

The Inheritance of the Saints



LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR HEAVENLY HOME

³ We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

⁴ Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

⁵ For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

Colossians 1:3-4

- ‘For’ **Gr. *dia*** *lit. Because of...*
- ‘Hope’ **Gr. *elpis*** *lit. Expectation, Confidence*
- ‘Laid up’ **Gr. *Apokeimai*** *lit. Stored away*
- *What is stored away?*

Inheritance of the Saints

¹² Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Colossians 1:12

- *hikanoo* (hik-an-o'-o); to enable, i.e. qualify:

Inheritance of the Saints

For those in Christ:

- We know we are assured Salvation
- We are promised rewards for faithfulness
- But in addition to rewards...
- We now qualify to receive an inheritance
- That inheritance is reserved for us in heaven

Inheritance of the Saints

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

1 Peter 1:3-4

- What are we to inherit?
- Can we know?

Most misquoted verse?

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things *which God hath prepared for them that love him...*

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

Isaiah 64:4

Most misquoted verse?

⁹ But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

¹⁰ But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

- What has God revealed to us?
- What are we to inherit?

A Place Prepared

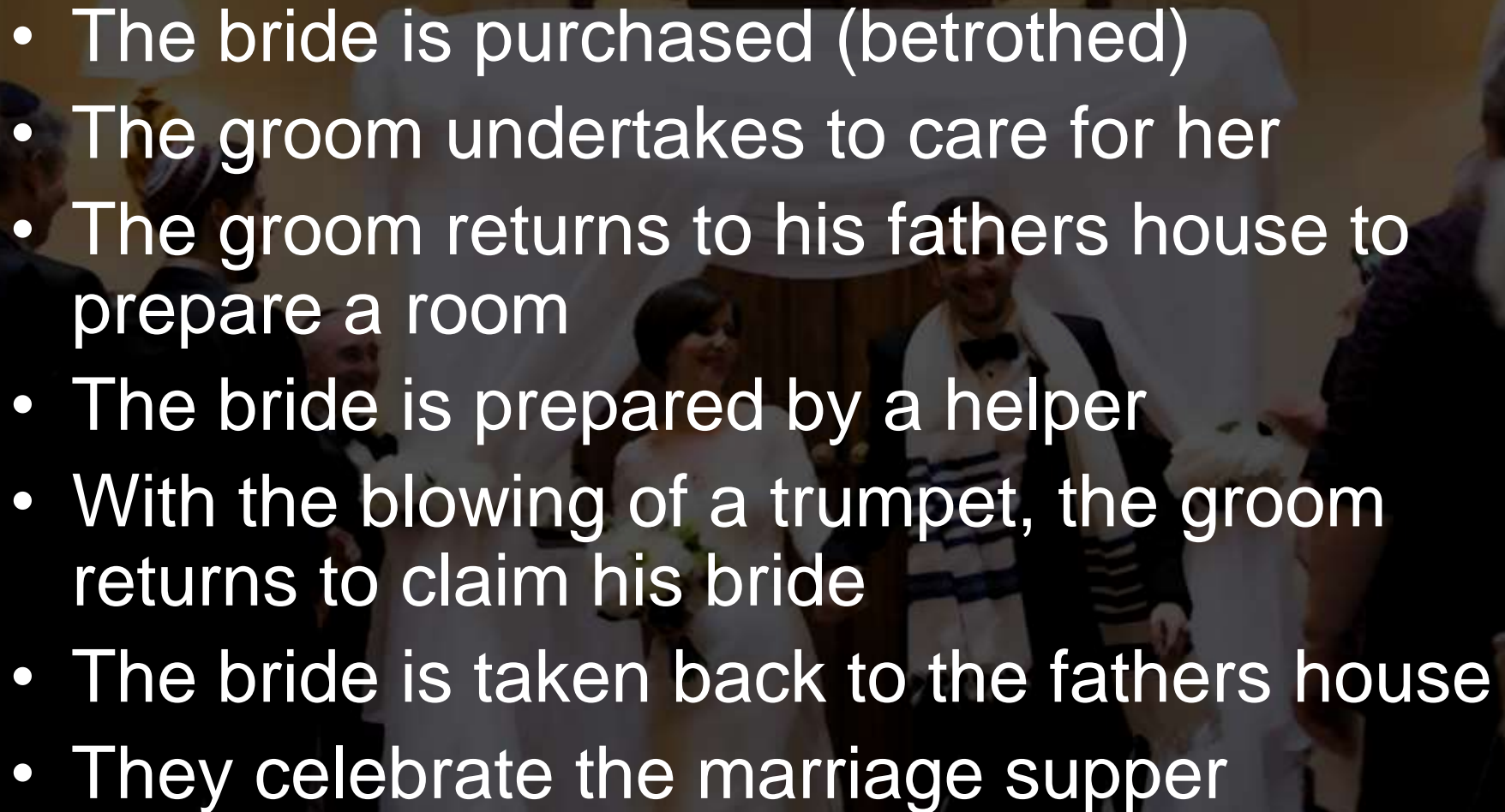
² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

