

# PROPHETIC REVELATION



# THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

The  
Bible Truth  
about the Great  
Holy City New Jerusalem.

He that hath an ear, *let him hear!*



## **FOREWORD**

**T**he last two chapters of the *Book of Revelation* have held the attention of many Christians for decades. Many questions concerning the **NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH** have been asked. How different from the present ones will they be? What will the New Earth be like? Christians read about the great **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** and want to be a part of it. But many are still wondering what this Holy City is all about. They ask many questions concerning it: “*Is it a literal city?*” “*What sort of mansion will I have in this heavenly city?*”

For years, even when I was in the the A.o.G. church, I have held the belief that the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** would be composed of the redeemed saints of God of all ages. I have never read or heard any teaching on the subject which made sense to me. Few years ago, an *Endtime Message* minister wrote a booklet in which he taught that the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** would be a *literal* city which would hang directly above the old city of Jerusalem in the *Eternal Age*.

Having felt led of the Lord to teach this subject this year, I was shown some beautiful pictures and revelations of the Word. This book is the result of many hours of waiting upon the Lord.

May the Lord Jesus bless you and grant you the revelation of His Prophetic Word.

**The Author**

The Year 1990.

*...the Word Bride  
hath made  
Herself  
ready.*

Revelation 19:7



# THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

顏  
連  
生

Richard I. s. Gan

*“**A**nd 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.*

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

*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.”*

– Revelation 21:1-3

As much as they are looking for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, Christians all over the world are also waiting for the day when these visions of the Apostle John would become realities. With a **NEW HEAVEN** and a **NEW EARTH** replacing the present polluted ones all things upon the earth will then become new. We will certainly be dazzled and overwhelmed by the awe-inspiring beauty of all the new things which God would bring forth in that day.

Undoubtedly, each individual Christian has his or her own picture of how the New Heaven and New Earth will look like. Many may picture the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** as a literal physical city of gigantic size as described in the last two chapters of the *Book of Revelation*. Perhaps there are some who may imagine the new age to be very much like a type of *space-age* world which they read about in ‘*sci-fi*’ books. Nevertheless, by the Grace of the Lord and the leading of His Holy Spirit, we shall see the Holy City, New Jerusalem and the New Heaven and New Earth exactly as they were seen by the Apostle John in his visions.

## THE GARDEN OF EDEN

To have an understanding of the Holy City, New Jerusalem, we need to look at the *loci* of the **GARDEN OF EDEN** and the City of David called **JERUSALEM**. They hold the *mystery* to the Holy City, New Jerusalem.

The Sacred Scripture declares that God created the heavens and the earth in six days and rested on the seventh day. Read Genesis 1:1-2:6. It also states that all of God's creations were "*good*", which means that they were "*fitting*", "*suitable*", or "*pleasant*" to Him. Yes, the earth and everything therein were created in good condition. "*For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else*" (Isa.45:18).

However, there was a place called **Eden** which God had formed. The whole earth was *not* Eden. Eden was God's "*paradise*", God's "*delight*" and God's "*pleasure*". Eden means just that. And *eastward* in Eden God planted a **Garden** which was more beautiful than any other place on the earth, even Eden itself. Genesis 2:8-16 records:

*"And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads. The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone. And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates. And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayst freely eat."*

Most Bible scholars believe that the *location* of the Garden of Eden was somewhere in the Middle East. Well, that is true. While some may speculate that it was somewhere in present-day Iraq, near the Persian Gulf, others believe that it was the area near the *headwaters* of the two rivers, Tigris (Hiddekel) and Euphrates. Because of the order in which the four rivers, Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel and Euphrates are listed in the Scriptures, those

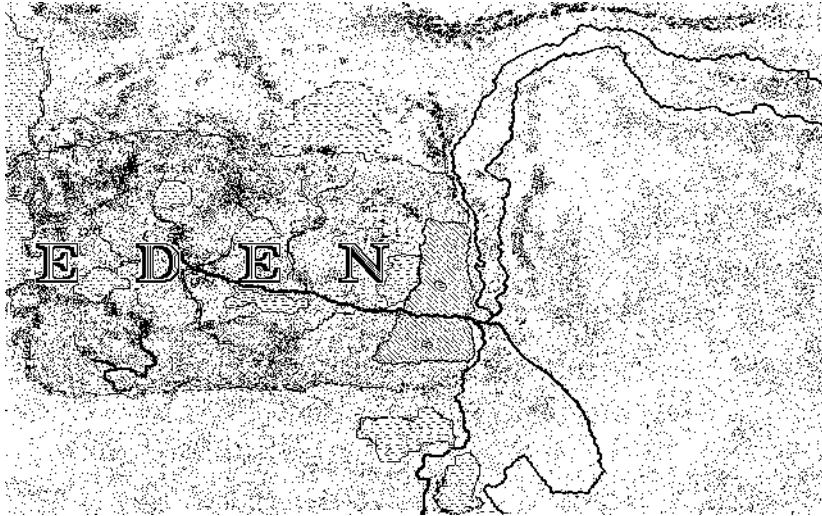
## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

Bible scholars, who believe that the Garden of Eden was somewhere in Eastern Turkey, feel that Pison had to be the first and the northern-most river since Euphrates is shown on today's map as the last of the four rivers in the south of the Mesopotamian Basin. They believe that it flowed through the present-day Armenian S.S.R. and then turned southward through Western Iran and emptied itself into the Persian Gulf.

Beloved, I beg to differ. Eden and its Garden were *not* located in either of those two areas. No one could actually know where Eden and its Garden were located unless the Spirit reveals them to him. A common fact often overlooked by most Bible scholars is that the existing surface of the earth is radically different from that of the period before the Flood. Today's maps do not show us the original land surface of Eden, but we could pinpoint the *original location* of the Garden of Eden. The land surface of the whole earth was *transformed* in the days of Noah when all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows and floodgates of heavens were opened. And floods of waters burst forth and poured upon the earth for forty days and nights. With such a great deluge, which caused all the high mountains to be covered by the waters, it would be a great wonder if the land surface was not transformed. With the constant pounding of the torrential rain upon the mountains, hills, valleys, plains and rivers for forty days and nights, the original formations and settings of all the geographical landscapes would inevitably be altered. [Note: The earth is made up of different types of soil. Hence, with tons of water on the earth, earthquakes and earth movements were inevitable.] Some mountain ranges had either been reshaped or altered into plateaus or hills; some *headwaters* would have been shifted that the rivers began to flow on new courses; lands and plains would have become valleys or had become 'bowls' holding large amount of waters; and mountain tops of hard rocks might have become islands. As large areas were flooded with water, terra firma would be weighed down, pushed or heaved in different directions. Such movements in the earth structures caused mountains to be brought low and valleys to be raised up (cf. Isa.40:4). The Great Rift Valley which stretches from Syria to Mozambique is a good example of such land movement. The Red Sea which is a part of this rift is still tearing itself apart inch by inch every year. [Note: One of these days the boiling pot under the San Andreas Fault in California will erupt and cause a great earthquake that a vast proportion of land will slide into the sea. There will be great tidal waves and many small islands around the Pacific will be covered with waters for many days. The land behind it will undergo a transformation. There will be even greater changes at the Second Advent of Christ in the *Day of the Lord* (Zech.14:4-10; Rev.16:10-21) and when the earth is made new again (Rev.21:1-2).]

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

By the revelation given unto me by the Lord, let me establish the location of Eden and its Garden. Geographically, Eden was a vast location. Remember that the Garden of Eden was planted in the east of Eden. It must be relatively smaller than the area of Eden itself. There was one place befitting the description ***“God’s Garden of Eden”*** — *“paradise”, “delight”* and *“pleasure”*. **It was the Land of CANAAN.** Hence, the area stretching



from the north of Canaan to Turkey and from the south of Canaan to the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt and westward must have been Eden. The large river that flowed *eastward* out of Eden to water the Garden no longer exists today as most part of Eden had become a sea after the great deluge. The Great (or Mediterranean) Sea was most probably a large area of plains and valleys with many large lakes and rivers flowing into them. Its coastlines were originally ranges of hills and mountains. There were four *“heads”* into which a large river from Eden flowed eastward through the Garden and split up after flowing out of the Garden. But only the Hiddekel and Euphrates rivers are identifiable although their *“heads”* have been displaced in the region of Eastern Turkey.

Where the four rivers originally were are not very important. Just remember that there were four of them. However, let me try and trace where the four rivers were most likely located.

The large river of Eden which flowed eastward through the Garden divided into four *“heads”* when it flowed out of the Garden. The River Pison was the first to break off from its ‘mother’ and flowed southward, most

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

probably, zigzagging downwards along the mountain ranges of the Sinai Peninsula towards the top half of the Red Sea and crossed the Nubian Desert southward. The second “*head*” thrust toward southeast along the mountain ranges of the Arabian Peninsula and downward into the land of Ethiopia. The Nile River and the Red Sea are part of the Great Rift Valley. They might have been part of the two rivers, Pison and Gihon. Geographically, River Hiddekel and River Euphrates might have flowed along the mountain ranges of Lebanon and Syria, with River Hiddekel flowing as far north as Eastern Turkey, before they meandered downward through the Mesopotamia and emptied their waters into the Persian Gulf.

## CANAAN

Throughout the history of God’s dealing with His people, the Land of Canaan had always been His **foal point**. This is well supported by facts found throughout the Old and New Testament Scriptures. The “*goodly mountain*” was Canaan (Ex.3:8; Deut.3:25; 4:22). It was the “*pleasant land*” of milk and honey, and the “*glory of all lands*” (Psm.106:24; Ezek.20:6,15; cf. Isa.8:8; 62:4; Hos.9:3; Zech.2:12). The Scripture tells us that **God had chosen only one place** on this earth to put His Name, and that was **Jerusalem in the Land of Canaan** (2 Chr.6:6; Neh.1:9). Before Jerusalem was chosen, Israel could worship Yahweh at any place where they could build an altar to offer their sacrifices. However, since the day when God made it the chosen place of worship, Jerusalem had been the only acceptable place of worship for the True Worshipers. Offerings unto the Lord were acceptable only upon the altar in the temple ground of Jerusalem (Deut.16:2-6). **THE HOUSE OF THE LORD** was in the city of Jerusalem.

When the children of Israel possessed the Land of Canaan, they made certain cities as cities of **refuge** (cf.Num.35). Ancient cities were usually built with high walls around them to give its inhabitants *security* and *comfort* in times of troubles. A high mountain was an ideal place for building a good strong city. And usually the ruler would live in and govern from the city which was also the capital of his empire where all **national** and **religious** activities were centered. With this understanding, we should realize what kind of city Abraham was looking for when God called him out of Ur of Chaldees to the Land of Canaan. Abraham “*looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God*” (Heb.11:10). Amen. “*In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge*” (Prov.14:26 cf. Deut.33:27; 2 Sam.22:3; Psm.9:9; 46:7; 48:3; 62:7; 91:2,9; 94:22).



## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

Yes, Jerusalem was the place where God revealed **His Presence** and made Himself known to Israel, His chosen people, the natural seeds of Abraham. When God wanted to reconfirm **His Covenant** with Abraham, He commanded Abraham to take his son, Isaac, to *“the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of”* (Gen.22:2b). Since 691 A.D. the mountain peak of Moriah has been occupied by the Mosque of Omar, better known as ‘The Dome of the Rock’. This is the place where the Temples of Solomon and Zerubbabel once stood in their respective times. The word *“Moriah”* bears these meanings: *“high place, awe, light, Lord”*. The Jews even believe that this place is located at the center of the earth and that it was here that light first shone upon mankind. And was it not so that the **Shekinah Glory of God** came shining upon Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden when God came to fellowship with them in the cool of the day, at evening time? (cf.Gen.3:8). The Psalmists have declared: *“For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it”* (Psm.132:13-14). (Don’t you notice the hidden mystery of the **Spiritual Jerusalem?**) Yes, the city, Jerusalem, on Mount Zion is **God’s habitation** forever. The Psalmists (in Psalm 48:1-2) describe the holy mountain as *“beautiful for situation”* (*“fair and beautiful for elevation”* – Amplified) or beautiful in its loftiness. It was the *“perfection of beauty”* (Psm.50:2).

**The Land of Canaan was the very place where the Garden of Eden was located and where Man had his beginning in an environment rich with the beauty of God’s creations. God’s relationship with Man began here. It is therefore obvious that God had chosen this place where He would deal with His chosen people and dwell with them forever.**

Satan has caused much trouble in this place since the dawn of Man. Today, many religious and political conflicts are still prevalent in the land. It is certainly not what we would expect of a land that is *“beautiful”* and *“pleasant”* and which was supposed to be a delightful paradise. Yet, the Lord God had chosen that place to make **His Presence** known and to put **His Name** *in the midst* of it. God has allowed His adversary to somewhat ‘hinder’ His Divine Plan for a season that the Gospel might be preached to the Gentiles (Rom.11:24-25). But eventually all things will be fulfilled according to His Eternal Plan. Yes, I believe the **Light of the Shekinah Glory** will soon shine upon God’s chosen people again *in the midst* of Israel – for the last time – to establish Itself there forever.

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

### ***“IN THE MIDST OF THE GARDEN”***

Let us study the *types* and *shadows* of the “garden” as mentioned in Genesis 2:9. With the interjection of the “two trees” in this verse, there is actually a play on the word “garden”. A mystery is hidden here. The “two trees” — the “*Tree of Life*”, and the “*Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil*” — are *not* literal natural trees growing out of the ground *in the midst* of the Garden of Eden. The *particular expression* as used by the Holy Spirit refers to **Two Laws** governing the sexual reproductive organ which is “***in the midst of the garden***” of the human body. And these two laws are diametrically opposed to each other. Now, if you look at the map of the Land of Canaan, you will notice that Jerusalem was right *in the midst* of the boundaries of the land. And Jerusalem was the place where the Lord God had put His Name and where He had planted His **TREE OF LIFE – HIS DIVINE WORD – by which His chosen people might have access to the Life of His Shekinah Glory**. It was also in this same place that the Adversary of God, Satan, had continually been fighting against God and His Truth by getting His people to break His Divine Word the same way he deceived Eve into partaking of *that forbidden tree* – “*Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil*” – *in the midst* of the Garden of Eden. And as Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden, the children of Israel were also cast out of the Land of Canaan and delivered into the hands of their enemies, the Assyrians and the Babylonians.

