

1/22/23

The Heavenly City, The New Jerusalem
Rev. 21:9-22:7

The Eternal State is inaugurated right after the Millennial Age, once Satan is judged for his last rebellion and cast into the Lake of Fire, the unbelievers are judged at the White Throne Judgment and also cast into the Lake of Fire, last is the destruction of the Millennial heaven and earth through fire, after all this the eternal state is brought in with the New heaven and New earth and the New Jerusalem. Rev. 21:1-8

* But the heavenly city, the New Jerusalem is distinct from the New heaven and new earth, as we will see!

1. The New heaven and earth is described as having no sea. Rev. 21:1
2. The Holy City, the New Jerusalem is described as a bride adorned for her husband. Rev. 21:2
3. The New relationship of God with man is described in perfect fellowship by the removal of Satan, there being no sin-nature and sin and its effects. Rev. 21:3-4
4. The stamp of authority for the genuineness of the New eternal order is declared to be faithful and true. Rev. 21:5-6
5. The heirs of the New eternal order are declared to be the overcomers. Rev. 21:7-8

Now let's look at the heavenly city, the New Jerusalem by the three-fold description recorded.

- I. The particular details of the New Jerusalem. Rev. 21:9-21
- II. The particular glory of the New Jerusalem. Rev. 21:22-27
- III. The particular perfection of the New Jerusalem. Rev. 22:1-7

- I. **The particular details of the New Jerusalem. Rev. 21:9-21**
 - A. The bride is both the church and the new city of Jerusalem, as Babylon her counterpart was a woman and the city. Rev. 21:9-11
 1. The vision of John revealed another angel, "Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me." vs. 9a
 - a. The seven angels poured out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth. Rev. 16:1
 - b. The same angel revealed to John the judgment of the great Harot. Rev. 17:1
 2. The vision of John revealed the angel came to impart details of the eternal order, "and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." is said to be the bride, the Lamb's wife. vs. 9
 - a. The angels gives an invitation to John, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." vs. 9b-d
 - b. This is a literal city, not symbolic, the figure of speech is called metonymy, using

one phrase to substitute for another, the city personified for the bride, the Lamb's wife.

3. The vision of John revealed the nature of the city to be perfect, pure and holy. vs. 10-11a
 - a. John revealed how he was transported, "And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain." vs. 10a
 - b. John revealed the "Spirit" to be the agent of the revelation, "and (the Spirit) showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem." vs. 10b-c
 - 1) The word showed "deiknuo", means to expose to the eyes, evident of proof.
 - 2) The "great city" is identified as "the New Jerusalem" in the Eternal state.
 - 3) The phrase "great city" is used for Rome, Babylon and Jerusalem in the 7 years of Tribulation, being corrupt, not holy. Rev. 11:8, 13; 14:8; 16:19; 17:18; 18:10, 16,18, 19, 21
- b. John revealed he saw the city coming down, "descended out of heaven from God." vs. 10d
 - 1) The origin of the city is confirmed, descending out of heaven from God, the third heaven where God dwells. Rev. 21:2; 2Cor. 12:2
 - 2) Some teach the New Jerusalem is suspended over the earth during the Millennium for Jesus and the church

to dwell, but the context of the city is the Eternal order, not the Millennium. vs. 2e, 10d

- c. John revealed the majesty of the city, "Having the glory of God." vs. 11a
 - a) The word glory "doxa", means splendor, brightness, magnificence, excellence, preeminence and dignity.
 - b) The reason is it belongs to God.
 - c) When Moses finished and set up the tabernacle, the glory of God filled it, and Moses could not enter in because of the Shekinah glory. Ex. 40:34-35
4. The vision of John revealed the beauty of this city to be incomparable, for it is one of a kind and described by similies introduced by the word "like". vs. 11
 - a. John saw, "Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal." vs. 11b-d
 - 1)) Like a precious brilliant radiant jewel having a semblance like a jasper stone with the appearance clear as crystal.
 - 2)) The word jasper "iaspi" describes a stone of various colors, purple, blue, green and the color of brass.
 - 3)) Clear as crystal "krustallizo" means crystalline brightness and transparent.
 - c. This is the city Abraham look for, "By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with

Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” Heb. 11:9-10

- B** The number of walls and gates of the city are described. vs. 12-14
1. John by the Spirit saw, the walls and gates, “Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates.” vs. 12a
 - a. The high walls indicate exclusive privilege, as the dwelling of the bride of Christ.
 - b. The high walls certainly are not for protection, this is the eternal order, there is no more sin, corruption or death.
 2. John by the Spirit saw guards at the gates, “with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates.” vs. 12a-b
 - a. The angels serve as always God and now the city and His bride as an honor guard.
 - b. The twelve gates give access to the city.
 3. John by the Spirit saw names on the gates, “and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.” vs. 12c-d
 - a. Ezekiel also has the twelve names of the tribes of Israel inscribed on the gates of the city in the Millennium. Ezk. 48:30-35
 - b. The New Jerusalem is the eternal state, a much larger city than in the Millennium.

4. John by the Spirit saw the locations of the gates, “three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.” vs. 13
 - * All living in the new earth will have access with no disadvantage, there is no sea as in the Millennium, having a larger population. vs. 24-26: Ezk. 48:30-35
 5. John by the Spirit saw the foundations of the city, “Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.” vs. 14
 - a. The prophets and apostles are said to be the foundation of the church, Jesus the chief cornerstone, Paul says. Eph. 2:20
 - b. “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.” Heb. 12:22-24
- C.** The measurements of the city and walls are declared. vs. 15-17
1. The same angel had a measuring rod, “And he who talked with me had a gold reed to

- measure the city, its gates, and its wall”. vs. 15
2. The angel gave the total measurement of the city, “The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.” vs. 16
 - a. The city is a cube not a sphere, measured with a reed “kalamos” a stick with a preset measure, like a tape measure.
 - b. The city is not only flat surface area, but the volume will be occupied by the bride in glorified bodies.
 - c. The Holy of Holies was a perfect cube 15’ x 15’, I believe foreshadowing the city in heaven, the New Jerusalem.
 - d. The city is much larger than the city of Ezekiel during the Millennium. Ezk. 48
 - e. Some believe it is the shape of a step pyramid, but it is not in the text.
 - f. The later J. Vernon McGee believed it is a square inside of a sphere, but a sphere is not described in the text at all.
 3. The angel gave the total measurement of the walls, “Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.” vs. 17

- a) A Biblical cubit is 18 inches, elbow to middle finger, though there is a longer cubits, making the wall 216 feet high.
 - b) The walls of Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar were 300 feet high, 80 feet thick and extended 35 feet below the ground.
- D.** The constructing material of the walls, the city and the gates are described. vs. 18-21
1. The angel revealed to John, “The construction of its wall was of jasper.” vs. 18a
 - * The word construction “endomesis” means the material it is composed of, the only time it appears in the New Testament.
 2. The angel revealed to John, “and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.” vs. 18b-c
 - * What men live, die and kill for God uses as buliding material.
 3. The angel revealed to John, The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones, twelve to be specific.” vs. 19-20
 - a. The first foundation was jasper. vs. 19b
 - b. The second sapphire. vs. 19c
 - c. The third chalcedony. vs. 19d
 - d. The fourth emerald. vs. 19e
 - e. The fifth sardonyx. vs. 20a
 - f. The sixth sardius. vs. 20b
 - g. The seventh chrysolite. vs. 20c
 - h. The eighth beryl. vs. 20d

- i. The ninth topaz. vs. 20e
- j. The tenth chrysoptase. vs. 20f
- k. The eleventh jacinth. vs. 20g
- l. The twelfth amethyst. vs. 20h
- * The breastplate of the High Priest had twelve stones, four rows, three in each, bearing the names of the twelve tribes of Israel over his heart. Ex. 28:15-21
- 4. The angel revealed to John, “The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl.” vs. 21a-b
 - a. Pearls were Gentile gems not Jewish.
 - b. The Parable of the Pearl of great price, who sold all to purchase the field to obtain the pearl. Matt. 13:46
- 5. The angel revealed to John, “And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.” vs. 21c-d
 - a. What is hidden and valued on earth to be possessed will be considered common, open for all to see in the New Jerusalem.
 - b. The word street “plateia” literally means a broad way, if such was on earth, men would be jack-hammering chucks out.