John 14:2-3

- Intentional model
- Based on a Jewish wedding

A Jewish Wedding

- The bride is purchased (betrothed)
 - The groom undertakes to care for her
 - The groom returns to his fathers house to prepare a room
 - The bride is prepared by a helper
 - With the blowing of a trumpet, the groom returns to claim his bride
 - The bride is taken back to the fathers house
 - They celebrate the marriage supper
- 
- A photograph of a Jewish wedding ceremony. A bride in a white dress and a groom in a dark suit with a white shawl are walking under a white canopy. They are surrounded by other people, some in traditional Jewish attire, in an indoor setting.

A Place Prepared



- Creation took just six days!
- What Christ has been preparing for His bride has taken 2000 years!
- Do we believe Christ's promise?
 - an issue of perspective
- Our understanding of the future will affect the way we live in the present

The Promises of God

The tap root, out of which sprouts all the weeds of sin, is the tap root of unbelief in the promises of God.

When you trust, or believe in a promise of God, you glorify God.

In fact, trusting somebody's promise is the most fundamental honour you can do that person



The Promises of God

The reverse is also true:

The greatest contempt that you can bring down upon a person, is to say to them, 'I can't trust you'

So, when we don't trust a promise of God, we bring contempt upon Him, ... we give Him a vote of 'no confidence'