### **WATER OF LIFE**

Well watered by a **river** which came from Eden, the Garden produced and supported an abundance of life. It was God’s paradise. God planted the beautiful Garden and gave it to Adam to *dress* it. And the Lord God would come down to *the midst* of the Garden in the cool of the day to fellowship and communicate with the Man and his Wife. Hence, **Life** Itself – **Eternal Spiritual Life** – was here in this Garden.

Though Adam and his Wife were natural living beings, created in the image and likeness of God, they were planted by God as ‘***spiritual trees***’ in the Garden. And although their lives were without sin, they constantly had to **drink** of the ***Spiritual Water of Life*** and **eat** of the “***meat***” of the **TREE OF LIFE** which only the Shekinah Glory of God could supply, just as the natural environment of the Garden needed the life sustaining water and nutrients from the River of Eden for its continual growth. *Natural trees* need *natural water*, so do ‘*spiritual trees*’ need ‘*spiritual water*’. Amen. Hence, the two ‘*spiritual trees*’ were overshadowed by **Christ**, the ***Spiritual Rock***, the very ***Fountain of the Water of Life***, and the very

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

**TREE OF LIFE**, which was right there *in the midst* of the Garden of Eden during the cool period of each day. Truly, even as they were in the physical Garden, Adam and his Wife were in that **GARDEN OF GOD** — the true spiritual “**Garden of Eden**” with the Eternal Presence of God.

As the River of Eden watered the Garden, different kinds of natural seeds sprang forth and produced fruits. These were foods not only for Adam and his Wife but also for the many kinds of animals. Yes, **Life** was in the Garden. As the River of Eden flowed *eastward* out of the Garden, it became *four* rivers flowing in four different directions ‘*into the world*’. These rivers carried with them the very ‘*water of life*’ that was in the Garden of Eden unto their utmost ends. And this ‘*life*’ watered and fed the earth that was outside Eden and its Garden.

### FIRST ADAM

*“And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.”* – Genesis 2:8

Adam was God’s first earthly son. His dwelling place was the Garden of Eden. The earth was his ‘domain’. He was charged to populate the earth, to subdue it and to exercise dominion over all the fish of the sea, over all the birds of the air and over every living thing that moved on the earth. He was the *king* and the *lord* over all the creatures. And God performed an operation on Adam’s side and made a woman and brought her unto him (Gen.2:22b) and she became his wife and *queen*.

It wasn’t very long that Satan, the *intruder*, got into the Garden and caused the Serpent to seduce the Woman into partaking of the “*Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil*”. The Woman was deceived and she sinned against the Word of God (1 Tim.2:13-14). Death for her was certain. She hounded Adam with her nagging, until He yielded to her (Gen.3:17). But Adam was *not* deceived when he identified with her transgression. He willingly paid the price of death to identify with her who was a part of him. He could choose either to live with her in death or to live without her in life. However, Adam was not without the revelation regarding the saving power and grace of the Great Merciful God, for he was a part of Him. Blessed be the Name of the Lord! He was willing to die just so that she might live, even if it was just for a few hundred years — *a temporary salvation*, so to speak.

Thus, he stood in the gap between his sinful wife and the Holy God. And because of his action, Adam was *imputed* the death penalty which was passed down to all his descendants. To save his bride, Adam identified with her sin and laid down his own life for her. He died for her. Adam was

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

(portrayed by the Spirit of the Lord) to *type* Christ Jesus, the second Man, the last Adam. Read 1 Corinthians 15:44-49. Like him, Jesus Christ willingly chose to listen to the pleadings of His fallen Bride (the Church). And He identified with her fallen state that He might live with her as Husband and Wife eternally. Christ Jesus chose to give His life so that we might live. His death brought **Life** to us. Yes, He stood in the gap between us and God. Blessed be His Holy Name!

## EAST

When **Death** entered the Garden, the Man and the Woman were driven out of the Garden and **Life** was withheld from them. The way into the Garden was from the *east* — the '**eastern gate**'. Since that day, it has been guarded by God's ministering angels (cherubim) and a flaming sword which turned every way so that mankind could never eat directly and wholly of *that Tree of Life* (Gen.3:22-24) although a chosen group may be permitted to 'nibble' at It. Until the dawn of God's "*Sun of Righteousness*", mankind was denied access to **Life**. However, Yahweh, Who is rich in Grace and Mercy, would never allow Death to remain long. Almost 4,000 years later, wise men from the *east* proclaimed: "*We have seen His star in the east, and have come to worship Him!*" O, blessed be the Holy Name of the Lord! Yes, the Only Begotten Son was seen entering the '*eastern gate*' and **Life** was returned to the Garden — Canaan, the Promised Land. He did not come in the form of a theophany, He was born of a virgin woman. Amen! And only "*wise*" men and women would recognize the return of that **Life** and would worship Him!

## ABRAHAM

*"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.*

*By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:*

*For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."*

– Hebrews 11:8-10

The call of Abraham is the beginning of God's revelation to a chosen people concerning the building of His **Heavenly Holy City**. In the *Book of Genesis*, Moses mentioned nothing about this Holy City. Yet, Abraham was the first to be shown this Holy City of God. He was the **Father of the Faith**. He saw it afar off and passed on the **revelation** to his descendants,

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

Isaac and Jacob. On the other hand, there are many records showing how Satan, through his seeds of the Serpent, built many great cities on earth. And after the Flood, through Cush and Nimrod, Satan also deceived a people and got them to build an utopian empire. He deceived them into believing that Heaven could be reached by the mere power of the carnal flesh so as to *bind* them together in a certain area of the earth. Hence, the tower of Babel. To the contrary, Abraham, our Father of the Faith, was shown that Heaven must come down in order that we might see the Glory of God in our souls.

### PROMISED LAND, PROMISED CITY

Abraham was called of God to receive a two-fold **inheritance**: one, **the promised Land of Canaan**, and two, **the promised City of God**. To receive such an inheritance for himself and his descendants was not an easy thing to do. Though they sojourned in the land which was theirs by the promise of God, it was only *after* hundreds of years of trials and testings that they gained possession of the inheritance. That was how God would refine a man as gold is refined by the fire! Oh my! Yes, for to Him a man is far more precious and worth far more than fine gold or even any precious metal or stone. Abraham was tested and refined, Isaac was tested and refined, and so was Jacob tested and refined. They were faithful men with a vision. They were not just looking to inherit the promised land, which they did sojourn in, but they were strangers who were looking for *“a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God”*. They did not see it in their lifetime, much less enter it, for that **City** was *not* a literal physical city. Together with many others, they *“all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly: whereby God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city”* (Heb.11:13-16).

Yes, they were but pilgrims, yet **a holy nation of faithful people** (1 Pet.2:9) on a journey to a land, a country, beyond the sky. They were as **stones hand picked, chiseled and polished** by the Master Builder Himself for the day when He would lay down the **HEAD Stone** as the **FOUNDATION Corner Stone** (for the foundation) of the **HEAVENLY HOLY CITY**. Then the Supreme One would begin to **positionally place** these **stones** as He build His **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM**. And, as promised, the Lamb of God, which was slain even before the foundation of the world, came and fulfilled what

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

was written of Him. Christ Jesus laid down His life as **a sure foundation stone** in Zion nearly 2,000 years ago that He might fulfill the predestinated purpose of God in building a **Holy City** for Himself to dwell in for eternity. Amen. Yes, every chosen one of God will then be placed and *“blessed with all blessings in heavenly places in Christ”* Who is the Foundation of the City (cf. Eph.1:3-12). Even the **stones** which were gathered from the time of Adam, before Abraham, and **cut accordingly** by the Master Builder, would also be **positionally placed**. Listen to what Paul said concerning us at this time: *“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ, himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit”* (Eph.2:19-22). Yes, sir! *“For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come”* (Heb.13:14). Blessed be the Name of the Lord!

**Canaan**, the Promised Land, was a goodly land filled with milk and honey. From the time the promise was given to Abraham, it took some 500 years to raise a nation of people large enough to move in, conquer the land and occupy it. However, though the descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob (Israel) did possess the land, a large percentage of this people never had the faith of their father, Abraham. Many could not see beyond the earthly *“Garden of Eden”* for they, being carnal, were looking only for the best of what their land, their country, their nation and their city could afford them. Those were the very ones who sapped the faith of the Faithful and destroyed the Word which was given unto them. So, who were the true Israelites? They *“are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen. Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are of the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed”* (Rom.9:4-8). Yes, those carnal Israelites were not the children of God though they were the children of Abraham. Only those who were born of the promised seed (Isaac) were truly the children of the promise, for they were the ones who were called as a **holy nation** of people to partake of the heavenly calling. And the called-out saints, the Israelites and Gentiles,

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

are such children of the promise who are pilgrims journeying through this world which is not their home.

*“For ye are not come unto the **mount** that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest,*

*And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard entreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more:*

*(For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the **mountain**, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart:*

*And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)*

*But ye are come unto **Mount Sion**, and unto the **City of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem**, and to an innumerable company of angels,*

*To the **general assembly and church of the firstborn**, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.”*

–Hebrews 12:18-23

## SHEKINAH GLORY — GOD’S PRESENCE

After some 430 years of slavery in Egypt the children of Israel were delivered. God’s Presence was *in their midst* in a Pillar of Cloud by day and in a Pillar of Fire by night as they left Egypt. After their deliverance from the bondage of the Egyptians, the children of Israel could have directly entered Canaan, but because of their lack of faith and their evil report, they were sentenced to wander in the wilderness for some 40 years (Deut.2:14; Num.14:33-35). Only two men were faithful believers of the Promised Word of God. During that period, God commanded Moses to build a tabernacle for Him to show His Presence among the people (Ex.25-27). The **TABERNACLE OF MOSES**, as it was called, was only a temporary building. It was in the shape of a rectangle. It had two parts: the **Holy Place** and the **Most Holy Place** with a surrounding court (Ex.26:33-34; Heb.9:2-7; Ex.40:8). The **Ark of the Covenant** was in the Most Holy Place. The **Mercy Seat**, a lid of solid gold, was the top of the Ark. Upon it were two cherubim of gold which faced each other. It was here between the cherubim that the **SHEKINAH GLORY OF GOD** (or the **TREE OF LIFE**) was enthroned, and from where God communicated with His Prophet, Moses. (The Ark was a wooden box or chest which was overlaid with gold. It represented the Divinity of God in humanity.) The Levites and the priests were assigned the responsibility of guarding and transporting the holy things of the Tabernacle

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

which was moved from one location to another as the children of Israel, being led by the Pillar of Fire, journeyed on (Num.3-4; 10:33-36; Josh.3:3-6). The Tabernacle was always erected with its only direct **entrance** (into the Holy Sanctuary) facing **eastward**. (All the later temples were similarly built with their main entrance facing *eastward*, cf. Ex.27:13-14; Ezek.8:16.) The Tabernacle of Moses was Israel's religious center.

The Tabernacle of Moses *foreshadowed* the **LOGOS OF GOD** coming to dwell in a **tabernacle of flesh** — the Man, Christ Jesus. The layout of the whole Tabernacle *foreshadowed* the **Life**, the **Ministry** and the **Church** of our Lord Jesus Christ. It was also called "*the tabernacle of the house of God*" (1 Chr.6:48). Rightly so, for God has indeed come to tabernacle in **Christ** (the **Tree of Life**) who dwells in the Church, the household of God. And out of this "*tabernacle of the house of God*" the Word of the Lord is ministered to the people.

After almost 40 years in the wilderness, the Tabernacle was moved across Jordan into *Canaan* under the leadership of Joshua. Now, the Shekinah Presence of the Lord had returned to the "*Garden of Eden*" after He had left there 'many days', so to speak. And He would live with His chosen ones there in that "*Garden*" as long as they would obey the Word. In the days of King David, when he had captured **Zion** from the Jebusites, he brought the Ark of the Covenant there, leaving the tabernacle in Gibeon (1 Kg.3:4; 2 Sam.5-6). And **Mount Zion**, which was also called the **City of David**, was situated "*in the midst of the Garden*" — *Canaan*. "*But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there; and have chosen David to be over my people Israel*" (2 Chr.6:6) How appropriate. King David was a *type* of our King Jesus who was the very **ARK OF GOD** dwelling among His people in Jerusalem in His days. And in the *Age of Regeneration* King Jesus would also sit in His Millennial Throne in Jerusalem and reign over Israel and the earth.

*"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it."*  
– Psalm 132:13-14

Hence, the **TREE OF LIFE**, which was *in the midst* of the Garden of Eden in the days of Adam, had *returned* to Its *original place* to manifest Its Presence. But because of sin, no one could have direct access to It like Adam and his wife could. And unless the **TREE OF LIFE** chose to open up His belly of the River of Living Waters (cf. Jhn.7:37-39) to reveal His Love and Truth through certain chosen vessels, there would be no life among the inhabitants of Israel.

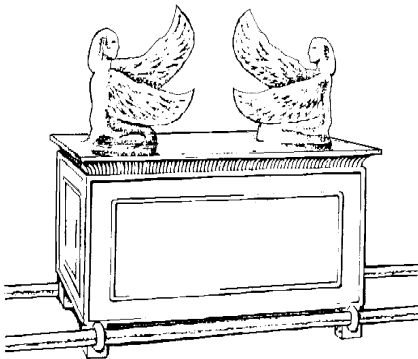


## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

King David proposed a more permanent temple building to replace the Tabernacle of Moses. But the temple was built only under the reign of his son, Solomon. The Temple, which housed the Ark, was built by Solomon just *north* of the City of David on Mount Moriah, at the spot where the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite had stood (2 Chr.3:1; cf. 1 Chr.21:20-22) and upon the site where Abraham was believed to have offered Isaac as a sacrifice unto the Lord (Gen.22:1-2). It was a very beautiful and magnificent temple to behold, for not only were great skills utilized in the cutting and carving of the wood of cedar and cypress from Lebanon, but very large amounts of gold and silver were also used in its construction. It took the people seven and a half years to complete the building (1 Kg 6:1,38). It was twice as big as that of the Tabernacle of Moses. When the Ark was brought in and the Temple (called **SOLOMON'S TEMPLE**) dedicated, the Glory of the Lord filled the House insomuch that the priests could not perform their service. Read 2 Chronicles 3 to 7.

### THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

However, the Temple did not stand forever because of the apostasy of Israel, especially the elders. They lived a life of spiritual and moral decadence. Prophet Ezekiel saw all these in the visions God showed to him. Read Ezekiel 4-24. He was even shown the termination of Israel's kingly rule "*until He come whose right it is; and I will give it to Him*" (cf. Ezek.21:25-27). In those days God sent the Babylonians into Jerusalem to make its people captives and to slaughter the king (Zedekiah) and his sons. But just before Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem in 587-586 B.C. (2 Kg.25:8-21), the Shekinah Glory of God left the Temple and "*went up from the **midst** of the city, and stood upon the mountain which is on the east side of the city*" (Ezek.11:22-23). It went **eastward**, towards the Mount of Olives (which is nearly 2,700 feet above sea level, some 150 feet higher



than Mount Zion), a distance of less than half a mile away. However, the Shekinah Glory, which left the Ark in the Temple and went **eastward** towards Mount Olives, settled upon another **ARK** some 620 years later. This **ARK** was not made with hands, and It ascended into Heaven with a **GLORIFIED BODY**. And, according to Zechariah 14, in that *Day of the Lord*, the Shekinah Glory of the Lord will again return and stand upon Mount

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

Olives in that *Battle of the Great Day of God Almighty* (Rev.16:14,16). After that He will return to the very place where He had always shown His Presence — *“And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like the voice of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory...And the glory of the Lord came into the house by way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east”* (Ezek.43:2,4 cf. vv.7). *“Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee”* (Isa.60:1).

In their conquest of Israel, the Babylonians razed the Temple to the ground. The Ark was presumed to be destroyed or lost during this time. Even before the fall of Israel, Jeremiah had prophesied that in days to come the Ark would no longer be sought, because Jerusalem would eventually become the **Throne of Yahweh** (Jer.3:16-17), the symbolism of the Ark being replaced by direct faith in God under the **New Covenant** (Jer.31:31-34). (Remember the ‘wooden box’ overlaid with gold was never the true mercy seat of Yahweh, but served only as a *type* until the TRUE ARK and MERCY SEAT appeared.) Yet, Jerusalem being the Throne of God also points to the *spiritual realm* where the **ARK OF THE COVENANT** (Christ, the Revelation of God) will be found seated in the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** from Heaven.

A new temple called **ZERUBBABEL’S TEMPLE** was built in 516 B.C. after Israel’s return from captivity. It was erected upon the *same* foundational stone as Solomon’s. It was a modest temple. However, in the days of the Roman rule, Herod the Great, who was appointed king of Judea by the Roman Senate, contributed much to its extension and architectural appearance. That’s why it was commonly known as **HEROD’S TEMPLE**. Although the Temple was beautifully built with a lavish display of precious metals, the elaborately carved ornaments, and the beauty of the textile fabrics, the true Glory of God was *not* in the Temple because the Ark of the Covenant was *not* in the Most Holy Place. And as there was *no* Ark, the Shekinah Glory of God was *not* there in the Temple. Alas! It seemed that the Ark was lost, but it was not so. In the days of Malachi, a prophecy for Israel was pronounced, saying: *“Behold, I will send My messenger, and he shall prepare the way before Me: and the Lord, Whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts”* (Mal.3:1). The *lost* Ark was replaced by a far greater one which was *not* constructed of earthly materials by the hands of men. Amen. The Shekinah Glory came ‘boxed’ in the flesh of the Man called Christ Jesus as It overshadowed Him. Even as the Man Himself worshipped and taught in the Temple in Jerusalem, very few

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

people, even the religious ones, recognized the **Presence of the Glory of the Lord in their midst**. Yes, very often people are blind to the **revelation of the Son of God** because of their involvement in religious activities. **“Be still, and know that I am God...”** (Psm.46:10a).

**Jesus Christ was the MESSENGER and the ARK of the Second Covenant.** He was also the rightful **King** to the **Throne of David**. His triumphal entry, from Mount Olives into Jerusalem, where His followers hailed Him as the King before He entered into the temple to cleanse it in the final week of His earthly life and ministry (Mk.11:1-11), *foreshadowed* the fulfillment of the prophecies of Ezekiel 21:27 — *“until He come whose right it is; and I will give it to Him”*. Yes, from the Mount of Olives in the **east** (where Jesus Christ ascended), after the *Battle of the Great Day of God Almighty* (Rev.16:14,16), the **Glory of the Lord** shall enter into the **MILLENNIAL TEMPLE** through the **eastern gate** and sit on His Throne forever. And the **TRUE ARK of the Covenant** shall no longer depart from His Throne.

Because Israel rejected and crucified the Messiah Whom God had sent unto them, Jerusalem was again trodden down by the Gentiles in 70 A.D. when the Romans laid siege to it for 143 days. The daily sacrifice ceased, the **Second Temple**, stripped for its gold, went up in flames and the Holy City fell with some one million dead. Israel was dispersed and became a people without a country until she was ‘reborn’ *“in one day”* (with her own government and flying her own flag) on the 14th day of May 1948. Read Isaiah 66:8.

## VISIONS OF EZEKIEL

In the 25th year of the exile of the children of Israel in Babylon, God showed Prophet Ezekiel several visions concerning Israel’s future worship during the **Millennial Reign of Christ**. These visions are recorded in the last nine chapters (40-48) of the *Book of Ezekiel*. In the visions, Ezekiel was taken to a **“very high mountain”** in the land of Israel. Toward the south of this **“very high mountain”** was the structure of a **city**. Ezekiel was then brought there where a brazen being with a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand was waiting to take him on a tour of the **TEMPLE**. That **“very high mountain”** was, of course, **Mount Zion**. But Mount Zion, which was slightly more than 2,500 feet high, was not really a very high mountain compared with the many mountains around the Land of Israel. The *expression of height* here signified the importance of **Jerusalem** as a place of very high authority and supreme power – **a kingly position** – which

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

commanded respect and awe. It will be the **earthly seat** of God's reign during the Millennium (cf. Isa.2:2; Mic.4:1; Zech.8:3; 14:10; Ezek.28:14; Rev.21:10). Jerusalem, after all, was the city of King David and King Solomon, both of whom were *types* of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Beloved of our God and Wise King, who will sit and reign over Israel and the world in the Millennial **Age of Regeneration** (Matt.19:28; Rev.20:6). Again, the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM – a Spiritual City** – in the **New Heaven** and **New Earth** will be the **HOLY MOUNTAIN OF GOD** which the kings of the earth will have to bring in their glory and honor (Rev.21:24).

## THE 'BATTLE OF EZEKIEL 38 AND 39'

The Temple which Ezekiel saw in his visions would be the **Third** and **Final Temple** that Israel will ever have. Undoubtedly, it would be more beautiful and more magnificent than the other temples before it. However, when will the construction of this Temple begin? According to Bible prophecies, except for the outer court, this Temple and its Altar would have already been built by the time the last week of Daniel's *Seventy Weeks* (Dan.9:24-27) is being fulfilled. Read Revelation 11:1-2. Hence, the construction of the Temple would have to begin before that period of time. (When Israel recaptured the old city of Jerusalem with its remains of the Temple in 1967, the aged Jewish historian Israel Eldad was quoted in 'TIME' magazine as saying, "*We are at the stage which David was when he liberated Jerusalem. From that time until the construction of the Temple by Solomon only one generation passed. So will it be with us.*") But the present 'Dome of the Rock', which stands in the way, will have to be removed somehow without the force of men because it is not possible to remove it without much bloodshed between those of the Judaic and the Islamic faiths and also between the people of different political alignments. Prophetically, the battle which was prophesied by Prophet Ezekiel in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39, must come to pass. He prophesied that God would bring about "*a great shaking in the land of Israel...and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground*" when the armies of Russia and his communist allies invade Israel (Ezek.38: 19b,20b). No doubt this great earthshaking will be the biggest one since the dawn of mankind. It will certainly bring down the Mosque of Omar from the Temple Mount, and restore the Jews' right to that holy place. The moment the Jews lay their hands upon that Sacrificial Rock, I believe they will offer prayers of sanctification and thanksgiving and burnt offerings unto Jehovah. Then the nation of Israel will make their *daily sacrifices* and *offerings* again. However, the **Antichrist** will usurp the Temple in the

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

middle of his *seven-year covenant* with the many nations who have interests in the Biblical Land of Israel. And he will cause the sacrifices and oblations to cease and he will sit in the Temple and proclaim himself to be God. (Read Dan.9:27; 2 Thess.2:3-7; Rev.17.) But he shall be destroyed by the brightness of the Coming of Christ (2 Thess.2:8-9).

[Note: Many have *misinterpreted* the battle recorded in Ezekiel 38 and 39 as that recorded in Revelation 20:7-10 which Apostle John saw in his visions on the Isle of Patmos. It is not so. The battle which John saw would be fought *after* the Reign of our Lord Jesus Christ – the *Millennial Age of Regeneration* (Matt.19:28) – when Satan, after having been bound during that period of time, would be released to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth and gather them to fight against the Lord's Christ (Rev.20:1-10). Bible readers are confused by the words "*Gog*" and "*Magog*". The word "*Gog*" denotes that which is proud, powerful, large, huge, rebellious, and anti-God in nature; and the word "*Magog*" symbolizes the great number of the people of the same land. The '**Battle of Ezekiel 38 and 39**' would be fought before the last week (seven years) of the *Seventy Weeks* of Daniel's prophecy. This is obvious from verses 9 and 10 of Ezekiel 39 which state that it would take seven years to burn up the weaponry used in this war. If this war is to take place any time during the *70th Week* of Daniel's prophecy of *Seventy Weeks*, then the *burning* of those weapons would extend into the *Age of Regeneration*. On the other hand, if this war is to take place after the one thousand years, then an additional period of seven years would be required for the *burning* of those weapons before the New Heaven and New Earth could replace the present ones. Also, this battle is *not* the '**Battle of Armageddon**' for the latter would only be fought in the *Day of the Lord* towards the end of the *Great Tribulation* followed by Christ's return to the earth with His saints.]

## THE MILLENNIAL TEMPLE

The Temple which Ezekiel saw in his visions would be constructed differently from the Tabernacle of Moses, the First Temple of Solomon and the Second Temple of Herod. Instead of a rectangular wall around the Temple (i.e. the Inner Sanctuary or Sanctuary proper which comprises the Most Holy Place and the Holy Place), which itself is rectangular, it has an inner court of 300 cubits square and an outer court of 500 cubits square around it. [1 cubit is about 12½ feet.] The outer court separates the "*sanctuary*" area (i.e. the courts and buildings) from the "*profane place*" (i.e. the common area). The altar area which is just outside the Temple is

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

100 cubits square. [In *Biblical numerology*, the odd single-digit numbers relate to divinity. **1** represents *Unity*, the *Oneness* and *Sufficiency* of God. **3** represents *Divine Perfection* and its *Completeness*. **5** represents the *Grace* and *Saving Power* of God.] The symmetrical layout of the whole sanctuary emphasizes the Grace of Divine Worship of the One True God. Also, unlike the other sacred buildings, **EZEKIEL'S TEMPLE** (as it is called) has three gates in the outer court, each positionally centered in the north, east and south. The inner court has three gateways relative to the gates of the outer courts. (Read chapters 40-42.) Each of these gates has *seven* steps, and each of the gateways has *eight* steps. The one last entrance into the Temple has *ten* steps. These different levels of steps and heights toward the Temple proper point to the worshippers seeking for *spiritual perfection*, *deliverance* and the *laws of God*. Hence, Ezekiel's Temple looks like a **PYRAMIDAL BUILDING** with a **TOWERING TEMPLE**, the place of God's Shekinah Glory, where the Prince of Israel, Jesus Christ (Y'shua HaMashiach), shall sit and receive worship as He rules over Israel and the nations of the world. Because the Lord Jesus Christ is **THE ARK OF THE TRUE COVENANT**, there will be *no* wooden ark overlaid with gold in the Temple. Yes, in that day, when the *Marriage Supper of the Lamb* in Heaven is over and the *Great Tribulation* is ended, when the Lord's Christ shall come with His saints, all riding on white horses, to Jerusalem to fight in the *Battle of Armageddon* (Rev.16:16; Zech.14:1-15) and to set up His Kingdom, the **Glory of Israel** shall come from the "way of the east" into the House (Ezek.43:2,4), and the Lord (Yahweh) shall say, "*The place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile...*" (Ezek.43:7). "*And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord*" (Isa.2:2-5). Amen. The **Prince** shall teach them to walk in the **Light of the Glory of Yahweh** — the Father of Life! The Wife of Christ (the Glorified Redeemed) shall rule with Him together with the Twelve Apostles over the twelve tribes of Israel (Matt.19:28; Rev.20:6).

## WORSHIP

The worshippers shall enter the Temple by the north or south gate, and leave by the opposite gate. No worshipper shall enter and leave by the same gate for **there is no turning back in the ways of God** (Job 34:27; Psm.78:40-41; Jer.11:10; Mk.13:16). Only the **Prince of Israel** shall enter and leave by the **east gate**. And only on the sabbaths and the day of the new moon shall the *east gate* be opened until the evening for the people to worship at the door of the gate.

When the people of the land shall come before the Lord at the appointed feasts, there will be no high priest anointed from the seeds of Aaron to lead them. But the Prince of Israel and the King (of kings of all nations of the earth) shall lead the people in the worship of Yahweh for He will be the **High Priest**, and the priesthood of Israel will be given unto the sons of Zadok, the descendants of Aaron the high priest, whose duties are to teach the people of Israel to keep the ordinances and laws of the House and judge them accordingly. And, as a consecrated priesthood who are separated and set apart for holy use, they must put on *linen* garments when they enter the gates of the inner court and the temple to minister. Read Ezekiel 43-46. They type the *"elected lady"*, the Church of Christ who are separated and set apart as *"a spiritual house"*, *"a holy priesthood"*, *"a chosen generation"*, *"a royal priesthood"* and *"a holy nation"* of people who will serve the Lord in the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** in the *Eternal Age*.

Like the other Houses of worship, the door openings into the Inner Sanctuary progressively narrow as one proceeds (Ezek.40:48; 41:2,3). It signifies that **the way to Life must be approached with holiness, sacredness and dedication**. *"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it"* (Matt.7:13-14). Truly, the path of the redeemed is illuminated by the Light of the Shekinah Glory of the Lord.

