

Revelation 21:9-27
Our Future Home

Intimate Connection (9-14) (John 14:1-3) ***A place He has prepared for us.***

Bride is revealed (I Peter 2:4-5)

We are living stones – a part of this City

Brilliant Glory (I Timothy 6:16 / Exodus 40:34-35)

The Shekinah glory – God's very presence is in this City

Building design

Twelve gate – 12 tribes of Israel (Zechariah 8:23 / Isaiah 45:14 / Romans 1:16)

Access is gained through His earthly people - Israel

Twelve foundations – 12 apostles of the Lamb

(Ephesians 2:20/Matthew 19:28) ***The foundations upon which the City is built – the apostles who will judge upon thrones.***

Incredible size and beauty (15-21)

CUBE – its size would cover half of the USA There is no lack of space - 20 billion people could each have 75 acres with 100 ft. ceilings

City of Gold – translucent (Hebrews 7:26)

The purity of our Savior is reflected in this City.

Colors of Precious stones (Exodus 28:15-21) ***The priest remembering His people.***

His beauty is also reflected. Aaron's breastplate bore 8 of these stones.

Composed of gates made of a single pearl each ***Born out of struggle***

(I would not want to meet that oyster 😊)

Incomparable Glory (22-27)

Lord God & the Lamb are the Temple (Exodus 25:22 /Leviticus 16:1-2)

The place only the high priest could enter is now our home.

Lord God & the Lamb are the source of light (Genesis 1:3 / John 12:46)

God is Light (I John 1:5)

Locked gates are unnecessary – honor of all nations brought to the city

Those who come through the Millennium, faithful to Jesus.

Lamb's book of Life required for entry (Revelation 3:5; 13:8)

All those who have put their trust in the Messiah.

Discussion questions for Revelation 21:9-27

How is the church related to the New Jerusalem?

(Ephesians 5:26, 32 / Revelation 21:2, 9-10 // II Corinthians 3:18 / Revelation 21:11)

Both are the Bride of Christ – Both are made glorious by Christ

(I believe Christ has made this City to be a reflection of His chosen Bride and has made His Bride to be a reflection of this glorious place)

What is the significance of the distinction between the gates and the foundations of the city? (the gates: Romans 9:4-5 / Zechariah 8:23 / Isaiah 45:14 The foundations: Matthew 16:16-18 / Ephesians 2:19-22) ***The gates are the openings for people to enter the City. The One who made that possible for all people came through God's chosen people ISRAEL. The foundations are the truth of the GOSPEL which is found in Christ – He did it all, and the Church demonstrates that truth in the all we are and have comes from JESUS.***

Why are we given such detail about the size and beauty of the City? (John 14:2 /

I Corinthians 2:9 / Revelation 4:3) ***To encourage us. JESUS has prepared this place for us and there are many rooms. He gives us a glimpse of the wonder and beauty of a place we can only imagine. He desires us to be drawn to the glory, majesty, and beauty of our God.***

How does one gain access to the City? (Philippians 3:16-21 / I Peter 2:4-5, 9-10)

By joining the company of those who follow Jesus – those whose citizenship is in heaven. By becoming a living stone – those who have been transformed into a royal priesthood of believers who declare God's glory.

What distinctions are there between the Church, Israel, and the nations in the heavenly state? The City is the home of the Church which is built into the very fabric of the City. Israel dwells in the land surrounding the City, which is its capitol. The nations bring their glory and honor into the City, which is the source of light for the world.

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