- John Piper

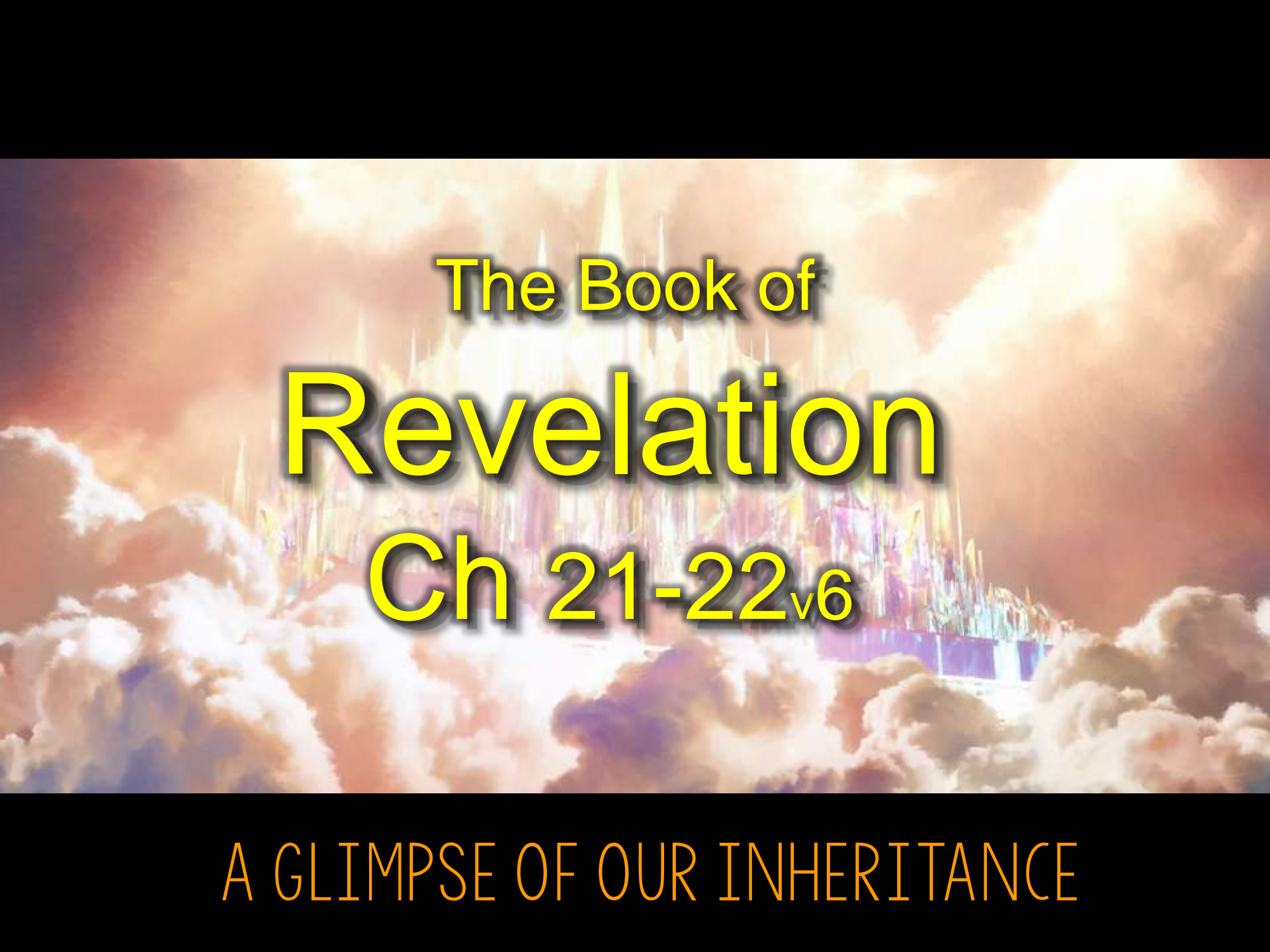


The Promises of God

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:4

- Perspective affects performance
- God's promises give us perspective



The Book of
Revelation
Ch 21-22_{v6}

A GLIMPSE OF OUR INHERITANCE

¹ And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

Revelation 21:1

- When will this occur?

Timings

Second Coming



Daniel's
70th
Week
(Time of
Wrath)