[Note: The word *"prince"* mentioned in these visions of Ezekiel comes from the Hebrew word *"nasy"*. It refers to an *exalted one* such as a *chief, ruler, prince, governor, deputy, or noble*. However, in the *Peshitta Bible* the words *"high priest"* are used in several places where the word *"prince"* appears in the *Authorized Version*. Israel had many princes and high priests but they have only one known as **'The Prince'** and one known as **'The High Priest'** – **Messiah The Prince** – *"Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec...first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of*

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

*peace; Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually*" (Heb.6:20b; 7:2b-3. Read Isa.9:6; Dan.8:25; 9:25). Anointed kings of Israel, like Solomon and David, reflected **The Anointed King** Who will reign over the earth in the *Age of Regeneration*. As Solomon and David sat on the throne of Israel to rule over the people as well as to receive honour, so will Messiah the Prince. As they offered up burnt offerings unto Yahweh (1 Chr.21:26; 2 Chr.7:1), so will the Prince of Israel (Ezek.45:22-25). (Remember that Jesus Christ identified Himself with the chosen people of Israel, their customs and worship – Matt.3:13; Lk.4:16.) Notice that the godly kings of Israel did not just sit on their thrones to receive honour day in and day out. They ministered to the needs of the people by walking among them and worshipping together with them. Hence, contrary to what some theologians are teaching, there will *not* be another prince, even King David himself, who will rise and rule over Israel besides the Lord Jesus Christ "*Who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords*" (1 Tim.6:15). The Scripture clearly shows us that the Messiah will be the **King-Priest** (Zech.6:12-13). However, there will no doubt be other princes to rule over the tribes of Israel (Ezek.45:8-9; cf. Num.7), and other "*nasiy*" (*rulers, nobles, etc*) for specific administrations in the Land of Israel.]

## THE CITY

Approximately 12 miles *south* of the Temple is **the City**, bordered by **four walls whose sides are all equal**. (Remember that **JERUSALEM** *comprises* the **Temple** and the **City**, where the Temple is the Palace or Habitation of the Messiah (Isa.2:2; Ezek.43:7) in connection with the City, when He, as the Glory of Yahweh, will from time to time visit His earthly metropolis.) Each of the four walls measures 4,500 reeds (or approximately 11 miles) long. Including the suburbs around it, **the City** is about 12 miles square. Read Ezekiel chapter 48. "*All the oblation*" (i.e. the area of land offered as *heave offering* to God) has a total area of 25,000 by 25,000 reeds (60 by 60 miles) — the northern portion for the Levites is 25,000 by 10,000 reeds; the middle portion for the priests is 25,000 by 10,000 reeds; and the southern portion, the "*possession of the city*" is 25,000 by 5,000 reeds. In the centre of the "*possession of the city*" is **the City**. North of the "*oblation*" are allotted to seven of the twelve tribes of Israel. South of the "*oblation*" are allotted to the rest of the five tribes.

The *distance* of 12 miles between the Temple and the City is the result of the fulfillment of the Biblical prophecy of Zechariah 14:4-5 (cf. Rev.6:12-17). A "*very great valley*" will cleave through the Mount of Olives towards



## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

the west (Mount Zion is on the west) and towards the east when the Lord Jesus shall return with His saints to fight for Israel in the *Day of the Lord*. Hence, the psalm of King David: "*Beautiful for situation (elevation), the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King*" (Psm.48:2).

There are three gates on each side of the city wall. Each gate carries a name of the twelve tribes of Israel. This proves that the **Oracles of God** were truly given unto Isaac, the Promised Son of Abraham and Sarah, and not Ishmael who was of the bondwoman, Hagar (Acts 7:37-38; Rom.3:1-2). In the *Book of Revelation*, the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** also has twelve gates with the names of the twelve tribes upon them (Rev.21:12-13), but it is *not* recorded which name appears on which gate. (There are reasons which we shall see later.) However, many theologians, even *Endtime Message* believers, with their intellectual reasoning have 'cleverly' deduced that **Ezekiel's Temple** is that **Holy City, New Jerusalem**. How could they fail to see that in the *Millennial Age* the **Temple of Ezekiel is 12 miles north of the City**, whereas in the *Eternal Age* the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM has the "TEMPLE" within It?** (*The "Temple" within the Holy City, New Jerusalem shows us the perfect oneness of Christ and His Redeemed.*) Ezekiel's Temple is a literal temple, so is the City a literal city. Both will be built in the very near future. **The Temple of Ezekiel is as real and as tangible as the Tabernacle of Moses, Solomon's Temple and Herod's Temple.** However, contrary to popular belief, **the Holy City, New Jerusalem is not a literal city that has a literal temple in it.** Some even believe (or fantasize) that it is a literal city hanging or floating above the city of Jerusalem. The fact is that the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** is nothing less than the Glorified Spiritual body of the people of God who have been redeemed throughout the ages since Adam was created until the time Death is destroyed by Jesus Christ (Y'shua the Messiah) Who would then hand back to God the Father (Yahweh) the authority that was invested in Him, and be subject unto God, that God may be all in all (1 Cor.15:24-28).

## ONE RIVER

From our study thus far, we have notice that **a river** played an important part in the settings of both the **Garden of Eden** and the **Millennial Temple**. The **river** brought **life** to everything around it. In the "*Garden of Eden*" scene, **a river** flowed **eastward** from Eden to water the Garden and from thence it parted into four heads. This river cut through the middle of the Garden where the **Tree of Life** was presented and it brought life to all the living things in the Garden, from mankind down to the tiniest of flora. Wherever its **water** flowed there was life. As it left the

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

Garden to the 'four corners of the world' outside, its *nutrients* also sustained all the living things around it. Adam and his Wife *ate* of the natural trees and *drank* of the natural water to sustain themselves naturally, but they *ate* of the **spiritual Tree of Life** and *drank* of the **spiritual Water of the Word of Life** which were *in the midst* of the Garden to sustain themselves spiritually. And in the "Millennial Temple" scene, **a river** also flowed **eastward**. Ezekiel saw **waters** issued forth towards the *east* from under the threshold, from the south side of the altar. The waters became deeper with every measurement of a thousand cubits, and on the banks of the river were **very many trees**. Like the river in the beginning, this **river** was also **full of life** — a double waters, for it not only came from a mountain source (fresh spring) but it also came from where the **Tree of Life** (the **Shekinah Glory of the Lord**) was presented. It came from the Temple ground. The waters gave life wherever it flowed as it moved *eastward* towards the Dead Sea. There would be a great multitude of fishes thriving in these waters. Except for certain swampy and marshy areas which would be given to salt, the Dead Sea would be healed and every kind of fishes which are found in the Mediterranean Sea would be found in it. (The fishes in these waters could only be the result of the geographical upheaval in fulfillment of the prophecy in Zechariah 14:1-8.) It would be a great place for fishermen. (Read Ezekiel 47:1-11.)

*"And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine."*  
— Ezekiel 47:12

Yes, the natural **river** would be so **full of waters of life** that there would be no lack of fruits growing upon the trees, and because of the healing properties of the waters, the leaves of these trees would also possess medicinal values. Likewise, spiritually, **from the Throne of the Temple, the Lord's Christ would issue forth His Word of Life like waters flowing all over the earth**, and *"the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea"* (Isa.11:9; Hab.2:14). The King of kings and the Lord of lords shall rule the earth with a rod of iron (Rev.12:5; cf. Mic.4:1-4, Isa.2:2-4) such that the natural and mortal man may be **regenerated** under His Laws and His Righteousness. *"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit"*

(Jer.17:7-8). Truly, those who trust and obey the Laws of the Lord during His Reign of a thousand years will live forever, but the days of the rebellious shall be cut short.

### **THE AGE OF REGENERATION — THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST**

The *Age of Regeneration* will move towards an Edenic condition (which will be in the *Eternal Age* — the New Heaven and New Earth) by bringing about a change all over the earth as prophesied in Isaiah 11:1-10 and 65:18-25:

*“And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice’ den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.”*

*“But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be*

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

*accursed. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord."*



Satan and his hordes of demons will be bound during this thousand years as Christ brings about a **'new creation'** upon the earth (Rev.20:1-3). The ordinary natural life and living conditions on the earth will continue in this period. But all nations will come under the rule of Christ and there will be peace and safety throughout the whole earth. While the Lord's Christ will rule from Jerusalem over His people, Israel, and over all the nations of the earth, His Redeemed and Glorified People (His Wife) will rule with Him in their various places of authority all over the earth. The Gentile saints will rule the country from which they were taken (Matt.19:28; Rev.3:21). During this period, the natural people who are the subjects of the kingdom shall give birth to children to *replenish* the earth (cf. Ezek.47:22). There will be **no death from aging** but disciplinary action will be taken against rebellious sinners. Those who commit a sin worthy of death will be executed. Poisonous creatures will be rendered harmless and wild animals will eat grass. Mankind will gradually revert to eating herbs and fruits of the earth. *"And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles"* (Zech.14:16-19). Yes, **"The Lord Is There"** in Jerusalem (Ezek.48:35). And **Life** shall flow from there because the Shekinah Glory of the Lord dwells there in Jerusalem. Blessed be the Name of the Lord!

## SHADOWS OF REALITIES

Thus far, we have seen that God had chosen **one locality** upon this earth where His Presence was manifested since the beginning of Man. That place was **Israel**. It was also called Palestine, Canaan, and even the Garden of Eden. However, on the whole Land of Israel God had chosen **only One Place** to put His Name, and that place was the **City of Jerusalem** where a **House** was built for **His habitation** on **Mount Zion**. Now, all these natural earthly things and places reflect the reality of **Spiritual Things and Places**. *"Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest?"* (Acts 7:48-49; cf. Heb.8:1-2,5-6). Since Adam and Eve were created both **spiritual** and **natural**, God had to deal with them in both realms. They had to eat of the **spiritual food** from the **Tree of Life** as well as the **natural food** from the **natural trees**. However, the children of Israel, a nation of God's chosen people and descendants of spiritual Abraham (to whom God chose to reveal the Heavenly City) were **carnal minded**. They were looking for an earthly kingdom and were seeking earthly blessings and a natural redemption. But, spiritual Israel, the true seed of Abraham, looked for a spiritual redemption of the whole man – spirit, soul and body – that he might put on immortality. **Truly, natural minded people look for natural things whereas spiritual minded people look for spiritual things**. Hence, all that were spoken of and manifested in the natural were *shadows* of the reality of spiritual things and places.

If God had chosen to put **His Name in a House (Temple) in Jerusalem**, how much more would He put **His Holy Name in a Body**, that is, **Jesus the House**, Who will stand **in the midst of the Heavenly Holy City of Jerusalem**, which is **the Spiritual (Heavenly) Body of His Redeemed**. **Before the foundation of the world, God had already chosen one place to put His Name. That place is HIS WORD. (THE WORD is The Anointing – The Christ – which issued forth from The Spirit of God to reveal Himself – Jhn.1:1; cf. Exod.23:20-21.)** He had put **His Name – YAHweh** — in **His Word – YAHshua** (Psm.68:4). *"And the Word was made flesh"* (Jhn.1:14). Yes, almost two thousand years ago, **The Word** became **Flesh** and took the same **Name** — *"thou shalt call his name YAHshua"* (Matt.1:21). **God had put His Redemptive Name in THE HOUSE OF FLESH, the Son of God.** Yes, God and Christ are **One** (not **Two**) — *"I and my Father are one"* (Jhn.10:30; cf. 14:10-11).

Now, **the Son of God was the TABERNACLE OF GOD. He was the fulfillment of the 'humble' Tabernacle of Moses when He came to**

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

serve, and was the 'lordly' Temple of Solomon when He was glorified (Heb.8:2,5; 9:11,24). We are also His Tabernacle, His Body, which was broken for us. We are His '**NEW TESTAMENT TABERNACLE**'. *"For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people"* (2 Cor.6:16b). That was why He came in the form of the Spirit on the *Day of Pentecost* and indwelt the believers. He is the **Head** over His own **Church** (Body) for God *"hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all"* (Eph.1:22; cf. 4:15; 5:23; Col.1:18; 1 Pet.2:6-8; 1 Cor.3:16-17). There is **One Body** but **many members**. He is the **Temple** (Sanctuary proper) and we are the **Tabernacle** (Building).

The Tabernacle of Moses and the Temple of Solomon *foreshadowed* Christ Jesus and His Body of believers in the *Grace Age of Redemption*. But God is not just building a Building; He is building a **City**. Jesus said: *"In My Father's house are many mansions"* (Jhn.14:2a cf. Eph.2:19; 1 Cor.12:12,20). The word "house" carries these meanings: *"family, residence, household, resting (dwelling) place"*. In other words, *"In My Father's residence (or household) are many abodes."* Simply, *"In My Father's city are many houses (buildings)"*. The Scriptures clearly state that God had put His Name in a House (Temple) in Jerusalem. In the **Age of Regeneration**, His Name would remain there forever because *"The Lord Is There"* in the **Millennial Temple** in Jerusalem. This setting *foreshadows God in Christ* (*"the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple"* – Rev.21:22) **in the redeemed** (the Holy City, New Jerusalem) in the New Heaven and New Earth. And since the days of the Acts of the Apostles the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** has been progressively taking shape. After the **Sure Foundation Stone** (whose **House** was **Yahweh**) was laid in **Zion** (1 Pet.2:6-8; cf. 1 Sam.28:16), and the **Shekinah Glory** returned on the *Day of Pentecost*, more dwelling places (houses) were built as the Spirit breathed life into the 120 disciples, the 3,000 converts, and many more. They were all **lively stones** being built up as **spiritual houses**, and set up in the **Heavenly Holy City** (1 Pet.2:5; Rev.3:12). Notice. ***The old city, Jerusalem was built of earthly stones by the hands of men for men, but the Holy City, New Jerusalem is built of spiritual stones by the hands of God for God.*** Yes, the Temple reflects Christ Jesus Who was the first building set up in the Holy City, New Jerusalem, which City comprises all the Redeemed of the Lord. Hence, the words of the Lord Jesus: *"In My Father's residence are many abodes (or buildings). If it were not true I would have told you so, for I am going to prepare a place for you. And when I go and make ready a place for you, I will return and take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also"*

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

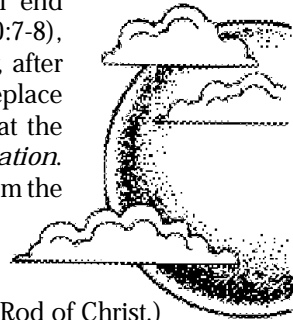
(Jhn.14:2-3, paraphrase mine). And the words of the prophets, Isaiah and Zechariah: *“And the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence [Heb: chuppah — covering, defence, protection]”* (Isa.4:5); *“Thus saith the Lord of hosts; I was jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I was jealous for her with great fury. Thus saith the Lord; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the holy mountain”* (Zech.8:2-3). Hallelujah! **“The Lord Is There”** forever in **His Redeemed**, the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** — *“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the **Temple of It**”* (Rev.21:22).

