

Online Bible Courses

John's Book of Revelation
written exclusively to Christians

Lesson 13 - Chapters 21 - 22

Dwelling With God

New Heavens and New Earth

21-22
(21:1-8)

- Compare with Isaiah's language
- The timing of Isa 65:17; 66:22
 - A time of Gentile conversion (65:1;66:19)
 - A time of no crying (65:19)
 - Former things passed (65:16-17)

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, And her people a joy. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, And joy in My people; The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, Nor the voice of crying. (Isaiah 65:17-19)

I will set a sign among them; and those among them who escape I will send to the nations: *to* Tarshish and Pul and Lud, who draw the bow, and Tubal and Javan, *to* the coastlands afar off who have not heard My fame nor seen My glory. And they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the LORD out of all nations, on horses and in chariots and in litters, on mules and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem,” says the LORD, “as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD. And I will also take some of them for priests *and* Levites,” says the LORD. “For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me,” says the LORD, “So shall your descendants and your name remain. (Isaiah 66:19-22)

New Jerusalem

21-22
(21:1-8)

- Comes down out of heaven
 - (3:12; 21:2, 10)
 - Are you in the heavenly Jerusalem?
 - The church - Heb 12:22-24
- A bride adorned
 - (19:9; 21:2, 9; 22:17)
 - The church – Eph 5:22-33

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*. (Hebrews 12:22-24)

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. (Ephesians 5:22-23)

Tabernacle Of God Is With Men

21-22
(21:1-8)

- Tabernacle = dwell
 - Jn 1:14; Rev 7:15; 13:6; 15:5; 21:3; Heb 8:1-2
- No tears – 7:17; Isa 65:19
- It is done – 16:7; 21:6
- Who is thirsty?
 - Jn 4:13-15; 7:37;
 - Rev 7:16; 21:6; 22:17
- “He who overcomes” OR “But ...”

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

Now *this is* the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man. (Hebrews 8:1-2)

The Lamb's Wife, A Great City

21-22
(21:9-21)

- A mountain – Dan 2:35, 44
- Foundation – 12 apostles (Eph 2:20)
- Measuring for holiness (Ezk 42:20)

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, (Ephesians 2:19-20)

Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. (Daniel 2:35)

And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. (Daniel 2:44)

The Lamb's Wife, A Great City

21-22
(21:9-21)

- A mountain – Dan 2:35, 44
- Foundation – 12 apostles (Eph 2:20)
- Measuring for holiness (Eze 42:20)
- Construction stones (Isa 54:11-15)

“O you afflicted one, Tossed with tempest, *and* not comforted, Behold, I will lay your stones with colorful gems, And lay your foundations with sapphires. I will make your pinnacles of rubies, Your gates of crystal, And all your walls of precious stones. All your children *shall be* taught by the LORD, And great *shall be* the peace of your children. In righteousness you shall be established; You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; And from terror, for it shall not come near you. Indeed they shall surely assemble, *but* not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake. (Isaiah 54:11-15)

The Lamb's Wife, A Great City

21-22
(21:22-22:5)

- No temple in this city
 - God and the Lamb are accessible
- God's light (Isa 60:19-20)
- Nations and kings will come in (Isa 60:3, 10)
- Gates not shut (22:14; Isa 60:11)

The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. (Isaiah 60:3)
“The sons of foreigners shall build up your walls, And their kings shall minister to you; For in My wrath I struck you, But in My favor I have had mercy on you. (Isaiah 60:10)

“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. (Isaiah 60:19-20)

Therefore your gates shall be open continually; They shall not be shut day or night, That *men* may bring to you the wealth of the Gentiles, And their kings in procession. (Isaiah 60:11)

The Lamb's Wife, A Great City

21-22
(21:22-22:5)

Then he said to me: “This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. *When it* reaches the sea, *its* waters are healed. And it shall be *that* every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes. It shall be *that* fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be *places* for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many. But its swamps and marshes will not be healed; they will be given over to salt. 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.” (Ezekiel 47:8-12)

- River of life and tree of life come from the throne (22:14, 17)
 - Becomes a source of healing through the tree leaves (Eze 47:1-12)

Come!

21-22
(22:6-21)

- Timing of the prophecies
 - Shortly take place (v.6)
 - Quickly (v.7, 12, 20)
 - Don't seal the message (v.10; Dan 8:26)
 - Time is at hand (v.10)
- You decide! (v.11)

“And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For *it refers* to many days *in the future.*”
(Daniel 8:26)

Final Judgment Or Victorious Church

- Rev 20:11-15 – We say the events of the book are concerning Rome, like the prophecies of Daniel 2 & 7, then the Revelation passage that most mirrors Daniel 7 we conclude must be about a time hundreds of years beyond Rome??? (see next chart)
- If the “new heavens and earth” is speaking of the end of time, then
 1. Why are the gates left open (21:25)
 2. How are nations going to continue to bring glory and honor into it/Him (21:24, 26)
 3. Who is left to be refused entry (21:27)
 4. What nations are going to be healed afterward (22:2)
- Is the “holy, great city” in heaven or coming out of heaven (21:2, 10)
- Which interpretation most closely follows the time elements given immediately following the text in question (22:6, 7, 10, 12, 20)

A Great Judgment Scene

	Daniel 7:9-12	Rev 20:11-15
➤ Context is 4 th kingdom	7:17, 23	13:2; 17:10; 19:20
➤ God seated on throne	7:9	20:11
➤ Books were opened	7:10	20:12
➤ Beast is slain	7:11	20:20
➤ Burning flame	7:11	19:20; 20:14-15

"I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire; A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, And the books were opened.

"I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. (Daniel 7:9-12)