1000yr

A New Heavens & Earth

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

¹¹ Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

2 Peter 3:10-13

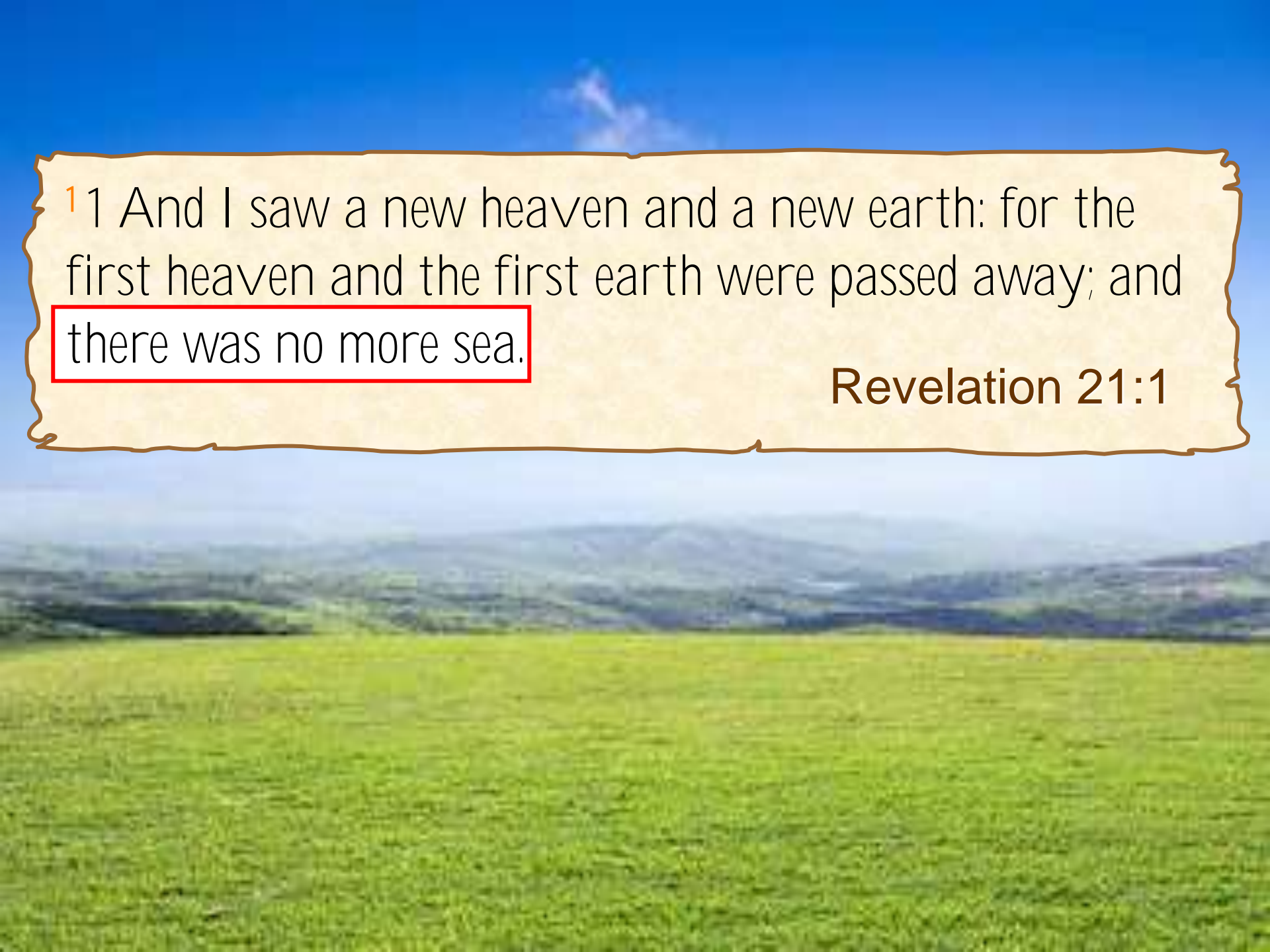
A New Heavens & Earth

¹² Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

¹³ Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

2 Peter 3:10-13

- Perspective affects performance
- God's promises give us perspective



¹ 1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

Revelation 21:1

A New Beginning

- Radically different
- 70% of the face of the earth is water (2.3m dpth)
- The reason for the hydro-system
- 1.5 trillion tones of rainfall every day
- How will this affect the trees?
- Will they have roots?
- Will the leaves be multi-coloured?
- How will the new system work?

A New Beginning

- Why “no more sea”?
- Not needed for its cleansing action
- It provides salt
- It purges, cleanses, and preserves our planet.
- In other words, it acts like the lungs, liver, and kidneys of the earth.
- The new system will be perfect

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Revelation 21:2

- This revelation is so incredible
- So overwhelming
- So breathtaking
- John assures us of its validity

John – Apostle & Friend

- ¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;
- ² (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

1 John 1:1-5

John – Apostle & Friend

³ That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

⁴ And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

⁵ This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:1-5

- John is not interested in fiction, but that which is verifiable

2 And I John saw the **holy city**, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Revelation 21:2

- 'Holy' & 'city' rarely associated
- 'Inner city' associated with problems
- The closer we get to the centre of this city, the better it gets!
- New Jerusalem comes down out of heaven
- From God – delights to give His best
- As a bride adorned – perfect and ready

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Revelation 21:3

- Last 'great voice' 21x
- *'Declaration of great importance'*
- God's desire from before the foundation of the world

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the **tabernacle** of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Revelation 21:3

- Last 'great voice' 21x
- *'Declaration of great importance'*
- God's desire from before the foundation of the world
- 'Tabernacle' (John 1:14) Incarnation / Second Coming

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 21:4

- **First action of God – wipe away our tears**

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Revelation 21:5

- ‘genuine & dependable’

6 And he said unto me, **It is done.** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Revelation 21:6

God's Will

⁹ Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

¹⁰ That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

Ephesians 1:9-10

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Revelation 21:6

- ‘let him come and drink undeservedly’
- Contrast the ungodly – (Luke 16)

Eternal Thirst

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

Luke 16:22-24

Eternal Thirst

- The rich man wants his thirst satisfied
- Yet he has no physical body!
- Sin promises that which it cannot deliver
- It will always leave you unfulfilled
- It will always leave you unsatisfied
- It can never appease a longing
- It will leave you eternally thirsting

Eternal Thirst

Sin will:

Take you further than you wanted to go

Keep you longer than you wanted to stay

Cost you more than you wanted to pay!

In contrast...

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 21:7

The Blessing of Sonship

¹ Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God

1 John 3:1

8 **But** the fearful,^{*} and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Revelation 21:8

* Cowardly

Born twice, die once

Born once, die twice

God's Rules

- Fearful – cowardly
- Unbelieving – ‘I’m a good person...’
- Abominable – ‘to stink’ anything abhorrent
- Murderers – ‘even hatred in the heart’
- Whoremongers – ‘sexually immoral’
- Sorcerers – *pharmakia* – drugs
- Idolaters – making a god to suite yourself
- Liars – size & colour not specified!

Hell?

- Is Hell an allegory/symbolism?
- Some teach it is not a real place
- Some teach annihilation
- Jesus taught more of Hell than any other single doctrine
- He taught it was a real, eternal Hell – where the worm never dies and the fire is never quenched! (Mk 9:44)

Hell?