### NEW HEAVEN, NEW EARTH, NEW JERUSALEM

*“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.”*

– Revelation 21:1 cf. 21:5

After the natural people of the earth have been regenerated by the Word, the *Millennial Age of Regeneration* will end with a final testing of the inhabitants (Rev.20:7-8), followed by the *Great White Throne Judgment*, after which a **NEW HEAVEN** and a **NEW EARTH** will replace the present ones (2 Pet.3:5-7). (Remember that the Millennial Reign of Christ is an *Age of Regeneration*. Through that one thousand years God will redeem the earth and restore all things to the character of the original creation. God will remove all traces of sins through Christ and His (Bride-)Wife, and mankind will be taught the Ways of God by the Rod of Christ.)



With the **New Heaven** and **New Earth**, God will make **all things new**. The heaven (sky, atmosphere) will be completely cleansed of all its corruptions, such as putrid gases, destructive chemical agents, and every foul and polluting substance that exists in the air. The geographical surface of the earth will be completely altered. The large seas (oceans) of waters covering about 71% of the earth will cease to be there leaving only rivers, lakes and small seas of waters. Most surface waters will return to the firmament of the heaven to swaddle the earth (like a garment) to cool the earth as it was in the days before *“the fountains of the great deep”* were broken up and *“the windows (floodgates) of heaven were opened”* in the generation of Noah (Gen.7:11). There will be no city with the infrastructure

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

of buildings, roads, etc. crowded with millions of people in it. Man-made things which destroy the environment one way or another will never exist in the **Eternal Age** of the New Heaven and New Earth. No man will live unto himself and for himself, for such was the cause which led to the Fall. Man will be one with the environment and be in harmony with all the creations of God. Nature and its products will be the essence of all life. Everything will exist according to the laws of the **Tree of Life**. No seed of discrepancy will ever exist again as it did in the days of Adam and Eve.

Yes, the whole earth will be a paradise, a delight, an **Eden** to the Lord God Almighty. The most beautiful and glorious thing that John saw was the **NEW JERUSALEM, the Holy City of God**. Beloved, note that **whatever the New Earth will be, the HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM will occupy a pre-eminent place in the Eternal Age**. All things will revolve around it, for she is the fulfillment of **God's Ultimate Intention — His Family — born of His Ultimate Conception — the Monogene, the (Seed)Word — in the beginning**. "*At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you*" (Jhn.14:20).

*"And I John saw the **holy city, new Jerusalem**, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."*  
— Revelation 21:2

As we have realized, the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** is the **Redeemed People of all ages** since the time of Adam right up to the end of the *Great White Throne Judgement*. And **all these Redeemed People have Glorified Bodies**. Just as a bride is prepared for her husband, so are the Redeemed also beautifully prepared from the very beginning of time to be the *Spiritual* Tabernacle of God. Now, this is the "*very city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God*" that Abraham, the Father of our Faith had looked for. It will be completed *after* the *Great White Throne Judgement*. And after the New Heaven and New Earth are created, God will set the City upon the New Earth.

## BRIDE OF CHRIST — LAMB'S WIFE

At this juncture, let me stress an important point concerning the **FAITH-relationship** of the **Chosen** and **Redeemed People** of God with God, their **Redeemer**. As a nation of chosen people, **Israel** was considered a **Bride of the Lord** (Isa.62:5; Jer.3:8). In the *Gospel Dispensation*, the **Christians** (the Church and Body of Christ) are also a **Bride of the Lord**. Both were united as **one** in the Cross of Jesus Christ. Read Ephesians 2-3. The building and making of the **Holy City, New Jerusalem**, the (Bride-) Wife of the Lord, began when **THE SURE FOUNDATION STONE** was laid upon



the Cross at Calvary. However, the **houses** in this **New Jerusalem** are set up in stages. (Remember that this **Holy City** will appear *only* in the **Eternal Age of the New Heaven and New Earth**, and *not* before that. It will not even be found in the *Age of Regeneration*.) All those who are to be redeemed and given **Glorified Bodies**, whether they lived *before* or *after* the Cross, are **the called out ones** and are known by different names: *Disciples of Jesus, Church, Body of Christ, Elect, Chosen, Saints, Beloved of God, etc.* However, because Adam and Eve were set as a *type* of Christ and the Redeemed in the Garden of Eden, the term **Bride of Christ**, or the **Lamb's Wife**, is most suitably used to describe the relationship.

Now, the **focus** of any (ancient) city is its king's palace. In this case, it is the **Temple and Tabernacle**. Therefore, the Temple (Grk: *naos*, sanctuary proper) must first be built followed by the Tabernacle (Grk: *skene*, the whole building). Then, other houses are built around it (cf. Num.2). Thus, according to Saint Paul, even the **resurrection of the saints** will take place in phases: **"But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming"** (1 Cor.15:23; cf. Rom.12:4; Rev.14:4). Now notice: prior to his visions of the **Holy City** (in Revelation 21), the Apostle John did *not* see the **Holy City** in Heaven. However, he saw the *most important building* of that Holy City in Heaven — **the Temple of the Tabernacle of God** (Rev.11:19a; 15:5,8a). This points to **Christ** (the *Temple*) being in the **Redeemed** (the *Tabernacle*) in Heaven. But **this group** of the Redeemed are only the **"firstfruits" of Christ** who are harvested out of the field of the world, for they are **one** with **THE WORD** in their days. **"For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches"** (Rom.11:16). **These are the chosen members of His Body who heard what the Spirit of the Lord had said in their days. They believed and received the Promised Word of God. They are the Spirit-filled ones. We can say that they are the "wise" believers of every age who lived and walked in the Word all the way. They are truly one with the Word, and the Glory of the Lord God is in them.** Hence, they are the **only group** of people who will be given **"fine linen, clean and white"** upon their resurrection to go into the **Grand Marriage Supper of the Lamb** in Heaven.

*"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and*

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

*white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.*”  
– Revelation 19:6-9

While the members of the (Bride-)Wife of the Lamb (the “*blessed*” ones mentioned in Revelation 19:9) rejoice in the Final Grand *Marriage Supper of the Lamb* in Heaven, the people on the earth below enter into the period of the final week of Daniel’s prophecy of *Seventy Weeks* (Dan.9:27). Among the people



left behind on this earth will be many members of the Body of Christ who have refused, or have failed, to hear, believe and receive the *Message of God* for this age. They failed to walk in the **Light of the Word** because they did *not* carry **oil** (Holy Spirit) in their vessels to *feed* their **lamps** (life and testimony of their faith) in preparation to meet their Lord. Because they have failed to cloth themselves with **THE SPIRIT** and **THE WORD**, they will *not* be granted to be arrayed in “*fine linen, clean and white*”. Thus, they will *not* be caught away in the ‘*rapture*’ for the Grand *Marriage Supper of the Lamb*. This group of Christians are the **Foolish Virgins** spoken of by Jesus Christ in His parable in Matthew 25:1-13. They will be left behind because of their **foolish attitude** towards the **Word of Truth**. They are *not* the denominational **tares**, for the tares are ordained for the burning. They are those who have heard the messages of separation and of Christ’s return and have separated from **Church-ism** and its system. They are the *separatists*, the *independents* and even the so-called *Endtime Message believers*. But like the Sadducees, they are *carnal* minded and are *unwilling* to come to grips with the **Sacred Scriptures** and to acknowledge the **Word of Truth** (Matt.22:29). They just hold on to their religious beliefs and teachings of their churches. They would even compromise with the spirit of error just to please certain people. Truly, **their white robes are stained with carnalities, false doctrines and teachings, but they do not know it**. Therefore, they will need to be *purged* in the *Great Tribulation* and give their lives as a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ (Rev.7:9-17; cf. Eph.5:27). And after the *Great Tribulation*, the multitude of **martyred Christians** will be resurrected together with the **martyred Jews** who had faithfully held the testimony of the Word of Yahweh (Rev.20:1-5, cf. 6:9-11). Both groups will present themselves before the Thrones of Christ and all those *raptured* “*blessed*” saints. Then, as **One Body and Bride**, they will *all reign* with Christ *a thousand years*. Hence, the Apostle John wrote: “*Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the **first resurrection**: on such the second death*

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

*hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years” (Rev.20:6).*

Yes, “*the second death hath no power*” over those who shall be raised to life in the **First Resurrection**, for all the souls in this resurrection will receive immortal life and will *not* be judged nor condemned. They will all be worthy to put on a **Glorified Body** and be a part of the Body and Wife of the Lord Jesus Christ to rule with Him for a thousand years. And **after the thousand years, the rest of the dead would be raised and be judged at the Great White Throne**. Read Revelation 20:11-15 and Daniel 7:9-10. This is the resurrection which the Apostle Paul sought to avoid, when he said: “*If by any means I might attain to the ‘out-resurrection’ (or earlier resurrection) from among the dead*” (Phil.3:11, Greek text). He sought to be part of the First Resurrection because “**Blessed and Holy is he who hath part in the first resurrection, on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ and they shall reign with Him a thousand years.**” **In the Second Resurrection, the Second Death will have the power to claim life** as it is stated that “*whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*” But “*whosoever*” whose name **is** found written in the “**Book of Life**” is given Eternal Life. **This is a fact that none can deny.** This is the resurrection where *two groups* of people will stand in judgement, and one group shall be given eternal life and the other shall face the second death. This is the **general resurrection** which Jesus spoke about when He said: “*Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation*” (Jhn.5:28-29). The dead are judged “*according to their works*” which are recorded in the “**books of works**” which Apostle John saw open at the **Great White Throne Judgement** (Rev.20:12-13) and all those whose names are not written in the **Book of Life** would then be cast into the Lake of fire.

## ELECTION

But who are those people whose names are written in the **Book of Life**? They are those **Elected Ones** who had a certain **FAITH-relationship** with **God** and **His Word**. A good example was Cornelius, a devout Gentile, who definitely did not worship idols, but one who feared God (see Acts 10). As a Gentile, he obviously did not know about the God of Abraham, otherwise he would have been circumcised and be a proselyte of Judaism. Yet, God showed His Grace to Cornelius and gave him the Gospel. Cornelius was indeed a blessed person. For others who do not have this

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

privilege, either because they lived outside the scope of Bible lands, or Bible time, **God's election** will still stand (Rom.9:11 cf. 11:2-8). Read Genesis 18:25; Proverbs 11:18-19,30; 14:32; Psalms 58:11 and 112:5-7. However, among those who have that **FAITH-relationship** with God, many will still have their names *removed* or *blotted out*, for some have turned from God to idols (Exod.32:30-34; Ezek. 3:20; 18:24,26; 33:18), others have rejected the very Messiah that they claimed they believed (Psm.69:21-28), and those who, in the process of time, would reject the Word of Truth and pay homage to the Beast or its Image (Rev.13:8). Consider these words of Jesus: "*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity*" (Matt.7:21-23).

Those whose names are not blotted out are *like* those "*sheep*" people (described in Matthew 25:31-46) whom our Gracious Lord Jesus will *judge* at the end of the *Great Tribulation*, and give them *Life* to enter into the *Age of Regeneration*. Remember that these righteous souls who stand in the **Great White Throne Judgement** are **not Holy Ghost Filled Christians of the Church Ages** (otherwise they would have followed the Message for their ages and be resurrected together with the Endtime living saints at the Coming of Christ), **nor** are they **Holy People like Moses, Abraham, Sarah in the Old Testament time who had a deep and intimate FAITH-relationship with God and were led by the Word and Spirit of God.**

Now, consider this question of Paul: "**Have ye received the Holy Ghost SINCE you believed?**" (Acts 19:2). Notice that Paul was addressing the **believers** of the Gospel. Truly, there were many Gospel believers like them throughout the ages, who had never received the Holy Spirit. They **believed** the Gospel, **repented** of their sins, and were **sanctified** by the Spirit, but **did not have the INDWELLING PRESENCE of the Holy Spirit** (cf. Jhn.14:17; Mk.1:15; Jhn.1:12-13; 20:31; Rom.10:8-13). Without the *indwelling presence* of the Spirit, many were as carnal as Hymenaeus, Philetus and Alexander. They wandered away from the Truth and blasphemed God (1 Tim.1:20; 2 Tim.2:17 cf. Heb.10:38-39; 1 Cor.3:1). Yes, like Judas Iscariot, many were **anointed**; like the worshippers of old who offered sacrifices for their sins, many were **justified**; and like a filthy vessel made clean, many were **sanctified**; *but* they have *not* received the Holy Spirit. They were *not* filled with the Holy Spirit. Therefore they will all be judged "**according to their works**" (cf. 1 Cor.10:11-15), and

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

**“whosoever”** was found written in the **“Book of Life”** would be given Eternal Life *“that the purpose of the election of God might stand.”* And this group that is **redeemed** and given eternal life will also have **immortal bodies**. They will be a part of that **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** as is revealed in Paul’s words: *“But ye are come unto Mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the **general assembly** [Grk: paneguris – **all-assembly**] and church [Grk: ekklesia] of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect”* (Heb.12: 22-23). Amen.

### **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM — THE TABERNACLE OF GOD**

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

*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.*

*And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

*And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.*

*And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.*

*He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*

*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.*

*And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee **the bride, the Lamb’s wife**.*

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

*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,"* – Revelation 21:2-10

Time, as we know it, will end when the ***Eighth Day*** (*Eternal Age*) begins, but earthly seasons as governed by the sun, moon and stars will continue according to the courses which God had set for them since the beginning when He created and made them (Gen.1:14-18). The **NEW HEAVEN and NEW EARTH** will replace the present ones. God will make **all things new**. The **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM**, which is the (Bride-) **Wife of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ**, will come down out of Heaven from God to the New Earth. **Within her dwells the Almighty God. She is the Tabernacle of God, the Holy City of God.** The Shekinah Glory of the Eternal One dwelling in His First Begotten, Who dwells in His Redeemed and Glorified People, brings the whole of His Heavenly City upon the New Earth that He may dwell with a people. This **Holy City, New Jerusalem**, which Abraham had looked for, started with a **Sure Foundation Stone**, Jesus Christ, Who was the Temple of Almighty God. Then, **lively stones** were collected and **houses** built around It. More **houses** were built to form the **City** which was called the **Body of Christ**. Paul called It the **Bride of Christ**. However, Jesus simply called it **"My Father's house"**.