Illustration

Newell says, “Because of the literalness of its description. If gold does not mean gold, not pearls—pearls, not precious stones---stones, not exact measurements---real dimensions, then the Bible gives nothing accurate or reliable”. (Things To Come:574)

Application

1. Some believe that what is being described from Rev. 21:9-22:7 is a recapitulation of the Millennium by going back and describing it more fully, but if you mark the important differences, it cannot be mistaken, one would have to ignore the differences to hold the view that the passage is describing the Millennium.
2. The same people teach that the New Jerusalem, of the Eternal State exists simultaneously with the Millennial reign on earth and that it is suspended over the Millennial earth for Christ and the church to dwell in the New Jerusalem, commuting back and forth to reign, but this takes place at the Eternal State.
 - a. I see a chronological revelation of the destruction of the Millennial, then the New heaven and earth of the Eternal State and the new Jerusalem with all the particular details. Rev. 21:1-22:7
 - b. The failure to distinguish the Millennium from the Eternal state in the same Old Testament passage will result in interpreting that both exist together, like in Isaiah. Is. 65:17-18, 20-25
 - 1) This is the Eternal State, which is also mentioned by Isaiah. Is. 65:17-18; 66:22
 - 2) The word new “kainos”, means new in quality, not renovation as in the 1,000 year reign spoken by Isaiah. Is. 65:20-25
3. Consider the potential room of a 1500 square miles cube, about the size of the moon.
 - a. A total of 3.375 billion cubic miles of volume the bride will be living within.

- b. Considering a single individual occupying a building one mile long, one mile wide, and ten feet high, there could be 1.78 Trillion people occupying the New Jerusalem.
- c. 178 Billion people at 100 feet high and one mile square.
- d. This is 33 times more than the world population of 1991 of 5.3 Billion.
- e. The population Oct. 20, 2023 is 8.1 Billion, still with plenty of room to spare.

These are the particular details of the New Jerusalem!

II. The particular glory of the New Jerusalem. Rev. 21:22-27

- A. There will be no temple in the New Jerusalem.
vs. 22
 - 1. John says about his vision, “But I saw no temple in it.” vs. 22a
 - a. The word temple “naos” is the the temple proper, the Holy of Holies, where the High Priest once year on Yon-Kippor entered to atone the sins of the Israel.
 - b. Not the entire temple building and courts.
 - 2. John gives the reason by his vision, “For the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.” vs. 22b
 - a. The Holy of Holies is all about the the presence of God and the Shekinah glory.

- b. During the seven year tribulation, the Antichrist will build the temple for the Jews and he will stop the sacrifices at half way point. Matt. 24:15; Dan. 9:27
* At this time he will enter the temple, declare he is God and demand all to worship him and to receive his mark or be beheaded. Rev. 13:16, 17; 14:9; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20
- c. During the Millennium there will be a temple described by Ezekiel. Ezk. 40-48
- d. During the “eternal State”, the Father and the Lamb will be the temple, the abiding place of His people.

- B. There will be no sun or moon in the New Jerusalem. vs. 23
 - 1. John says in his vision, “The city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it.” vs. 23a
* No sun, a light generator, no moon, a light reflector! vs. 11a
 - 2. John again in his vision gives the reason, for the glory of God illuminated it.” vs. 23b
* God’s glory will radiate from the city!
 - 3. John reveals in his vision the source of it’s glory and light, “The Lamb is its light.” vs. 23c; Jn. 1:7-9; 3:19; 8:12; 9:5; 12:35
 - a. Jesus is the true light and said, “I am the light of the world.” Jn. 1:9; 8:12

- b. Isaiah confirms the Eternal state and city, “The sun shall no longer be your light by day, Nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; But the LORD will be to you an everlasting light, And your God your glory. Your sun shall no longer go down, Nor shall your moon withdraw itself; For the LORD will be your everlasting light, And the days of your mourning shall be ended. Is. 60:19-20
 - c. The Shekinah glory is all-present, “Having the glory of God” like in the tabernacle and temple of Solomon. vs. 11a
 - d. John tells us, “God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.” 1Jn 1:5
- C. There will be no rebellion or opposition in the New Jerusalem. vs. 24-27
- 1. The vision of John revealed that the nations and kings that will be in the Eternal State on the new earth will make visits to the New Jerusalem, “And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.” vs. 24
 - a. The nations “ethnos” various ethnic races and kings, are those from the Millennial reign that did not follow Satan’s last rebellion at the end of the Millennium.