“Excellent topic! I truly enjoyed reading “Does Heaven Exist?” I am a devout Christian, and don’t give much thought to heaven. My spirituality isn’t based on an anthropomorphic, kick-butt God who will throw four generations of children into eternal damnation because some distant forefather ticked him off. Heaven is the flip side of the absolutely barbaric notion of hell that evolved under that kick-butt mindset... To me, God is a symbol for something unfathomable, an utter mystery that fills my heart with joy and my spirit with song.”

Letter published in Time magazine

Hell?

“Notice the use of the words “To me...” That is the key. To be an idolater, you make a god to suit yourself, one devoid of reference to sin, righteousness, and judgment. Make sure he or she likes the things you like and hates the things you hate. If you like lust, so will your god, If your god doesn’t mind lying and stealing, then you can lie, steal, and lust to your hearts content. Your god will fill your heart with joy and your spirit with song... right up until Judgment Day!

Response by Ray comfort

"In Hell thou shalt have none but a company of damned souls with an innumerable company of devils to keep company with thee. While thou art in this world the very thought of the devils appearing to thee makes thy flesh to tremble and thy hair stand upright on thy head.



"But O what wilt thou do when not only the supposition of the devils appearing but the real society of all the devils of Hell will be with thee; howling, roaring and screeching in such a hideous manner that thou will be even at thy wits end and ready to run stark mad again for anguish and torment.



"If after 10,000 years an end should come, there would be comfort. But here is thy misery; here thou must be forever. When thou seest what an innumerable company of howling devils thou art amongst, thou shalt think this again; this is my portion forever.



"When thou hast been in Hell so many thousand of years as there are stars in the firmament or drops in the sea or sands on the seashore, yet thou has to lie there forever. Oh this one word 'ever' how will it torment thy soul. And many are in the net moving toward that furnace of fire."

John Bunyan





CHARLES SPURGEON
1834–1892

*"Have you no wish for others to be saved?
Then you are not saved yourself.
Be sure of that."*



“Come and see...”



CHARLES SPURGEON

1834-1892

"He knows not the Grace of God who has no desire that others should know it, also. You will assuredly long for the souls of others if God has saved your soul"

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

Revelation 21:9-10

- **Destination of the saints**

Destination of the Saints

⁸ By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

⁹ By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

¹⁰ For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Hebrews 11:8-10

Destination of the Saints

¹⁸ For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest,

¹⁹ And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more:

²⁰(For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart:

Hebrews 12:18-24

Destination of the Saints

21 And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Hebrews 12:18-24

¹¹ Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

Revelation 21:11-12

Shekinah Glory

34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Exodus 40:34- 35

Shekinah Glory

¹ Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house.

² And the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD's house.

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

Shekinah Glory

³ And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Revelation 21:12-14

15 And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.

16 And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

Revelation 21:15-16

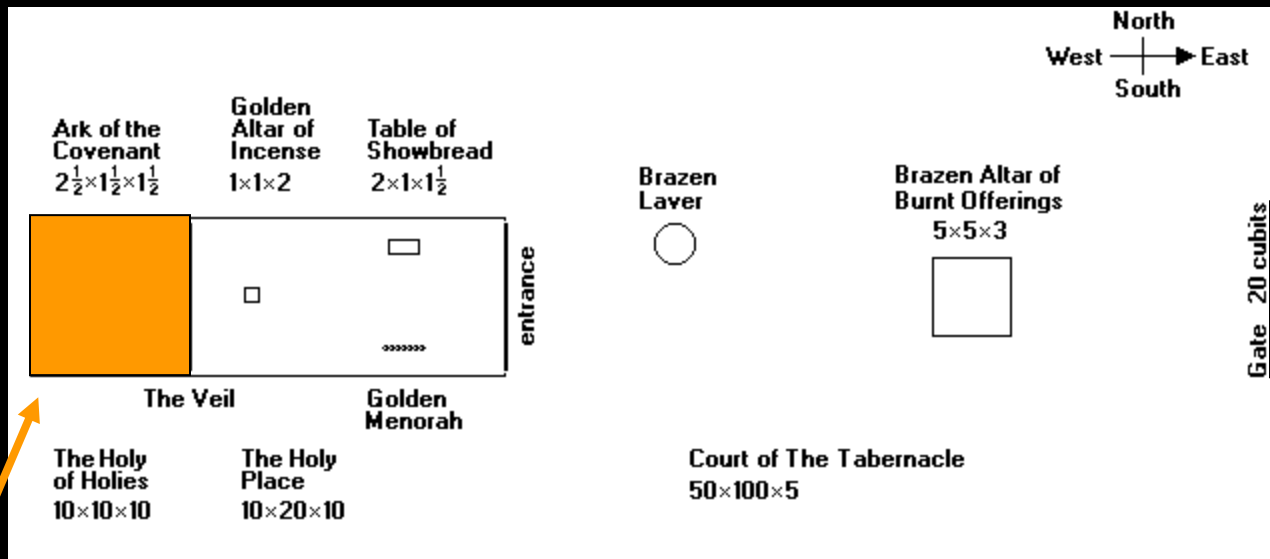
New Jerusalem

- Twelve thousand furlongs?
- 1,500 miles
- Cube?
- Pyramid?
- Pyramid often associated with false worship
- However, God has used Cubes in His models

