

1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

LESSON 71

2 **OPENING REMARKS**

- The Scriptures tell us we must look to the area around the Mediterranean Sea in the end days
- This is where the last days prophetic events will take place
- Most of the news headlines we see today and over the last decades have been in this area
- We are continuing our study into the Book of Revelation and we are in the 21st chapter
- We have been looking at details of the New Jerusalem, the capital city of the universe
- The New Jerusalem appears after the fulfillment of a number sequential prophecies regarding the redemption of the earth and of mankind

3 **REVIEW**

- The next Biblical prophecy to take place is the Rapture when Jesus comes back in the clouds to take His church away
- We then see the 3-1/2 years of the Great Tribulation followed by the 7 years of Judgement
- The Judgement period is followed by the Battle of Armageddon at which Jesus sets foot on the earth with His saints
- The Second Coming is followed by the 1,000 years reign of Jesus Christ on the earth, then Satan is loosed for a very short while and then he is cast into the lake of fire forever

4 **REVIEW cont.**

- Then comes the fulfillment of the prophecy where Jesus says I go away to prepare a place for you (John 14:2-3)
- This city we are reading about in chapter 21 is the place that Jesus has been preparing for His bride, the city that Abraham saw that was not made with hands (Hebrews 11:10)

5 **THAT GREAT CITY**

Revelation 21:10-14

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

11 having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

12 and had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

13 on the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

6 **THAT GREAT CITY cont.**

Revelation 21:15-18

15 And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.

16 And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

17 And he measured the wall thereof, a hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.

18 And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.

7 **THAT GREAT CITY cont.**

Revelation 21:19-21

19 And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald;

20 the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the

eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.

21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

8 **THAT GREAT CITY cont.**

Revelation 21:22-26

22 And I saw no temple therein : for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

26 And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it.

9 **THAT GREAT CITY cont.**

Revelation 21:27

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

- This is still in the future for us
- Last week we looked at the size of the city and found it to be cube: about 1400 to 1500 miles per side
- This city is especially notable for: its size, its beauty, its light, its river, its trees, but most of all for its inhabitants
- The wall that surrounds the city is not as high as the city which is about 250 feet and the gates to the city are in the wall

10 **THAT GREAT CITY cont.**

Revelation 22:1-3

1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal,

proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

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:

•This gives us a look inside the city that we are really going to be in

11 **THAT GREAT CITY cont.**

- We must be ready so we can live in this city: lined up with God's Word, full of the Holy Ghost and be without sin
- All of the Scriptures we have ever learned throughout the New Testament can be brought to bear on this new city
- The price to enter into it, to enter into God's kingdom, what we must do, is to walk that strait and narrow road
- Jesus laid down His life so that we can have the opportunity to become like Him: let us be holy because He is holy (1 Peter 1:16)

12 **RENEWING OUR MINDS**

- We must let the power of the Holy Ghost lead us
- Jesus will not drive us or force us: we must hear that small, still voice of God and be lead by it
- We have learned a lot here recently about how our minds do work
- Even after we receive the Holy Spirit, we can allow our minds to still lead us instead of allowing the mind of God to lead us that is in the Holy Spirit
- Therefore we have to renew our minds and become a new creature in God (Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

13 **WHO WILL ENTER IN TO IT?**

Revelation 21:27, 8

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they

which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

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.

- Those who can enter this city will be written in the Lamb's Book of Life
- The beauty and wonder of this city has been revealed to us, both the inside and outside

14 **HOME OF THE BRIDE**

- Remember John, on the isle of Patmos, was caught up in the Spirit
- He was in the Spirit as he was shown and saw every portion of the church ages from Ephesus to Laodicea, he is shown all of it
- Here John is seeing what we have been longing to see through the ages: the holy city, the home of the bride
- We are going to be seeing this in reality along with John who has been seeing it through the Spirit
- The glory and beauty of this city, inside and out, is not something we could possess down here
- The beauty of it is what God has prepared for us

15 **HOME OF THE BRIDE cont.**

- This is an eternal home; not just a place to be or float around in
- We will have glorified bodies and be free to come and go from our new home
- Our glorified bodies will have the same amazing attributes and abilities that Jesus had after His resurrection
- Science fiction gets a lot ideas from the Word of God
- Looking at the big picture, if we would just see what God is trying to show us here, we would realize that all the requirements that must be met to inherit these wonders with Jesus Christ are such small things

