

REVELATION Lesson 193

Chapter 21:1-14, New Jerusalem: Who Will be There? God's Desire to Fellowship with Man

24 January 2022

21:1 "And there was no more sea."

- The sea represents God's absolute judgment against a sinful world.
 - Genesis 1:2, the earth was without form and void...face of the deep.
- In eternity, there is no more need to be reminded of God's judgment. Everything pertaining to sin has been removed.
- Ephesians 2:7 —everything in the new heavens and new earth will show forth God's exceeding grace and kindness toward us.

21:2 "...prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

- Even after one thousand years, the bride of Christ is careful about her appearance and about pleasing her husband.
- Your love for the one you married should not fade with the passing of time.

"The holy city, new Jerusalem..." WHO WILL LIVE IN THIS CITY?

- **Hebrews 12:22-23** — "...an innumerable company of angels...the general assembly and church of the firstborn...the spirits of just men made perfect."
 - Whether these abide in new Jerusalem or in the third heaven where new Jerusalem is located is not clear from this verse.
- **Hebrews 11:9-10** —Abraham looked for a city...whose builder and maker is God.
 - It is possible that new Jerusalem will be home to more than just the New Testament Church.
- **Revelation 3:12** —The New Testament Church looks forward to dwelling in new Jerusalem.
- **Revelation 21:9** —The bride has the special place of honor in new Jerusalem.
- **Revelation 21:10-14** —The gates of new Jerusalem are connected with Israel (12 tribes). The foundations of the city are linked with the Church (12 apostles).
- **John 14:1-3** —There were already many mansions in the Father's house when Jesus said, "I **GO to prepare a place for you.**" Somebody was already dwelling in new Jerusalem when the Lord spoke those words.

21:3 "The tabernacle of God is with men." This reminds us of God's prevailing desire to fellowship with man since his creation.

- Why does man not desire to fellowship with God? "There is none that seeketh after God" (Rom 3:11). "We have turned every one to his own way" (Isa 53:6).
- The Lord died on the cross to make a way to fellowship with us.
- **Exodus 26:30** —The tabernacle in the wilderness was built according to what God showed Moses on the mountain. Moses may have seen new Jerusalem back then.
- **Psalms 19:1** — "The heavens declare the glory of God."

- **Exodus 33:17-23** —God showed Moses his “back parts,” that is, He took him back and let him see the creation, which declared His glory (Psa 19:1).
 - **John 1:14** —Jesus took on Himself a tabernacle (an earthly body) so He could dwell among men.
 - **Hebrews 9:6-12** —The veil in the tabernacle signified that God had not yet made a way for man to enter into His presence (vs 8). Jesus Christ opened the way to the throne of God when He died on the cross. The veil was rent from top to bottom to show that truth.
 - **Acts 17:24** —The Lord...dwelleth not in temples made with hands. The temple and tabernacle on earth were not God’s place of abode. He visited man there.
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21:4 “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes...”

- False teachers today are promising people a life of no sorrows today. But the bible clearly teaches that the tears are not wiped away until after the millennium.

WEEPING SAINTS

John 16:20-22, “Ye shall weep and lament.” “Ye shall be sorrowful.” “Your heart shall rejoice.”

WEEPING WITNESSES

Psalm 126:5, “sow in tears...reap in joy.” “He...weepeth bearing precious seed,” but “shall doubtless come again with rejoicing.”

Acts 20:29-31, “Grievous wolves enter in among you,” “Of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things...” “warn every one night and day with tears.”

WEEPING SINNERS

Matthew 22:11-13, “cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping...”

WEEPING SERVANTS

Acts 20:19, “Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears.”

A WEEPING SAVIOR

John 11:35, “Jesus wept.” “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...” (Mt 23:37, Lu 13:34)

WEEP TODAY, JOY TOMORROW (in eternity, Rev 21:4).

Jeremiah 9:1 “Mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people.”

Psalm 30:5 “weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.” (When Jesus wipes away the tears).
