “*murderers*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  5. The “*whoremongers*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  6. The “*sorcerers*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  7. The “*idolaters*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  8. The “*liars*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)
- B. The place they will not be absent from is given. (*Rev. 21:8*)
  1. “*The lake which burneth with fire and brimstone.*” (*Rev. 21:8*)
  2. It is also called “*the second death*”. (*Rev. 21:8*)

## **VII. THE OUTSIDE OF THE CITY IS DESCRIBED**

### **(REVELATION 21:9-28a)**

- A. John describes the outside of the city as he saw it descend from heaven, then it is as if he walks through the gates to describe it from within.
- B. The message of the angel is given. (*Rev. 21:9, 10*)
  1. The angel previously brought a message of judgment. (*Rev. 21:9*)
  2. The angel now brings a message of glory.
    - a. It is a message about the bride. (*Rev. 21:9*)
    - b. It is a message about the Lamb’s wife.  
(*Rev. 21:9*)
    - c. The city derives its name from its occupants.
  3. The angel carries John to a high mountain. (*Rev. 21:10*)
    - a. He shows John “*that great city*”. (*Rev. 21:10*)
    - b. “*That great city is “the holy Jerusalem*”.  
(*Rev. 21:10*)
    - c. It is “*descending out of heaven from God*”.  
(*Rev. 21:10*)
- C. John voices his first glance of the city:
  1. The city was like “*the glory of God*.” (*Rev. 21:11*)
  2. The “*light was like unto a stone most precious*.” (*Rev. 21:11*)
  3. It was “*like a jasper stone, clear as crystal*.” (*Rev. 21:11*)
- D. John describes the wall and gates of the city. (*Rev. 21:12*)

1. The wall was “*great and high.*” (Rev. 21:12)
  2. The city had “*twelve gates.*” (Rev. 21:12)
  3. The gates reflected *the* “*names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.*” (Rev. 21:12)
  4. God’s created angels stand at each gate. (Rev. 21:12)
  5. There are “*three gates*” on the east side of the city. (Rev. 21:13)
  6. There are “*three gates*” on the north side of the city. (Rev. 21:13)
  7. There are “*three gates*” on the south side of the city. (Rev. 21:13)
  8. There are “*three gates*” on the west side of the city. (Rev. 21:13)
- E. John describes the foundation of the city. (Rev. 21:14)
1. Foundations are important for the super structure!
  2. The walls sit upon “*twelve foundations.*” (Rev. 21:14)
  3. The foundations are named after “*the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*” (Rev. 21:14)
- F. John describes the size of the city. (Rev. 21:15, 16)
1. The city is a cube.
  2. He measured it with a golden reed. (Rev. 21:15)
  3. The “Length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.” (Rev. 21:16)
  4. The city would cover over three-fourths of the United States.
    - a. The distance from Canada to Mexico
    - b. The distance from the Atlantic Ocean to the Rockies.
    - c. If the city had stories each being 12 feet high, then the city would have more than 500,000 stories.
    - d. Its height would reach about the atmosphere into the region of space.
- G. John describes the wall of the city. (Rev. 21:17, 18)
1. The wall is approximately 216 feet high. (Rev. 21:17)
  2. The measurement was that which man would use. (Rev. 21:17)
  3. The wall was jasper. (Rev. 21:17)
  4. This joined the pure gold of the city. (Rev. 21:17)
- H. John describes the “*precious stones*” of the foundation of the city.
1. “The first foundation was “*jasper.*” (Rev. 21:19—*clear crystal*)
  2. The second foundation was “*Sapphire*” (Rev. 21:19—*blue*)
  3. The third foundation was “*Chalcedony*” (Rev. 21:19—*translucent milky or greyish quartz*)
  4. The fourth foundation was “*emerald.*” (Rev. 21:19—*green*)
  5. The fifth foundation was “*sardonyx.*” (Rev. 21:20—*alternating brown and white bands*)
  6. The sixth foundation was “*sardius.*” (Rev. 21:20—*red translucent stone*)
  7. The seventh foundation was “*chrysolite.*” (Rev. 21:20—*gold*)
  8. The eighth foundation was “*beryl.*” (Rev. 21:20—*bluish or sea-green*)

## FOR THE TIME IS AT HAND

*A 52-Week Study of the Book of Revelation*

Week 35

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9. The ninth foundation was “*topaz*” (*Rev. 21:20—yellow*)
  10. The tenth foundation was “*chrysoprasus*.” (*Rev. 21:20—apple green*)
  11. The eleventh foundation was “*jacinth*.” (*Rev. 21:20—bluish-smoke violet*)
  12. The twelfth foundation was “*amethyst*.” (*Rev. 21:20—brilliant purple*)
- I. John takes one more look at the gates of the city. (*Rev. 21:21*)
1. The gates were of pearl. (*Rev. 21:21*)
  2. “*Every several gate was of one pearl.*” (*Rev. 21:21*)
  3. Pears are the results of suffering within an oyster.
    - a. The pearl is the answer of the oyster to that which injured it.
    - b. As the saints go in and out of the gates of pearl, they will be reminded that access to God’s home is only because of Calvary.