

New Jerusalem, Part 2

Study 25. Revelation 21:18–22:5

By James T. Bartsch, WordExplain.com

A. The Construction Materials of the City. 21:18-21

1. Of what material was the wall made? 21:18a _____
2. Of what material was the city itself made? 21:18b _____

3. “The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone” (literal translation). Most likely each foundation was constructed of a single gigantic precious stone supporting the wall around the entire circumference of the city. The fact that John could see all twelve foundations supports the theory that the city is a satellite city orbiting the earth. Otherwise foundations are, in large part, below grade and not visible. What are the twelve different stones comprising the twelve foundations? 21:19-20
 - a. The first foundation (probably starting at the bottom and working up to the top) _____ 21:19
 - b. The second _____
 - c. The third _____
 - d. The fourth _____
 - e. The fifth _____ 21:20
 - f. The sixth _____
 - g. The seventh _____
 - h. The eighth _____
 - i. The ninth _____
 - j. The eleventh _____
 - k. The twelfth _____ (If our understanding is correct, this foundation would have been immediately below the wall of the city, which was constructed of jasper [21:18].)

4. The material of the gates of the city. 21:21a
 - a. The twelve gates of the city consisted of twelve _____.
 - b. How many pearls made up each gate? _____.
5. Of what material did the street of the city consist? 21:21b _____
_____¹

B. Worship in the City. 21:22

1. What did John not see in the entire city? _____
2. Why not? _____

C. Illumination in the City. 21:23-24

1. What is not needed for light in this city? 21:23a _____

2. Why not? 21:23b _____

3. Who are the beneficiaries of this light of the glory of God? 21:24
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

¹ 21:21 - street: The Greek word is *platus* (4116), and is actually an adjective (“broad” or “wide”), and meant to modify an appropriate noun, such as *hodos* (3598) “way” or “road”. Its appearance in the singular may mean that there is only one wide (street) in the entire city; or it may refer to the broad “square” at the city center; or it may refer to all the broad (streets) of the city, which, since connected to this main broad (street), could corporately be referred to as the “broad” (street) of the city.

D. The Politics of the City. 21:24

1. What two political entities are mentioned as existing on New Earth?
 - a. _____²
 - b. _____
2. How will the redeemed Nations inhabiting New Earth benefit from the glorious light of the (satellite?) city orbiting above them? _____

3. What will the Kings of New Earth's Nations transport into the Capital City? _____
_____ . What does this mean?

E. The Safety of the City. 21:25

1. What will always exist in this city? _____
2. What will never exist in this city? _____
3. What in this city will never be closed? _____

F. The Commerce of the City. 21:26

1. What will they bring into the city?
 - a. The _____
 - b. And the _____ of the nations.
2. What does this mean? For a better understanding, consult Isaiah 60:3-6, 9-11, 14-17. _____

² 21:24 - nations: The word "nations" (the plural of ethnos, 1484) refers to the redeemed peoples of various nations who will inhabit New Earth. This word is often translated, in some versions, as "Gentiles." This indicates a third class of redeemed people who will inhabit New Earth throughout eternity – saved Gentiles. The other two classes, the Church and redeemed Israelis, make New Jerusalem, the capital city, their home.

G. The Holiness of the City. 21:27

1. What will always be excluded from this city?
 - a. Everything _____
 - b. Everyone who practices
 - 1) _____
 - 2) and _____
2. Who are the only ones who have access to this city? _____

H. Nourishment in the City. 22:1-2

1. What did John's guide show him next? 22:1a _____
2. How is it described? 22:1b
 - a. As to what it provided: _____
 - b. As to its purity: _____
3. From what place did it originate? 22:1c _____

4. Where did it flow? 22:2a _____

5. What was growing on either side of it? 22:2b _____
6. The productivity of the tree. 22:2c
 - a. How many different kinds of fruit did it bear? _____
 - b. How often did it bear? _____
7. What beneficial effects did the leaves of the tree have upon those redeemed Gentiles who entered the city from New Earth? 22:2d _____

3

I. The State of Nature in the City. 22:3a

1. What will no longer exist in New Jerusalem (or upon New Earth, for that matter)? _____
2. This refers to the judgment God placed upon the ground of the original earth and upon nature itself as part of the punishment upon Adam for his disobedience. What are features of the curse that will be removed in New Jerusalem and New Earth? (See Gen. 3:17-19.) _____

J. Fellowship in the City. 22:3b-4

1. There will be a throne in New Jerusalem. Who will sit on it? 22:3b

2. Who will serve Him? 22:3c _____⁴
3. What will the slaves see? 22:4a _____
4. What will His slaves bear on their foreheads? 22:4b _____
5. What were the slaves of the “beast” forced to wear on their foreheads on their right hands? (Rev. 13:16-18) _____

³ 22:2 - and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations: The word translated “healing” is the Greek word *therapeia* (2322), from which we derive our English word “therapy”. It is used only three times in the N.T. – in Luke 9:11, where it refers to **healing**; Luke 12:42, where it refers to the **servants** to be supervised by the household steward (literally, it is “**service**,” but it is used to refer to the servants who provide service to their master); and Rev. 22:2, where the word is general enough not to mean “healing” (there will be no disease in New Jerusalem), but rather, “well-being” or “good health.” Even today we use herbs to promote greater well-being, even when we are not sick. Such will be the beneficial effects of these leaves. Think of the invigorating effect, for example, of drinking tea brewed from the leaves of the Tree of Life!

⁴ 22:3 - His bond-servants will serve Him: Two comments are in order: (1) The word translated as “bond-servants” by the NASB is really the word for “slaves” (*doulos*, 1401). Believers, whether Jewish believers, Church believers, or Gentile believers, are all God’s slaves throughout eternity. (2) Though the throne is the throne of both God and of the Lamb, the two are one in essence. To serve one is to serve the other. Thus the singular, “will serve **Him**.”

K. Light in the City. 22:5a

1. What will no longer exist in the city? _____
2. There will no longer be any need for
 - a. _____ from a _____
 - b. Nor _____ from the _____
3. Why will this be true? "...because the _____ will _____ them."

L. Authority in the City and upon New Earth. 22:5b What will God's slaves do forever and ever? _____

M. Reflection about the City.

1. What impresses you most about this city?
2. What, if anything, about this lesson causes you concern?
3. Are you confident you will be living in this city throughout eternity?
4. Why or why not?
5. What adjustments in your thinking do you need to make?

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Published Online June, 2013 by <http://www.WordExplain.com>

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