What the Patriarch Abraham looked for, the Apostle John saw it. Yes, the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** will be completed when the *Eighth Day* dawns. And **God will tabernacle in It and live among the natural people and be "their God"**. This *natural people* comprises those who will be redeemed out of the earth for they will not succumb to the deception of Satan after his release at the end of the *Millennial Age of Regeneration*. Because of their faithfulness and obedience to the Law of the Righteous One, they will be saved from the fire of the wrath of God which shall be poured upon those who shall join forces with Satan to rebel and lay siege against the saints of God and His beloved city, the earthly Jerusalem. As nations of faithful and obedient people, they will be granted to live eternally in the New Heaven and New Earth. Read Revelation 20:7-10; 21:24,26; 22:2. Hence, **there will be two types of people living in the New Earth: the Redeemed Saints with Glorified Bodies, who will make up the Holy City, and the Redeemed People of the Age of Regeneration with Natural Bodies.**

The Apostle John was carried away in the spirit to **"a great and high mountain"** to see that Heavenly Great City, the Holy Jerusalem, just as Prophet Ezekiel was carried in his spirit (in his days) to **"a very high mountain"** where he was shown the Temple and the City of David

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

(Ezek.40:2). Recall that this term signifies **a supreme position of great authority and awe. This is the great heavenly position that the Glorified Wife of Christ shall sit with Christ, for the Almighty God and the Lamb will dwell in her** (cf. Eph.1:3,19; 2:6). Yes, as a **Queen** she will sit, even as she will sit with Christ in the *Age of Regeneration*. The Word of the Lord is clear when it stated that the **Holy City, New Jerusalem is “the bride, the Lamb’s wife”**. And we know that “*the bride, the Lamb’s wife*” is *the Redeemed and Glorified Saints of Christ*. No, beloved, do not for a moment think that the Holy City, New Jerusalem is a *literal* city. **God does not live in a house made with hands**. Read Mark 14:58, 2 Corinthians 5:1-2, Hebrews 9:11 and 10:5. Ask yourself these questions: *How could a literal city be the Lamb’s Wife? Does not the Scriptures clearly teach that the Elect are the Bride of the Lamb? God is a Spirit. He is Holy and dwells in Light.* God does not need a literal house, or city, to live in or else He would have built one in the Garden of Eden in the beginning. Some may feel that the Holy City, New Jerusalem is a literal city of mansions created for the Saints to live in. But *what use is a mansion of gold with several rooms to a Glorified Saint? Is there really such a need for it when the Saints themselves possess a far better body than the Angelic beings, a body like our Lord Jesus Christ, which is spiritual and is not bound by the elements of the earth? Think: did Adam and Eve need to live in a house made with hands before the Fall?*

Now, **all examples in the Old Testament followed the Heavenly patterns**. They were *shadows* of the Heavenly things (Heb.8:5). Hence, the Heavenly New Jerusalem, the Wife of the Lamb of God, the Tabernacle of God is the House (the Abode) of God! Amen. Through her the Almighty God will live among the natural people in the New Earth “*and be their God*”. And there will be no more sorrow, crying, pain or death.

### ITS GLORY

**“Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;”**

– Revelation 21:11

As *foreshadowed* in the Tabernacle of Moses and the Temple of Solomon, the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** will also have the **Glory of God** in her. **The Glory of God is God’s Word**. And It is given unto her for a covering. Yes, **Christ the Word is given unto the Saints for a Covering, a Defence and a Protection**.

Let me interject here the importance of the *prophetic invitation* which John wrote in Revelation 22:17: “**And the Spirit and the Bride say, Come.**”

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

*And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*” We know that **THE WORD AND THE SPIRIT ARE ONE** (Jhn.6:63; Eph.6:17). Notice, it is *not* stated that “*the Spirit and the Word say, Come*”, but rather “*the Spirit and the Bride say, Come*”. Now, where is the **Word**? Is **It** not **in** the **Bride**? If the **Bride** has the **Word**, then she has to be **One** with the **Word** in order that she can be called the **Wife of the Lamb**. Yes, the **Bride** has to get into the “**chuppah**” (Hebrew for “**marriage chamber**”) **of the Word and be One with Christ, the Word Himself**. This is the evening time. The invisible union of the Heavenly Word (-Groom) and the Earthly Bride must now take place and that they be **one**. The **Bride** must carry the **Word** to fulfill this prophetic words: “*And the Spirit and the Bride say, Come.*” Now, since the *revelation* of this Mystery of the Holy City, New Jerusalem has already been made known, what time are we at now? Yes, even now this prophetic utterance is becoming a reality as the **Word** and **Bride** become **One**. Are you a part of the Bride (-**Wife**)?

The Apostle John noticed that “*her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal*”. This signifies that there is **no** flaw, defilement, evil, nor spot of any kind in the Lamb’s Wife. Obviously, for she is **One** with the **Word**. She has received the **Seed of the Word** and is **Fruitful**. What’s more, It is a light, clear as crystal, that penetrates deep into the recesses of her soul and spirit (cf. Heb.4:12). She is beautiful, precious, valuable and attractive in the eyes of her Lord, Master and God.

### ITS DIMENSION

*“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:*

*On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.*

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

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

*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.*



## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

*And he measured the wall thereof, **an hundred and forty and four cubits**, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.”*  
– Revelation 21:12-17

The **great and high wall** of any literal city is built to protect its people from any attack by the enemy as well to keep the enemy out. Spiritually, this *typifies* the Lamb's Wife having **God's Covering, Defence and Protection**, and also the “unclean” who will not have any part in the Holy City of God — “*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. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie*” (Rev.22:14-15).

A “**golden reed**” was used to measure the City, the gates and the wall. The “**golden reed**” was **God's divine yardstick of flawless perfection** — without stain of sin, without deceit, and without misrepresentation. What God had ordained, He carried it out precisely. Now, the wall measured 144 cubits. The number 144 is the *amplification* of the number **12**; *12 times 12* are 144. And the number 12 is an extremely significant number in Scriptures. It is the **number of the chosen ones in relation to governmental perfection**. In the Old Testament, God called the descendants of Abraham, Israel, as a chosen nation of people. In the New Testament, He called sinners, both Jews and Gentiles, to repentance at the Cross of Christ that they might be a chosen body of people — the Church. We find **12 Princes** (for there were **12 tribes** of Israel) and **12 chosen Apostles** who are the foundations of the Church. There are **12 gates** on the wall around the City with the names of the 12 tribes inscribed on them. There are **3 gates on each of the four sides**; north, east, south and west, *signifying that the Redeemed Saints are completely gathered from the four corners of this present earth*. (3 denotes completeness.) But the names of the tribes are *not* mentioned although they will be found on the gates of the (literal) city of Jerusalem in the *Age of Regeneration* (Ezek.48:31-34). This is another fact which proves that the Holy City, New Jerusalem is *not* a literal city with literal gates. The **12 gates** point to the **12 principalities** (the authority of the princes) **of Israel**, for it was unto the children of Israel that the **Oracles Of God** were committed (Acts 7:38; Rom.3:1-2). **The Word** was brought to them through God's prophets. **To be a part of this Holy City, one must enter through its gates for there is no other way to get into God's House, God's Family**. The 12 tribes of Israel had **THE WORD**. Then the 12 Apostles, who were all Jews, was each given a **special “Stone”** for the works they were ordained to do. Being a part of the **Rock of Ages**, they had the “**Rock of Revelation**” concerning **Christ Jesus** Who was the Mystery of

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

God revealed to the world. Their “**Stones**” were strong and solid. Their revelations of **THE WORD** were **true**. And their “**Stones**” formed the **foundations** (or **footings**) of the **Holy City**. (They were laid in such a manner that there was one each between the three gates of each wall and the four corners. Hence, ***the interwoven relationship between the Old and the New Testaments.***) Upon these **foundations** more **houses** were built in the **Holy City** and **God’s Family** was enlarged. Nothing could tear away their **foundations**. They could *not* be destroyed. Their Apostolic revelations of the **Oracles** of God were secured to the **One Sure Foundation Stone — Christ the Word, the Rock of Ages!** (Isa.28:16). Hence, **the number 144, being the amplification of the number 12, signifies that the Elect of God (the Holy City) have the Oracles of God, which were first given to the 12 tribes of Israel, and the foundations of the 12 Apostles. Simply, the Elect of God have the Apostolic Foundation of the Prophetic Word.** Amen.

That the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** is **perfect** and **chosen** of God is again shown by the number 12 in the **measurement** of the **CITY**, which “**lieth foursquare**”, that is, the *length* and the *breadth* are equal, 12,000 furlongs by 12,000 furlongs. The height is also 12,000 furlongs. [Note: The word “*foursquare*” does *not* include the measurement of *height*. Many Christians believe otherwise because of the second statement in Revelation 21:16. Hence, they believe that the Holy City is shaped like a *cube* and give the interpretation that it is thus complete and perfect in God. However, observe what is stated in the first statement: “**And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth**”, that is, ***the City has four equal sides and is square in shape.*** The word “*foursquare*” means “*four sides equal and square in shape*”. It does *not* mean a *cube*. See Exodus 30:2; 37:25; 39:8-9.] In *Bible numerology*, 3 denotes *completeness*, whereas 4 denotes the *earth*. Hence, ***the uniform measurement of length, breadth and height speaks of completeness, and the four equal sides show us that the Lamb’s Wife is redeemed out of the four corners of the earth.*** (Remember the *one river* which split into *four heads* after leaving the Garden of Eden and flowed out into the “world”?)

Now, what does the measurement of *height* of this **City** tell us? Simply this: the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** is *not* a literal city! Have we ever been told of the *height* of any city in the world? The **size** of a city is only measured by the surface **area** it occupies. You just don’t measure its *height*; for how will you measure it? The tallest building? (If so, to what purpose does it serve?) And since the **New Jerusalem** is 12,000 furlongs (about 1,500 miles) high, is the measurement that of the tallest building? Of course, not!

Therefore, ***the dimension of its length, breadth and height shows us the volume of its size, giving us an idea of the large number who are redeemed and clothed with Glorified Bodies.*** (Notice the number of times the number 12,000 is used — **3 times 12,000.** This tells us of the ***completeness of the Holy City and the perfection of God's control, rule or government.***) However, for those who insist that the Holy City is literal, and looks like a cube, and that it will either replace the city of Jerusalem or hang over it, consider the size of the City: 12,000 furlongs by 12,000 furlongs (or 1,500 miles by 1,500 miles). The city of Jerusalem in Biblical time was roughly 1¼ miles by 1 mile. Today it is roughly 7 miles by 6 miles. In the *Age of Regeneration*, the city will measure 12 miles by 12 miles. If the Holy City, in the New Heaven and New Earth, is literal, how will it fit into the locality of the Land of Israel? Of course it can't, because the actual boundary of the land will no longer exist in the New Earth. That ought to tell us something. Then again, what about the *height* of the City? With its height of about 1,500 miles, some 500 miles of it will be sticking out of the earth's atmosphere. And would the "*throne of God and of the Lamb*" (Rev.22:1) be somewhere in that highest area of the City? Beloved, do not forget that the natural people in the New Earth do *not* have supernatural bodies. They will be like Adam and Eve before their fall. They will need oxygen to breathe. (Without special equipment, breathing is already impossible even at an altitude of 10 miles. Air thins out with increase altitude.) Hence, how are they going to approach the Throne of the Lord in that great height? Now, some of you may be childish enough to think that God could do this or do that to make things possible, like increasing the height of the atmosphere. Yes, that is possible, but God does *not* break His ordained order of things which He has already created perfectly "*good*" as recorded in the *Book of Genesis*. Every star, every planet and everything in the whole universe has been perfectly set on course with its weight and volume perfectly measured out (Job 28:24-27; Isa.40:12). God never makes mistake. He's a Great Scientist. Therefore, God does *not* have to alter the weight and volume of anything which He has already created upon the earth.

Now, in a given dimension of any city there is no measurement of its *height*. The **height** of the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** is given to draw our attention to the shape of the **Pyramid**. Now, the Pyramid is the only structure that has a **Headstone** besides the **Cornerstone**. The Headstone is the '**Capping Stone**' (or **Capstone**) on the top of the Pyramid. The **Great Pyramid of Giza** was never capped with the Headstone. [According to the *Pyramidologists*, some of the descendants of Seth, probably in the generation of Enoch, who migrated to Egypt and were called the '*shepherd kings*' by the Egyptians, were the builders of the *Great Pyramid of Giza* in

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

Egypt. It was not built to be a tomb. (The Egyptians later copied the structure and built pyramids for the purposes of worship and entombment of their dead Pharaohs.) They believe that the *Great Pyramid* is the Gospel of God in stones. The detailed structures inside that pyramid tell the **“Gospel Story”** of the *Prince of Darkness* and his *Bottomless Pit*, of the *Fall of mankind*, of the *Call of a Chosen People*, Israel, being the Queen of the One Who has chosen her, of the *Law Age*, of the *Grace (Gospel) Age*, of the *Risen King*, of *His Coming Judgement*, and *etc.* The four equal sides of the *Great Pyramid* were covered with casing stones which reflected the light of the sun like polished glass.] Consider these Scriptures:

*“Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious **corner stone**, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.”*

– Isaiah 28:16

*“Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Zion a **chief corner stone**, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.”*

– 1 Peter 2:6

*“Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the **stone** which the builders disallowed, the same is made the **head** of the **corner**, And a **stone** of stumbling, and a **rock** of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.”*

– 1 Peter 2:7-8 (cf. Psm.118:22; Matt.21:42; Isa.8:14)

*“Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the **headstone** thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.”*

– Zechariah 4:7

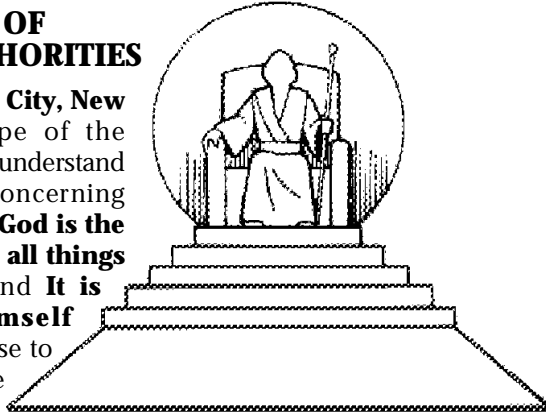
Architecturally the **‘Capstone’ on the top of the Pyramid is the only corner stone which binds together all the other corners as well as the walls of the structure. Hence, the “Head of the corner” and the “Chief corner stone”**. Christ Jesus is *not* just the **Foundational Corner Stone**, He is also the **Head Stone**. (The word “chief corner stone” is “akrogoniaios” in Greek, where “akron” means the “highest, extreme, tip, top, uttermost part” and “gonia” means “corner, angle”.) **It is in this Rock that we as lively stones are built as a habitation of God. He is the One Who binds our lives together as a whole:** “And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the **chief corner stone**; In whom all the **building fitly framed together** groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for **an habitation of God** through the Spirit” (Eph.2:20-22). Yes,

the **Stone** has become a **great and high Mountain** (cf. Dan.2). [Notice that a mountain looks like a pyramid, and *not* a cube. A pyramidal structure is very stable. Its cannot be pushed or moved out of shape. A cube is not so. If one of its sides is pushed it will no longer be a cube.]