The Tabernacle



The Tabernacle

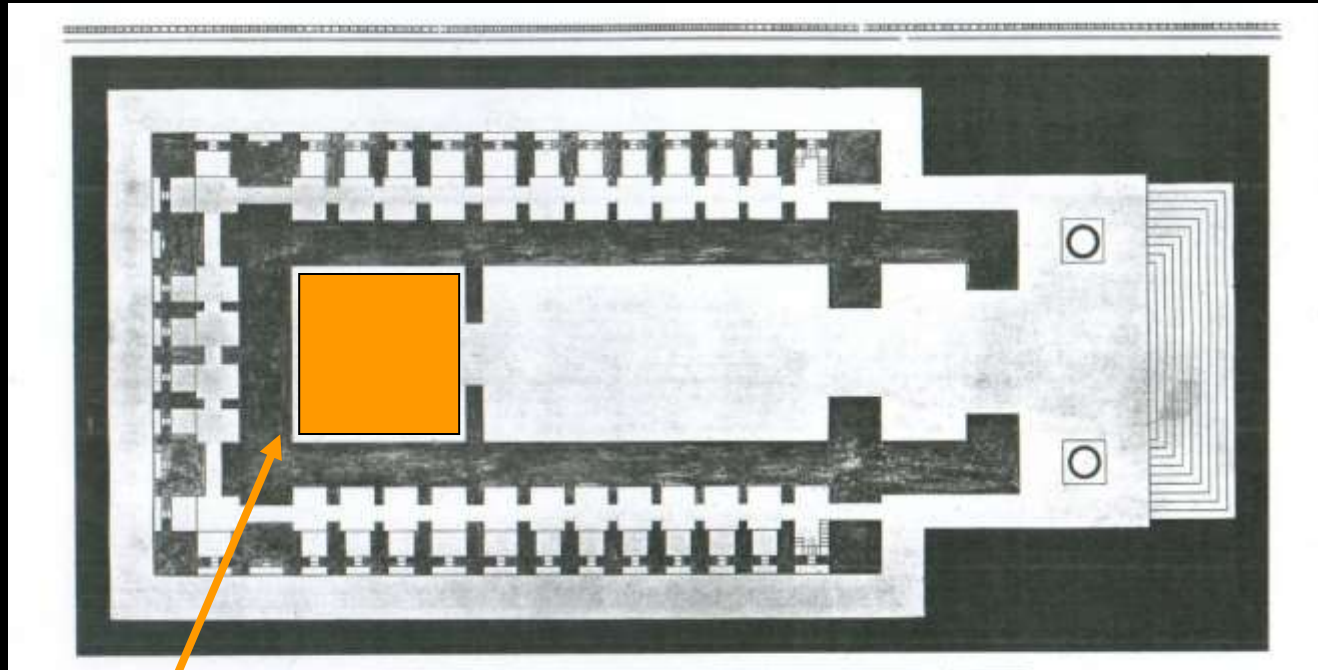


Holy of Holies (15ft x 15ft x 15ft)

The Temple



The Temple



Holy of Holies (30ft x 30ft x 30ft)

Ancient Babylon



- 15 x 15 miles
- Poor imitation – man's best?
- New Jerusalem 1500 miles²!

1500 x 1500 miles



¹⁷ And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.

¹⁸ And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.

Revelation 21:17-18

The City's Wall

- Cubit = the distance from elbow to the forefinger ($\frac{1}{2}$ Meter or 18")
- But, this is measured against the stature of an angel.
- 144 cubits c.300 ft thick!
- Walls made from solid Jasper
- City of pure gold - transparent

19 And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald;


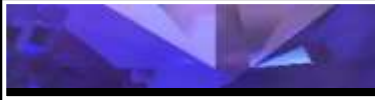
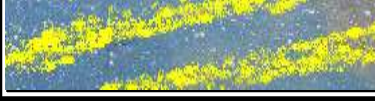



20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.