16 **IN EXCHANGE FOR SIN.....**

- We don't have to give up anything that is good to have and nothing that we should want
- We just have to exchange sin for the beauty, the joy, the peace, and the righteousness of the living God
- This is one secret that Satan tries to keep from everybody, the whole world
- He tries to make people think that they just cannot live without sin
- Name one sin that brings us peace and joy.....there is not one
- We may have a few moments of fun but what is fun compared with the joy that even the dictionary shows is so far greater than just a few minutes of fun

17 **THE WIDE ROAD**

- Then you're unhappy, you're not at rest, you have no joy, you're afraid and you're fearful because you know what the Scriptures say about how you must live
- We can tend to think that "everybody is like this" and "we all sin so we must all be right": this is not what the Scriptures say!
- The Scriptures do say that that wide road has the majority of people on it: they are heading for hell and the lake of fire
- If you are walking with God you are going to be in the minority because it is that narrow road with few upon it that leads to eternal life (Matthew 7:13-14)

18 **THE HOLY GHOST & PROMISES**

- It is only through the power of the Holy Ghost and using that power to lead and guide us
- The Holy Ghost must lead our thoughts, our actions, our words, our deeds; our whole life
- Think about His promises when He tells us He will withhold no good thing from them that love Him (Psalm 84:11)
- Jesus came to give us life and that life more abundantly (John 10:10)
- God wants to give you the desires of your heart (Psalm 37:4)

- There is no way He can do this if there is sin in your life

19 **ONLY THE HOLY**

- We must be born into God's kingdom and walk learning step by step and line upon line to walk as He does
- "Be you holy; for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15-16)
- Only the holy will enter into this city, the New Jerusalem
- Satan would have you believe that to be holy is impossible
- Sinners who do not know the Word of God would also propose that it is impossible not to sin
- We cannot help but sin if we are living by our "old nature"

20 **BEAUTY AND WONDER TO BEHOLD**

- We can live a holy life by allowing the Holy Ghost to lead and guide us through life and by not listening to the doubts and disbelief that Satan would put in your mind
- Everyone has sinned, past tense, but God's people do not sin: they have the power to overcome sin and the temptations of sin
- The outside of this city is a beauty and wonder to behold, the likes of which has never been seen before by mankind
- To be on earth and look up at this city would be like seeing a huge rainbow and a brightness and a glory over the entire earth almost

21 **ELEVATED BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION**

- Inside this city God has put numerous natural things that we recognize and gave us a love for it
- We see inside this city those things familiar and dear but now elevated beyond our imagination: rivers, light, trees with fruit, boulevards, etc.
- The river of water of life flows from the throne and forms a part of a park-like boulevard comprising the main street of the city
- On each side of this river are rows of the trees of life
- The trees are between the river and the street of pure gold

22 **INSIDE THAT GREAT CITY**

Revelation 22:1-2

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

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

- As we see this beautiful crystal river coming from the throne of God it is part of the most beautiful park-like setting that could ever be imagined
- The street is on each side of the trees and the trees are on each side of the river
- There are 2 rows of these trees planted by the river

23 **THE THRONE OF GOD IS IN IT**

- These trees bring forth their fruit in their season
- Their season is not like our season here; these trees yield their fruit every month
- These trees grow on each side of the river, midway between the river and the street
- New Jerusalem, the city of the redeemed, is the capital city of the universe for the throne of God is in it
- Its citizens are all kings and priests

24 **INSIDE THAT GREAT CITY**

Revelation 21:22-23

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

Revelation 22:1

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

25 **A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD**

- Its citizens are all kings and priests

1 Peter 2:9

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

- If you are in the darkness of sin, you are not part of this
- You have to be called of God, then you have to repent of those sins, you have to have the sins washed away by His blood in baptism, receive the infilling of the Holy Ghost and then you can be a part of this!
- It is for whosoever will

26 **THE CITY OF KINGS AND PRIESTS**

- God doesn't pick and choose certain ones: it is for anyone but there is no other way to get there except through His Word
- A royal priesthood denotes the royalty of the kings and the priests of the spiritual world which is something they did not have in the Old Testament
- The chosen generation that Peter is speaking about are those who live from the time on this side of the cross and the resurrection of Jesus Christ on through to the Rapture of the church
- It is not for those of the Old Testament or the Tribulation saints; only those from the first infilling of the Holy Ghost until He catches His bride out

27 **TO REIGN WITH HIM...**

2 Timothy 2:10-12

10 Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

11 It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him:

12 if we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:

13 if we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

- We shall rule and reign with Him

28 **KINGS AND PRIESTS UNTO GOD**

- There are many other Scriptures showing that we are heirs and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ (for example: Romans 8:17)

Revelation 1:5-6

5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,
6 and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

29 **TRIBULATION SAINTS' REIGN**

Revelation 5:9-10

9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

10 and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

- Here we see the Tribulation Saints as they are reigning on the earth
- The bride reigns in the New Jerusalem

30 **REIGN OF THE BRIDE**

Revelation 22:4-5

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

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

reign for ever and ever.