## THE ECHELON OF RULES AND AUTHORITIES

Looking at the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** in the shape of the **PYRAMID**, we begin to understand the mystery of God concerning **Himself**. **The Word of God is the pivotal point in which all things evolve and consist, and It is hidden in God Himself** (Jhn.1:1-4). And He chose to **reveal** the Mystery of the Hidden Word **in His**

Only Begotten Son, the **Lord Jesus Christ** (Col.1:15-19). **Christ the Lord is God's ultimate conception by which God's ultimate intention is to dwell in a Spiritual Tabernacle of People as well as to dwell with a natural people upon the earth.** God wants a **House** and He wants a **Family**. And it is in and through the **Headstone** that He seeks to bring about that **House** and **Family** for Himself.



Of the pyramidal structure, it is certainly the great *archetype* of the *finished Holy City* and is *symbolic* of our Lord and His Wife as the *government* of the New Earth. We cannot help but recognize that Yahweh, the Founder and Builder, has designed and ordained a **divine echelon** of rules and authorities within His **Holy City, New Jerusalem**. Though all the saints are God's children, yet each of them is rewarded differently. Whatever the position a saint is placed, it is his, or her, reward according to the order of the scheme as *predestinated by the foreknowledge of God*. "*For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office*" (Rom.12:4). Basically, all classes of saints are ranked according to their standing with **THE WORD of God** of Whom they have to give an account (Matt.18:23; Rom.14:12; 1 Cor.3:8,11-15; Rev.22:12). Hence, what do we see within the echelon of rules and authorities? At the **Apex** of the **pyramidal echelon** we see **Christ, the Head Stone**. He is the **Peak** of the **"great and high mountain"**. And together with the natural people upon the New Earth, we must all look up to Him with reverence, for by Him will

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

the earth be redeemed unto the Father. The level below the Peak will be the **“Four and Twenty Elders”** followed by the **‘First Class’ Saints – the Church of the Firstborn – of each Church Age**. Obviously the **“Foolish Virgins”** and the **“Faithful Jews”**, who will die for their faith in the *Great Tribulation*, should be in the next level in the echelon. Those of the **“General Assembly”** who will be given Eternal Life at the *Great White Throne Judgement* in the Second Resurrection will occupy the lowest level of the echelon.

## BABYLON THE GREAT CITY

Saints, if we have the Truth and have been continually walking in the Light of God, we would have recognized what Satan, the Adversary of God, has been doing throughout the ages since the beginning of Man. Whatever God does, Satan *impersonates*. By so doing he seeks to confuse mankind and trap them in the false hope of salvation. In the days after the Flood, he inspired Cush and his son, Nimrod, to build a **city** and a **religious tower** to keep the people from migrating. The city is in the Land of Shinar (Gen.10: 8-10; 11:1-4). It was called **Babel**, or **Babylon** as is now commonly known. **Nimrod** was **Satan’s headstone** in his religious building within the literal city of Babel. Of course, what Satan had done was not a coincidence. He must have known to a certain degree what God had planned to do. God chose a people (Israel) to inherit a land (Canaan) with a city (Jerusalem) where the centre of worship (Tabernacle of God) was located. Observe that **Satan’s religion was in the city of Babylon and God’s religion was in the city of Jerusalem**. But these two cities were *types* of the spiritual cities of **“Mystery, Babylon the Great”** and **“Holy City, New Jerusalem”**, respectively, as prophetically revealed in the *Book of Revelation*.

Bible believers who have the *prophetic revelation* of God’s Holy Word would clearly understand that **“Mystery, Babylon the Great”** refers to that *great antichrist city* of the great Roman Catholic Church and her organisations. It is the *(Bride-)Wife of Satan*. Read Revelation 17-18. To the world, she is called by another name — **Vatican City** (in Rome). How big is this city on earth? Certainly it is *not* restricted to only an area of 1/6 square mile (2/5 square kilometre) with a population of a thousand people. No. She sits on **“many waters” – the millions of faithful citizens around the whole world** – who pledge allegiance to her (Rev.17:1). That’s the **true size** of the so-called **‘Holy City of Rome’**. Unlike the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** which comes down from **Heaven**, the **City of Mystery Babylon** comes up from the **bottomless pit** (Rev.9:2). Being from the bottomless pit this great city has **no foundation** (no bottom, no base) and is **full of filth**. Without

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

a foundation therefore it **does not have any measurement**. This shows that her *many buildings* (the people who trusted in her) have no (real) hope but, for supports and coverings, are just grabbing the air of every wind of doctrine which proceeds from her **headstone**, the **Pope**. Though she has millions upon millions of people in her city, she will one day be destroyed. Read Revelation 18. Since the 4th Century, her *primary aim* has been to *gain power over all nations of the earth*. [Contrary to popular belief, *Communism* is not the main threat to the world, *Catholicism* is. According to Bible prophecies, **the great City of Mystery Babylon would be destroyed by the beast with ten horns — Euro-Communism** (Rev.13: 1-3; 17:16-18; 18:2,10,16,20-21).]

Satan's **Mystery, Babylon the Great**, his so-called "Holy City", is just as '*beautiful*' as God's **Holy City, New Jerusalem**. As the wife of Satan, she is clothed in *fine linen*, purple and scarlet, and decked with gold, precious stones and pearls. Yes, to the eyes of her beholder, she is a real beauty. And Satan tries to pass her off as God's Wife to deceive the Elect. But for the *golden cup* of abominations and filthiness of her fornication in her hand, Satan would have succeeded. But thank God, for He has given us the spirit of revelation to discern the *Jezebel spirit* in the *great Whore, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the earth!* However, all those who have sought *refuge* and *sanctuary* for their souls in this religious *City of Mystery, Babylon the Great* will learn too late that it is nothing but *a cage of unclean birds, a habitation of devils and a hold of every foul spirit*.

### THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF GOD

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

*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;*

*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.*

*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**."*  
– Revelation 21:18-21

Truly, no word could ever describe the beautiful **Holy City of God**. How could it ever be, for its true spiritual beauty could only be felt and

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

understood by the inner man. Hence, beautiful and precious substances were used to describe the Holy City. The Holy City is perfectly built according to the **Heavenly Pattern** in the Mind of God, and there is **no flaw** in the Wife of the Lamb (vv.9,15-17, cf.Deut.32:4; 2 Chr.8:16; Heb.13:21) for she is foreknown of God and predestinated as such (cf.Eph.1; Heb.4:3).

Notice that the wall was jasper. **Pure jasper stone** is translucent or even transparent and clear. Such a wall *reflects* the saints of God as having a **flawless covering** of the Holy Spirit of the Lord, but their lives are **open books** to be read of all men. There is nothing in the saints that needs to be hidden from the eyes of the world. Even the **City** was of *“pure gold, like unto clear glass”* showing us that through **fiery trials** she has been **purged** of every dross until she is as **clear as glass** (cf.1 Cor.3:11-17; 1 Pet.1:7; 2:5). Yes, it is **divinity in the redeemed**. She is **perfect in all her faith**. And with the Glory of God, which is **THE WORD**, the Light shining in and through her would surely blend together as **One Clear Light** (cf.Rev.21:11). Notice also that *“the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.”*

This was exactly the kind of street which the saints had walked upon in their lives and they will continue to walk upon it in the New Earth. Since time immemorial, the **Only (One) Way** to the Heavenly Father has been the One Who is **The Truth, The Life, and The Way**. He is **The Word of God, The Glory of God, and The Golden Street of God**.

**Precious stones** are produced by a process of tremendous pressure, heat and other elements. The brightness and beauty of the **twelve different foundation stones** of various colours of red, blue, white, green, and golden yellow *reflect* the **heavenly and holy characters** of the saints who have been purchased by the **precious blood** of the Son of God, their **eternal praises and divine blessings**. And these are the **Truths** which their **Apostolic Fathers** had taught and even laid down their lives for them. Hence, each of the twelve stones *exemplifies* the beauty and splendor of the sacrificial life of that Apostle.

**Pearl** *symbolizes* suffering under pressure brought about by ‘irritants’. The **twelve gates**, being **twelve pearls**, which represent the **twelve princes of Israel**, have undergone many **sufferings** as they bore the Name and the Word of Yahweh until the appointed time when they shall bring forth the Manchild of the Lord, their Messiah. They suffered many afflictions brought upon them by the Adversary of God of the nations round about them. Under such conditions, they have become **precious and priceless pearls** in God’s sight. Yes, God will always bring out the best in His people through the ‘irritants’ of trials and sufferings inflicted upon them by the enemies.



## THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY CITY

*“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the **temple** of it.”*  
 – Revelation 21:22

Moses, the Deliverer of the children of Israel, was instructed by God to build the **Tabernacle** *according* to the pattern shown to him on the mountain (Ex.25:40; Heb.8:5). From the simple **Tabernacle of Moses**, *it grew in stature through the ages* in the form of the **Temple of Solomon** and what is yet to be seen of the **Temple in the Millennial Reign of Christ**. All these *reflected* the Glory of God in Christ Jesus and in the Saints, thus *fulfilling* the **True Tabernacle, THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM, that was in the Mind of God before the foundation of the world was laid**. Hence, Apostle John saw **no** Temple other than the **Temple** that was **Christ Jesus**, the Lamb of God! **Christ is the Temple of God. God and Christ are One.** Amen! *“The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple”* of the Holy City, New Jerusalem (cf. Jhn.17:20-26).

*“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 21:23

Though the sun, moon and stars exist, the **Glorified Saints**, the **New Jerusalem** do not need their light, for the Lamb of God, the Word of God, the Pillar of Fire, is the **Light** in her. God is Light (1 Jhn.1:5). He dwells in Light (1 Tim.6:16). (Up to this point in our study, we should be convinced by the revelation of the Word that the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** is definitely *not* a literal city but the **Glorified Saints** whom the Lord God dwells in. Spiritual saint could not be so blind as to see it otherwise.) The *“glory of God”* is the **Word of God**, and the **Word is tabernacled in the Lamb who is the Temple of the Holy City**. *“In Him was life; and the life was the light of men... That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world”* (Jhn.1:4,9 cf. 8:12; Isa.60:19; Psm.36:9).

*“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 honour into it.*

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

*And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.”*  
 – Revelation 21:24-26

During the Millennial Reign of Christ, the **Age of Regeneration** (Matt.19:28), the population of the earth would be *replenished* with the

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

descendants of the nations of “*sheep*” people (Matt.25:31-46). These people would have to obey the Law and the Word of the Lord for their cleansing and ‘*de-hybridizing*’ of their fallen nature (cf. Psm.119:9; Jhn.15:3). Immediately after that period of one thousand years, Satan would be released from his prison to try the populace who, for the days of their lives, have never known testing, trial or temptation. Many would reject the Law and the Word of God and join Satan in his rebellion against God to gain power, thus ending up in the Lake of Fire (Rev.20:7-10). The remnant of the nations of people who will take side with the Lord’s Christ shall be **saved** from the evil seduction of Satan. When they hold fast to the Word, they will not only be saved from destruction, but will also be purged and ‘*de-hybridized*’ of their fallen nature. And **they shall walk by the precious Light which illuminates from THE TABERNACLE OF GOD, THE HOLY CITY, which is the GLORIFIED SAINTS, who will be placed throughout the New Earth.** Truly, unlike the city of Jerusalem whose gates had to be shut at night to keep its inhabitants safe, God’s doors (gates) need not be shut for there will be no night in the Holy City as He is the **Light** which shall light up every Glorified Saint to give **Life** to all the nations of the earth. The national rulers (or leaders) of the earth shall bring adoration, praise, splendor, reverence, tribute, homage, etc, of their nations to the Holy City.

*“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.”*

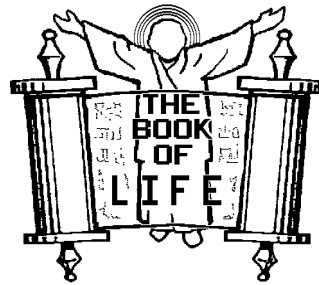
– Revelation 21:27

Without a shadow of a doubt, the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** is the **Holy and Glorified Wife of the Lamb!** She is the **Everlasting Father’s House**, and no sin can enter, for all sinners shall have their part in the Lake of Fire. For one to become **a citizen** and be **a part** of that Holy City, one has to **receive the Word** and **be born again** during the **Gospel Age**. Once that age is over, those who could survive the *Great Tribulation* and be judged as “*sheep*” would be given life to repopulate the earth in the *Age of Regeneration* (Matt.25:31-46 cf. Rev.13:8). Out of that thousand years of regeneration only those whose names are in the **Book of Life** will be saved. And since these **natural people** are **purged** and **sanctified** by the Word, they will have the right to enter into the Holy City, bringing into it their glory and honour. However, they will *not* have the right to be citizens of the City.