- * The word bring “phero” is in the present tense denoting their habit.
 - b. In the Millennium, though Jesus reigns with a rod of iron, those living on earth repopulate, have sin-nature, a free will, sin and rebel, not in the Eternal state.
 - c. Those in the Eternal State and the New Jerusalem are in their glorified bodies and there is no sin-nature or sin present.
 - d. Since the New Jerusalem is suspended over the new earth and the nations and kings come and bring their glory into the Heavenly City, the inference is clear, they do not reside in the city, but on the new Earth, but come up into the New Jerusalem.
2. The vision of John revealed all the nations, kings and people will have equal and complete access in the Eternal state and New Jerusalem. vs. 25
- a. There will be no danger, “Its gates shall not be shut at all by day”. vs. 25a
 - b. The explanation is that there, “shall be no night there.” vs. 25b
 - 1) There is no sun or moon. vs. 23
 - 2) They were originally created by God to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and **seasons**, days and years” for man. Gen. 1:14
3. The vision of John revealed the purpose of the nations and kings and their coming to

God, “And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.” vs. 26

- a. This has already been stated. vs. 24
 - b. Both words are the same, all man will glory in and honor will be God!
4. The vision of John revealed the only one entering the city of the New Jerusalem are the glorified saints. vs. 27
- a. The exclusion is that sin and evil exist no longer, “But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie.” vs. 27a-b
 - b. The inclusion identifies all believers, “But only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.” vs. 27c
 - 1) The church saints, the bride of Christ, who reigned with Christ during the Millennium.
 - 2) The tribulation saints martyred for their faith and those who survived.
 - 3) The nation of Israel, Yahweh’s wife reconciled, fulfilling all the promises of the Old Covenant and the New.
 - 4) Those saved during the Millennium, that did not follow Satan’s last rebellion.
 - 5) The author to the Hebrews says, “For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.” Heb. 13:14

The sun is like a vast hydrogen bomb burning slowly. Every second, 4 million tons of hydrogen are destroyed in explosions which start somewhere near the core, where the temperature is 12 million degrees Centigrade.

More energy than man has used since the dawn of civilization is radiated by this normal star in a second. The earth’s entire oil, coal and wood reserves would fuel the sun’s energy output to the earth alone for only a few days.

Tongues of hydrogen flame lap from the sun’s surface with the force of 1000 million hydrogen bombs. They are forced up by the enormous thermonuclear explosion at the core of the sun where 564 million tons of hydrogen fuse to form helium. Material at the core of the sun is so hot that a pinhead of it would give off enough heat to kill a man 1 million miles away. #6182

* Can you imagine the glory of God who made the sun? As the glory of God existed in the Garden prior to the fall, so it will exist in the Eternal state, to its glorious radiance and Shekinah glory!

Application

1. Temples are either to house a deity or give a sense of the presence of a deity.
 - a. God met the High Priest in the Holy of Holies and spoke to him from the mercy-seat, as His Shekinah glory appeared between the cherubim. Ex. 25:22; Lev. 16:2

Illustration

- b. Solomon, at the dedication of the temple said, “But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot **contain** You. How much less this temple which I have built!” 1Kings 8:27
- 2. The sun and the moon are presently necessary; without them we could not exist.
 - a. God created the sun and moon to distinguish the day from the night, for signs and the seasons and for the measure of time.
 - * Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so.” Gen. 1:14-15
 - b. The energy of the sun is necessary for life-giving energy for the process of plants and other organisms to synthesize from carbon dioxide and water using light as an energy source and through photosynthesis release oxygen as a byproduct.
 - c. The moon is a reflector of the sun and is necessary for the tides of the sea.
 - d. Both are spaced out perfectly from the earth so that the earth neither will burn up or freeze.
- 3. The promise of a perfect world without sin, evil, rebellion and death becomes a reality in the Eternal State.