- We see here why this is the capital city of the universe
- All of the people in the New Jerusalem are kings and priests
- They dispense to the whole world the benefits of the water of life and the leaves of the tree of life, which are for the healing of the nations

31 **THE TREE OF LIFE**

- They will not have death and they will live eternally
- The people on earth can live forever only as they have access to the tree of life
- The tree of life used to be in the Garden of Eden but mankind lost access to it through the sin of Adam and Eve
- We now see the tree of life again in the New Jerusalem
- The tree of life will never again be planted on the earth
- The tree of life is actually an orchard as described earlier

32 **THE HOLY CITY**

- The nations of the world will be dependent on the Holy City for its benefits
- Therefore the kings of the earth "do bring their glory and honor into it." (Revelation 21:26)
- The people will receive spiritual as well as material blessings from the Holy City for "the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it." (Revelation 21:24)

33 **Garden of Eden Graphic**

34 **OUR FINAL HOME**

- As we look at the beginning in Genesis with the Garden of Eden and then see our final home in the Holy City it becomes clear how much God cares for us His creation
- It is stepping out of a life of hardship and sorrow, pain and death into a life with a glorified body in a place whose beauty and wonder

are beyond description

- We will not be bound just to this earth but will be able to come a go, even to place beyond our imagination
- This is no fairy tale as it is written in the Word of God
- Just believing in God does not bring salvation; the devils believe and tremble (James 2:19) and they are not saved

35 **GOD'S PLAN IS FOR ETERNITY**

- We need to study this Word for ourselves, God's plan
- God's plan is for eternity and eternity is hard for mankind's mind to fully grasp
- We need to stop and consider how short our lives actually are and all that God has planned; which is real
- We will be stepping from one life that is so small and limited into another and that one is for limitless eternity
- We cannot see the spiritual with our natural eyes but we know it is there
- We are at times given a glimpse of the spiritual as the apostle Paul says ".....through a glass darkly.." (1 Corinthians 13:12)

36 **GOD'S ROADMAP**

- We can turn to God's Word and through His Spirit we can almost see the beauty and wonders awaiting His people
- It is an environment that is free from pain, sorrow, no more wars, no more tears, no more heartaches; what would we give to step into that kind of eternal life?
- This life will have no worries, no sadness, no heartbreak, no sickness, no hunger, and no death; we can and will, if we are ready, just step into it
- God gives us a perfect roadmap of what He wants and expects of us to be able to be in His kingdom
- First off, it is the only life, right down here, to live and God never let's things go too far for us

37 **INHERITING THE PROMISES**

- Our loving God will always control our lives if we have given our lives over to Him
- The joys He gives us in this life so far outweighs a few moments of fun
- It is not only for eternity but it is in this life right here that He does this
- We have to search the Scriptures for ourselves and we are going to have to want God and obey His word to inherit these promises
- God knows the intents of our hearts, He knows if we really want Him (Hebrews 4:12)
- If you really want God, you will find Him

38 **SEEK YE FIRST....**

- If you want God for the wrong reasons, such as material gain or not going to hell, you won't find Him

Matthew 6:33

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

- It does take a little while to grow in God; the very first step you take will bring a peace that nothing else can and the joys that follow it
- Even Jesus Christ laid down His life, not for the shame and the pain now, when He died, but for the joy that awaited Him
- Try to get a picture of this in your mind: it is supernatural and yet natural at the same time

39 **THE NATURAL TO KNOW THE SPIRITUAL**

- It is supernatural because you cannot have all of this here but yet natural because it is a way that we can understand
- We can understand the beauties of the Holy City because He put similar things here that we can see
- The Holy City will have kings and priests that supervise the activities of the earth, natural and spiritual
- The people on the earth, those who have inherited it, will always need supernatural assistance

- The Holy City is God's perfect provision for this eternal need
- Is it any wonder that there is not going to be too many who are going to make it?

40 **AN OPEN OFFER**

- God has opened this offer to whosoever will in this dispensation
- The New Jerusalem is the home of the bride
- We will be free to travel to and from our new home
- If we keep overcoming and enduring until the end these promises are ours

41 **EACH POINT OF LIGHT IS A GALAXY – FIELD OF VIEW IS A DIME HELD AT ARM'S LENGTH – HUBBLE DEEP SPACE GRAPHIC**