## THE (LAMB’S) BOOK OF LIFE

The “**(Lamb’s) Book of Life**” is *not* a literal register book in which a record of names is kept and updated through the ages of time. Some

preachers teach that when a person receives the Lord Jesus as Saviour, his name is then written in the book. This is contrary to the statement found in Revelation 17:8 — “*whose names were not written in the book of life from the **foundation** of the world*”. God is Omnipotent and Omniscient. Hence, He knows the life of each person upon the earth even before the foundation of the world was laid (cf. Acts 15:18). The “**Book of Life**” actually points to “**The Word**” which was with God in the beginning. It was by **THE WORD** that the Heavens and Earth came into existence. And it is through Christ Jesus that **THE WORD** of God is revealed to the world. **THE WORD tabernacled in Christ Jesus as a Holy Epistle (Book) of Life** to be read of all men. Jesus said, “*I am **the way, the truth, and the life**: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me*” (Jhn.14:6). “*And this is the **record**, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this **life** is in his **Son**”* (1 Jhn.5:11). “*Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which **testify** of me*” (Jhn.5:39). One must **receive** Him in order to **be identified** with Him and **be One** with Him Who is **THE WORD — Yahweh**. In so doing, one becomes **a part of THE WORD of Life** and, in turn, an epistle to be read of all men, too. Hence, one’s name is thus said to be in the “**Book of Life**”.



However, **LIFE**, as God wills it, has different degrees of glory in the **different bodies** it dwells in. “*The glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another*” (1 Cor.15:40b). “*There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body*” (1 Cor.15:44b). **Christ Jesus, the last Adam, Who being God and Man, came to fulfill the Redemption Plan of God and to bring about a Spiritual Glorified Family of Sons and Daughters of God unto the Heavenly Father, and also to redeem the Earth and restore it back to its original state, as it was in the beginning, for a Natural People like the first Adam.** The *Gospel Age* is a part of God’s Great Eternal Plan by which He could *call, justify, and glorify* a people whom He had *foreknown* before the foundation of the world (Rom.8:30). The Everlasting Father had *predestinated* these people to be His children, to be **His Glorious Family**, each being clothed with a *spiritual body* like that of His Only Begotten Son. On the other hand, God had *foreordained* a percentage of the **natural people** who would live in the *Age of Regeneration*. They are those who will not be deceived by Satan when he is released from his bondage after a thousand years. They will be *restored back to the position of that first man, Adam*, who in the natural body would have lived forever if he had not sinned. Though they are *not* a part of

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

*God's Glorified Family of sons and daughters*, they will still be **His People** and God will be **their God**. As God dwells with a *natural* people upon the New Earth in the *Eternal Age*, the **GLORY** of the *spiritual* Lamb's Wife, the Tabernacle of God, the **HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM** will be manifested. "*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*" (Rev.21:3).

### THE WATER STREET — THE ONE AND ONLY WAY

*"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.*

*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."*  
— Revelation 22:1-2

Notice that the "**pure river of water of life**" does not flow in any specific direction. The Spirit of revelation once again draws our attention to the Truth that the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** is the **Lamb's Wife**, and is *not* a literal city. All literal rivers tend to flow in a specific direction. In the time of Adam and Eve, there was a *river* which flowed from Eden *eastward* through the Garden. Prophet Ezekiel said that there will be *water* flowing from under the threshold of the Millennial Temple and it will flow *eastward*, and on both sides of the river there will be many trees. If the **New Jerusalem** is literal, then the river must also be literal, and to be scripturally and prophetically consistent the river must flow *eastward*. Isn't that logical? However, would it be possible for natural water to flow from a *height* of 1,500 miles in space where there is *no* water vapour? And if water does come down from that *height*, how will it flow? Would God create a mountain 1,500 miles high for the water to flow down, or will He just let the water splash onto the earth and create a lake? What about "*the street*"? Would not a literal city have a network of *many streets*?

Christians tend to think that because we have a supernatural God we ought to think supernaturally. Well, that is true. But supernatural does not mean something '*Walt Disney*', or something *magical*. Yet, that is what many Christians are drifting into. They are actually *fantasizing*. Do you know that the natural things we see around us are in fact supernatural? Look closely around you, and if you care to see, you will notice that they are all ordained by God to obey certain sets of laws. These laws are God's supernatural, divine laws. But because we accept them the way they are

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

we consider them natural. Because they have become part of our lives, we take them for granted. Beloved, God does *not* break His own laws. He fulfills them.

As I have mentioned, the **NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH will be an EDEN**. Everything will be made new — *in God's ways*. Everything that ever was in the Mind of God before He set forth to accomplish them in the beginning would have been **finished** by then. Everything would be as He wanted them to be. Even His commandment to Adam: "*Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth...*" would be fulfilled as the New Earth comes into existence. And by then when the earth is **replenished** with **natural people**, whose number is known only to God, there will be *no more birth* in the New Earth. Yes, there will be plenty of land. Everywhere there will be greeneries, fresh clean air all around, rivers of fresh crystal clear water and fruit trees in abundance. And natural man will no longer eat meat. There will be *no* city of skyscrapers, highways, factories and motor vehicles; there will be *no* man-made machinery or 'hi-tech' equipment that will pollute the air or the water, *no* airplane, *no* ocean liner; there will be *no* misappropriation or ravaging of any natural resources. Simply, all living and non living things will exist according to God's supernatural laws which have been violated in one way or another by mankind for some 6,000 years.

Now, we know where the **Throne of God and of the Lamb** is. It is clear from the Scriptures that it is in the **Holy City, New Jerusalem**. Did not our Lord Jesus say: "*At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you*" (Jhn.14:20). Remember that the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of the Holy City, New Jerusalem, which is the Lamb's Wife, the Glorified Redeemed Saints (Rev.21:22). Yes, **the Lamb's Wife is Yahweh's Resting Place even as He lives, walks, speaks and works through her** (Acts 7:48-49). And she is *scattered* throughout the New Earth. Blessed be the Name of the Lord! And out of the Throne of the Eternal Presence of the Lord will flow a **Pure River of Water of Life, clear as crystal — the holy and perfect soul quenching Spirit of Life**. Read John 7:37-39. It will flow through one channel — "*the street*" — *the One and Only Water Way* — Christ, the Word of God! See? **The Life** (Grk: **Zoe**) **of God in Christ Jesus in the Holy City, which is the Tabernacle of God, flowing out into the whole New Earth**. The Water of Life is *not* stagnant in the Throne of God, It flows forth like a river. And right "*in the midst*" of the Pure River of Water of Life, and on both sides of It, is the **Tree of Life**.

Notice, it says a "*Tree of Life*" and *not* "*many trees*" as some preachers are trying to imply in order to support their teaching that the Holy City, New

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

Jerusalem *is* the Millennial Temple. Now, what is the **Tree of Life**? It is none other than the **Divine Law and Truth of God**. Man must partake of the Spirit and the Word of God in order to live. The Spirit and the Word are One (cf. Jhn.3:5; 6:63). Jesus said, "*I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life*" (Jhn.14:6). As the Pure River of Water of the **Spirit of Life** flows out into the New Earth of natural people, It carries with It the **Divine Law and Truth of God, the Tree of Life, which is full of spiritual sap**. (In the days of Adam and Eve, the **Tree of Life** was there *in the midst* of the Garden of Eden where the river of life flowed. And from the **sap** of this **Tree of Life** in the Presence of the Shekinah Glory, Adam and Eve partook daily of the Fruit of True Life until the Serpent deceived Eve with his knowledge of *that other "tree"*.) Everywhere It flows, It carries with It the **Tree of Life "on either side of the river"**. That is, no matter where a man dwells upon the New Earth in the *Eternal Age*, he will have access to that **Spirit of Life** to feed upon the **Divine Law and Truth of God**. He will not have to travel to any *particular place* or to '*cross over Jordan*', so to speak, to receive It because the members of the **Holy City, New Jerusalem** will be scattered throughout the New Earth. **The Lamb's Wife is One with the Tree of Life**. In the *Eternal Age*, the life of each Glorified Saint would be filled with the **twelve fruits** of *love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, virtue, knowledge and wisdom*. Yes, **the natural people have to eat of the Tree of Life eternally**. In partaking of the **Tree of Life**, each individual will *yield Its fruits* (effects and results) faithfully throughout the **twelve seasonal months**. [Notice again the number *12* which *represents* perfect governmental rule, administration and control.] Even the *leaves* of the **Tree of Life** will be for the *healing* (blessings and graces) of the nations of people everywhere. Hence, **the Divine Spirit and Word of God will be administered to the natural people in the New Earth that God's fruits might be brought forth in their lives for a continual bliss, even the healing – well-being and breaches – of the nations** (cf. Psm.1:2-3; Prov.11:30; Jhn.15:8; Mal.4:2; Isa.30:26). Amen.

The **Spirit** and the **Word** are **One**, and they are **Life** and **Blessing** to all who feed upon them. They are **soul-quenching** and **body-building**. Truly, the *Eternal Age* will be one of eternal bliss as the Spirit and the Word cover the earth and integrate all nations of people together as a Family of the Living God. Blessed Be His Holy Name!

## HIS FACE, HIS NAME, HIS LIGHT

*"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:*

## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

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

*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."* – Revelation 22:3-5

Saints of God, as long as this Pure River of Water of Life, together with Its Tree of Life, continues to flow from the Throne of God and of the Lamb that is in the Holy City, New Jerusalem, the nations of people, which are saved, shall benefit and shall continue to walk in the Light of the Life that they received, and shall pay homage of glory and honor to the Lord. There will be no more curse as the Devil and his horde of fallen angels are cast into the Lake which burn with fire and brimstone. As *foreshadowed* by the sons of Aaron (Ex.28:1) who ministered to God in the Sanctuary of the Tabernacle or Temple of old, and to His chosen people without, so shall we, the Glorified Saints of God, *minister* and *serve* the Lord in the Holy City, New Jerusalem, and *reign* over the nations of the people in the New Heaven and New Earth. And having His Name and Light in us, we shall reign with Him for ever and ever while *beholding* His lovely Face. Yes, in that day we shall say even as Jesus had said: "*Our Father hitherto worked, so also His Christ, and now we work*" (cf. Jhn.5:17). Work is a part of God's Eternal Plan.

Little Bride of Christ, little flock of the Lord, it is the Father's good pleasure to give unto us the revelation of Jesus Christ, even as He has given us the Kingdom of God. By it, the revelation that is given unto us, that we might truly understand that we are gods (Psm.82:6; Jhn.10:34), gods as true gods – sons and daughters – of the Living God, the Father of us all. For being *born* of His Spirit and His Word, Whose Spirit and Word abide in us (1 Jhn.4:13; 1 Pet:1:23), we could be nothing else but God's "*begottens*". Now, those who cannot believe it, cannot receive it, and they shall all die like carnal men (cf. Psm.82:6-7). The carnal *church world* may try to dispute that and despise us. To them we are but a bunch of fanatics as they look at us through their world of *so-called* fundamental creeds and dogmas. No doubt, in the days of Jesus Christ, His disciples were a bunch of misguided people in the eyes of the truly *religious denominational cults* — the Pharisees, the Sadducees and the Scribes. The carnal churches have failed to realize that they are nothing but denominational cults of *various faiths*, a cage of unclean birds heading back to their harlot mother — ***Papal Romanism!***

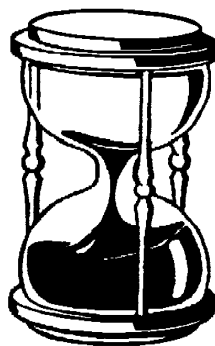
Therefore, beloved, seeing the revelation of the beauty of this glorious Holy City, let us press towards it, walking faithfully in the Light of the Holy

## THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM

Baptism that we have received. For truly the Holy Spirit has purified us by faith, and has translated us into the **Church of the Firstborn** (*not* of the General Assembly – Heb.12:23), and even now, has endowed us with the power to be a part of that celestial regime. Yes, the hour is late, for the Spirit of prophecy has even declared: *“He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still”* (Rev.22:11).

## THE SPIRIT, THE WORD, AND THE BRIDE

Finally, the mystery of the *settings* in the Garden of Eden in the days of Adam and Eve, the Tabernacle that Prophet Moses built according to the pattern shown to him on Mount Sinai, the Temple that Solomon built and the Temple that will be built in the *Millennial Age of Regeneration* – all of which revealed the Shekinah Glory and the Presence of God *“in the midst”* – is revealed in this Heavenly **Holy City, New Jerusalem**, where *“in the midst”* of It *dwells* the Almighty God forever! There is **Only One Place** where the Living God has truly chosen to put His Holy Name — **the Temple in the Holy City, New Jerusalem!** (cf. 2 Chr.6:6; Neh.1:9). Amen! What our Father Abraham saw in his days of this **City**, which was not built by hands, was then *“afar off”*. But today, as his seeds, we see it being completed right before our very eyes. The mystery has now been revealed. Yes, we have the revelation of it. We no longer have to wonder and try to figure out what this **Holy City** is all about. Then, beloved, where are we at in the calendar of *God’s prophetic time*? Notice closely the Word at the *closing* of the Revelation of Jesus Christ:



*“And **The Spirit and The Bride** say, **Come**. And let him that heareth say, **Come**. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”*

– Revelation 22:17

Everywhere in the Scriptures we see that **THE SPIRIT AND THE WORD ARE ONE** (Zech.4:6; Jhn.1:1-2; Eph.6:17). But towards the end of the *Book of Revelation*, the Spirit of prophecy reveals that **THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE ARE ONE**. Do you see? **If The Word is in The Bride, then The Word and The Bride have to be One**. Hence, *“The Spirit and The Bride say”* because **The Word is in The Bride!** Amen. We ought to be One with the Spirit now since we have the revelation of the last two chapters of the Revelation of Jesus Christ. It has to be so if we have been in the **Marriage**



## PROPHETIC\*REVELATION

**Chamber** (Heb: *Chuppah*) **of His Word**, having heard and obeyed the Message of God's seventh and last *Church Age Messenger*, William M. Branham. Hence, the revelation of the Holy City, New Jerusalem! And now that this Truth is made known to the Elect, the hour is later than we dare to think.

*"Him that overcometh will I make **a pillar** in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the **name of my God**, and the **name of the city of my God**, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him **my new name**."*

– Revelation 3:12

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

– Revelation 22:21

**EVEN SO, COME, LORD JESUS !**



***"When and where will the people of God gather  
for the last Word?"***

**In Christ. Yep!**

**For the Last day, they'll gather in Christ.**

**Don't forget that now.**

**We got a gathering place; we got it just exactly.**

Wm. M. Branham  
C.O.D.