- a. Today we see a permissiveness regarding sin and sinful life-styles, more than ever.
- b. Today we see lawlessness, people are murdered senselessly for mere pleasure or boredom.
- c. Today everyone is encouraged to rebel against the rules and authority.
- d. Today we see evil called good and good evil.
- e. None of these things will be present in the New Jerusalem!

This is the particular glory of the New Jerusalem!

III. The particular perfection of the New Jerusalem. Rev. 22:1-7

- A. There will be a river of Life in the New Jerusalem. vs. 1
 - 1. The vision of John revealed by the angel dealt with a river, “And he shown me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal.” vs. 1a-b
 - a. The river is pure “kathros” free from every admixture or uncleanness.
 - b. The river has water of life “zoe” means one who possess vitality of life, this is it’s basic understanding.
 - 1) Since this is the Eternal state and looks back to the original creation prior to the fall, it is describing that absolute fullness of life belonging to God and imparted to the believer.

- 3) The only thing it can be for is for the perpetuation of the Eternal state and benefit for the nations, kings and people, all subject to God without any thought of rebellion, as overcomers.
 2. The vision of John revealed the source of the water, “proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.” vs. 1c
 - a. Ezekiel’s river in the Millennium comes from the temple. Ezk. 47:1
 - b. Zechariah’s river in the Millennium comes from Jerusalem to heal dead sea and flow to Mediterranean. Zech. 14:4-8
- B.** There will be the tree of life in the New Jerusalem. vs. 2
1. The vision of John revealed by the angel deals with a tree, “In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, the tree of life.” vs. 2a-c
 - a. The tree of life is in the middle of the street “plateia” the broad way.
 - b. The tree of life is on both sides of the river, in Eden it was the midst of the Garden. Gen. 2:9
 - c. The vision of Ezekiel in the Millennium climaxes with the description of the river that flows out of the sanctuary, flowing to the Mediterranean Sea and healing the dead Sea and trees along the banks

- bearing fruit every month for food and the leaves for medicine. Ezk. 47:1-12
- d. This is the Eternal state, Jesus said, “To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.” Rev. 2:7
2. The vision of John revealed by the angel revealed two things about the tree of life. vs. 2d-f
 - a. The fruit of the tree of life, it “bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month.” vs. 2d-e
 - 1) This fruit no doubt is related to the eternal state of the believer’s life.
 - 2) All believers have a glorified body.
 - b. The benefit from the tree of life, “The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.” vs. 2f
 - 1) Since it is the Eternal State, we know there is no disease or death. Rev. 21:4
 - 2) The key is in the word healing “therapeian” from it we get the word therapeutic and means health-giving, not healing. John Walvoord.
 - 3) The Millennium is different, “Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their **leaves** will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their

fruit will be for food, and their **leaves** for medicine”, it means healing. Ezk. 47:12

C. There will be only blessings in the New Jerusalem. vs. 3-4

1. The vision of John revealed the confirmation of the positive in verse two, but from the negative, “And there shall be no more curse”. vs. 3a
 - * The curse through Adam brought in sin, death, sorrow, pain and sickness, etc.
2. The vision of John revealed the authority of God will be reigning supremely. vs. 3b-c
 - a. The Father and Son, “But the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it”. vs. 3b
 - b. The subjects, “And His servants shall serve Him.”, those coming out of the Millennium. vs. 3c
 - 1)) The word serve “latreuo”, means to minister to or worship God.
 - 2)) Of the 21 times it appears in the New Testament, 17 are to the worship of God.
3. The vision of John revealed the fellowship intended from the beginning will finally exist. vs. 4
 - a. First what the believer was promised, “They shall see His face.” vs. 4a

1) Moses could not see God’s face. Ex. 33:20-23

2) Jesus said the pure in heart shall see God. Matt. 5:8

3) Hebrews says that without holiness no man shall see God. Heb. 12:14

b. Second who the saint belongs to, “and His name shall be on their foreheads”. vs. 4b

1) This is the mark of ownership.

