

COME LORD JESUS – REVELATION 21

In Psalm 73 that we read earlier, the Psalmist wrote:
 With Your counsel You will guide me,
 and afterward receive me to glory.

Afterward we heard read from Revelation 21 John's testimony that an angel invited him to view the Bride, the wife of the Lamb who is of course, the Church.

The next verse provides details of the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of Heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

- I The new Jerusalem is described with remarkably splendid terminology.
 - A I believe that the broader interpretation reflects that our future home in Heaven will be in the full Presence of God.
 - B Normally a jasper stone is varicolored, but this one is like crystal – in other words – a diamond.
 - C John had seen Jesus transfigured on a mountain, and now from a mountaintop he saw the Church transfigured.
 - D The Woman of Revelation 12 that we studied two weeks ago is now a resplendent Bride.
 - E Subsequent to our resurrection, we will possess a radiant, resurrected body like our Savior.
- II The high wall around Heaven implies safety. Old Testament Jerusalem had a high wall as did all ancient cities.
 - A That the names of the 12 tribes of Israel are on its 12 gates plus the 12 foundations are the names of the 12 apostles indicates this is the new home of the Church.
 - B No more will we be subject to attacks, afflictions, temptations, or sin.
 - C We will find ourselves in Paradise restored.
 - D The 12 gates of New Jerusalem are contrary to the building of ancient cities which had only one gate lest enemies break through one or the other.
 - E The proliferation of gates suggests utter safety.
- III And, each gate is a pearl.
 - A Remember how Jesus spoke of the Kingdom of God?
 - B Matthew 13: The Kingdom is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.
 - C Whatever we must abandon, we will discover that it is worth the sacrifice in order to dwell in New Jerusalem.

- IV The city appears as gold – so purified that it is translucent.
- A The gold speaks of permanence as well as the value God places upon His people.
 - B Our eyes have never beheld gold so pure that it is like clear glass.
 - C Only God can purify gold so enormously that it would become transparent.
- V Even the street is paved with refined gold signifying there is nothing impure in Heaven.
- VI Amazingly, there is no Temple in the city, but John explained: Its Temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.
- A Following our resurrection, we will live in a state of righteousness, holiness and perfection enabling us to look directly into the face of God.
 - B No longer will our Lord find it necessary to conceal His glory from us; we shall behold Him face to Face.
 - C The Tabernacle and later the Temple of the First Testament and the Church of the New Testament will no longer be required...for God will dwell among us.
- VII Additionally, the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light and its lamp is the Lamb.
- A There will be no more night.
 - B The Prophet Isaiah had prophesied 750 years before Christ:
The sun will no longer by your light by day, nor will the moon by its brightness shine on you, Yahweh will be your everlasting light.
- VIII And how do we gain entrance into this city? The Gospel reading answers the question.
- Jesus said: Whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.
- A We will not face judgment because our Lord Jesus has already taken our judgment upon Himself at the Cross.
 - B Jesus also said: An hour is coming and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.
 - C As we have heard His voice in the Gospel and have believed in the sufficiency of His sacrifice of His Blood, we have believed in Him and Salvation is now a reality for us.
- IX Finally, in the Gospel reading, Jesus said: An hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

A The good that we have done becomes our reception of the gift of faith in Jesus Christ which by God's grace has been given to us.

B Thus, our resurrection is a resurrection of life!

X He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen!

Come, Lord Jesus!