2) The 144,000 Jews had God’s mark on their foreheads. Rev. 7:1-8; 14:1

3) Those following the Anti-Christ have his mark. Rev. 13:16

D. There will be perpetual day in the New Jerusalem. vs. 5

1. The vision of John revealed the summary statement, “There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light.” vs. 5a-c
2. The vision of John revealed the confirmation of the Eternal State, “And they shall reign forever and ever.” vs. 5d
3. The witnesses of faith, “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. And truly

if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.” Heb. 11:13-16

E. There will be an accountability for all the words in the book of Revelation. vs. 6-7

1. The vision of John revealed the record is God’s prophetic divine revelation, for future fulfillment, “Then he said to me, “These words are faithful and true.” vs. 6a-b
 - a. All that read the record can count on all these words coming to pass!
 - b. Being trustworthy reliable and genuine, not exaggerations or lies!
2. The vision of John revealed the record was communicated through a chain of command. vs. 6c
 - a. The vessel of the revelation, “And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel.”
 - b. The intent, “To showed His servants the things which must shortly take place.”
 - 1) This is a summary statement of the chain of command, the full chain is God to His Son, the Son to his servants by His angel to John, John to the servants. Rev. 1:1

- 2) Through John to every person who reads, servants is in the plural.
 - 3) These things will shortly “en” means **suddenly** take place?
 - * The book opens with this same statement! Rev 1:1c
3. The vision of John revealed the record to warn and prepare the hearer to believe, obey and be ready for His coming. vs. 7
 - a. This is the rapture coming for His church, “Behold, I am coming quickly!”, “tero” without delay, suddenly. vs. 7a-b
 - * This is stated three times in this last chapter. Rev. 22:7, 12, 20
 - b. The promise, “Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.” vs. 7c
 - 1) This is the sixth beatitude in the book of Revelation, the Beatitudes point to the Eternal state!
 - 2) The word keeps “tereo” means to attend carefully, the present tense ongoing, the book opens with the same promise to him who reads, hears and keeps the word because the time is near. Rev. 1:3

Illustration

There is only one way for us to respond to all the things described about the Eternal state, “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge

of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! “For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor? Or who has first given to Him, And it shall be repaid to him?” For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.” Rom. 11:33-36

Application

1. The reiver in Genesis went out from Eden into four heads, one of them skirted the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold and the gold of that land is good, Bdellium and the onyx stone are there. Gen. 2:10-12
* How interesting that the Genesis account before the fall mentions the gold and precious stones, like the Eternal State of the New Jerusalem, coming full circle. Time came out of eternity and time goes back into eternity.
2. Some interesting observations about the tree of life.
 - a. “The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the **tree** of the knowledge of good and evil.” Gen. 2:9b-c
* The choice of living eternally with God without sin was available from the start!
 - b. God said, “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” Gen. 2:17
 - c. God guarded the tree of life by a Cherub with a flaming sword. Gen. 3:24

- d. The tree of life will be in the middle of the street and on either side of the river in the New Jerusalem. Rev. 22:2
3. Paul understood the blessing of the eternal state, as he described it to the Corinthians. 1Cor. 15:24-28
* “Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. **The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.** For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says, “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, **then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him** who put all things under Him, that **God may be all in all.**”
* The Father, Son and the Holy Spirit will be there, but under a different relation, that we don’t exactly know according to Paul.
4. The benefit of the book of Revelation is only by believing it and obeying it.
* Peter said the day of the Day of the Lord would come as a thief in the night that includes the seven years of Tribulation, the Millennium, the White Throne judgement and the destruction of the Millennial heaven and earth by fire, ending the Day of The LORD. The Eternal state brings in a new heaven and earth with no sea and the New Jerusalem that comes down from God. 2Pet. 3:10-13
* “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a

great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”

This is the particular perfection of the New Jerusalem!

Conclusion

This is the Heavenly City, the New Jerusalem that will exist in the Eternal State, described by:

- I.** The particular details of the New Jerusalem!
- II.** The particular glory of the New Jerusalem!
- III.** The particular perfection of the New Jerusalem!