Revelation 21:19-21

The City's Adornment

- Walls = Jasper
- City = Pure gold, like clear glass
- Foundation = 12 Stones
(Like the High Priest's Breastplate Ex 28)
- Gates = Pearl
(Symbolic of the Gentiles)
- Streets = Pure gold, like glass

Foundation Stones

- Jasper 
- Sapphire 
- Chalcedony 
- Emerald 
- Sardonyx 
- Sardius 

Foundation Stones

- Chrysolite



- Beryl



- Topaz



- Chrysoprasmus



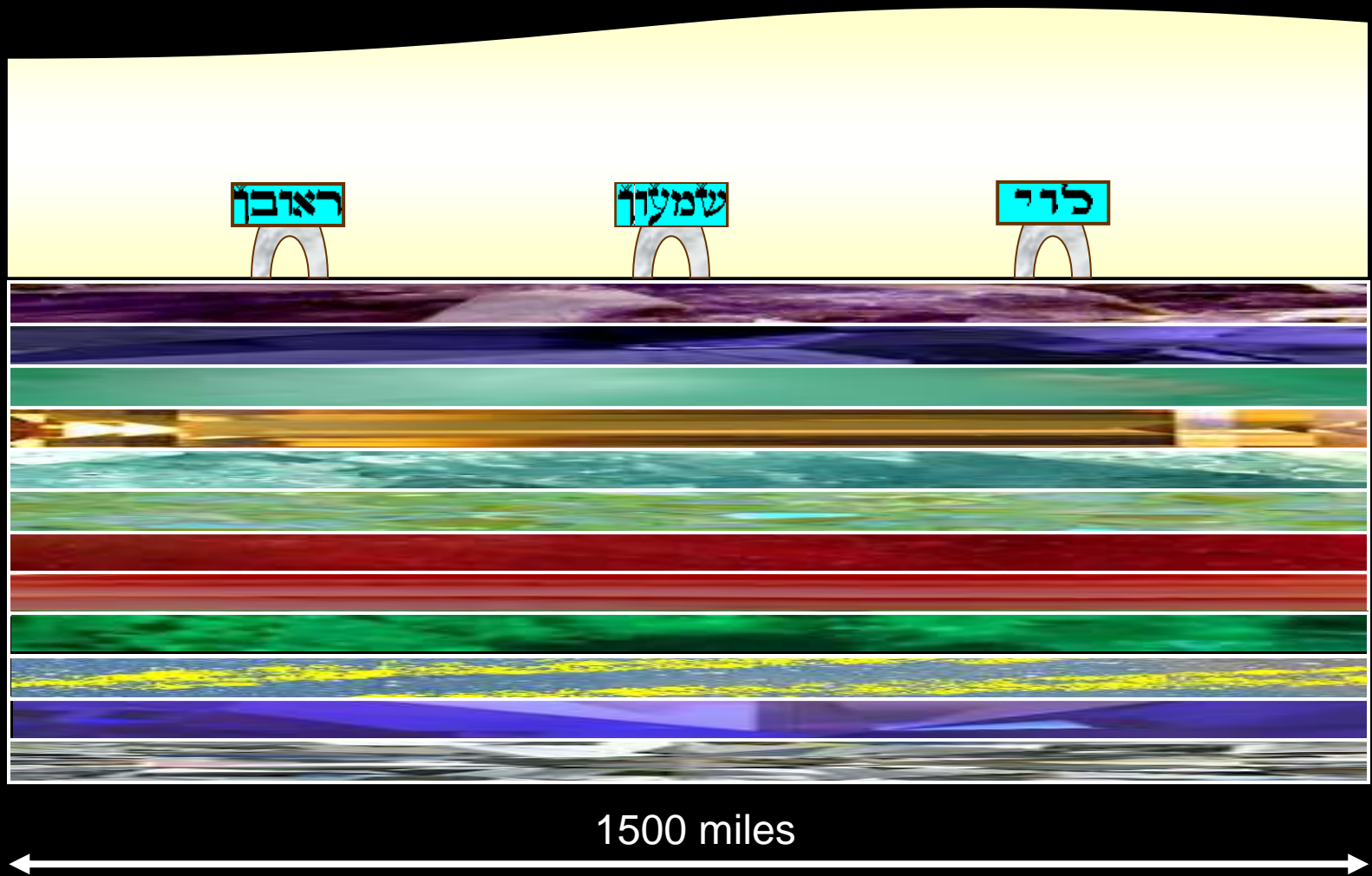
- Jacinth

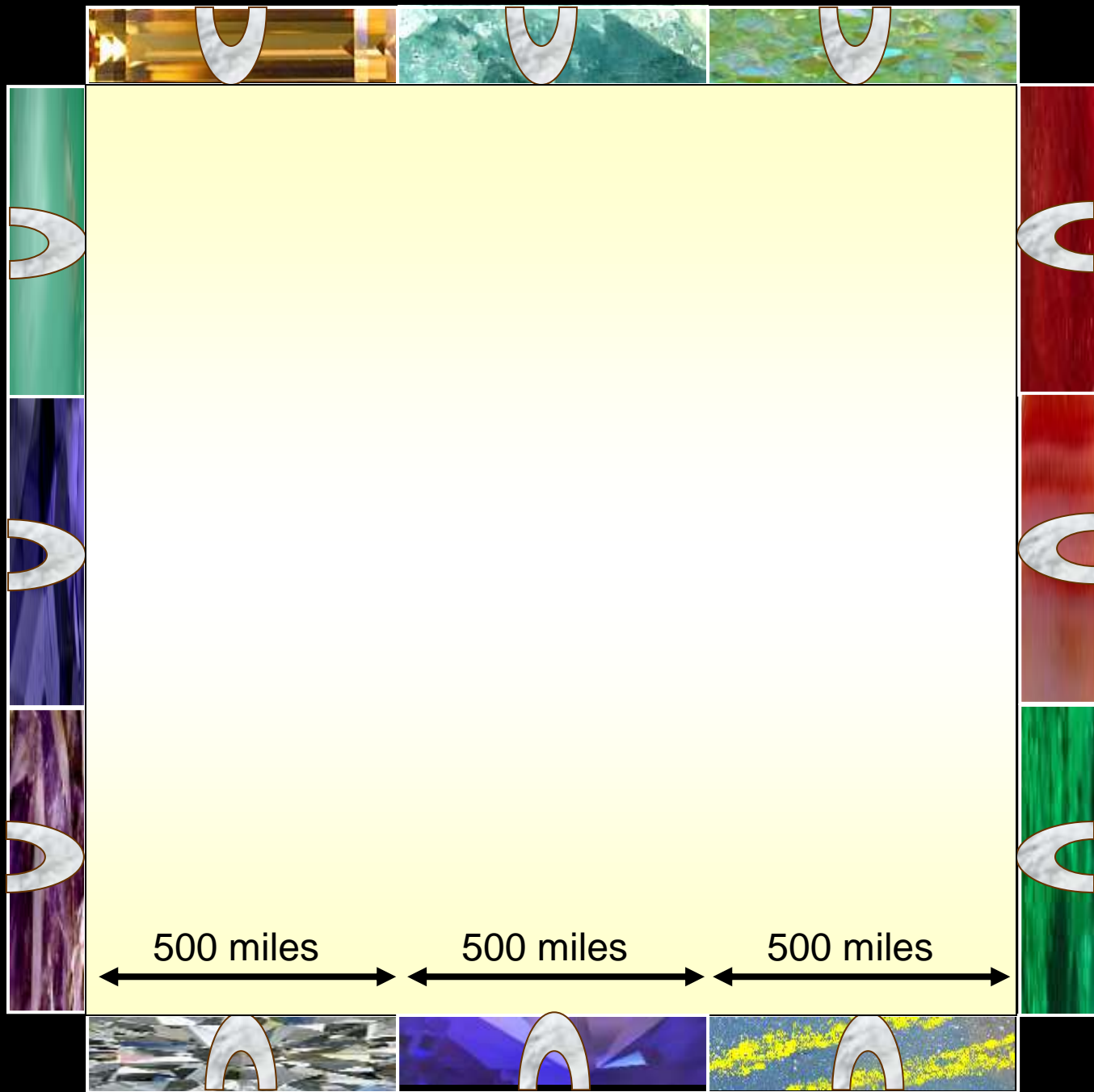


- Amethyst



Foundation Stones





21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

Revelation 21:21

Note: St Peter is NOT standing at the gates!

- Our entrance is not dependant on if we have been good or bad –
- But on our standing with Jesus Christ
- We will face Him as our LORD or JUDGE

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

Revelation 21:19-20

Light

¹ In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

² And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

³ And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

⁴ And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Light

Verse 3

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

rwa yhyw rwa yhy myhl a rmayw

‘owr

hayah

‘owr

hayah

Eloheim

amar

light

be

light

be

Eloheim

(God)

Said

Genesis 1:3

And God said, ‘Let light be light’

And God said, ‘Let The Light illuminate’

Light

- For the Light to now illuminate..
- It had to already exist

Light

6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Cor 4:6

- Light was therefore pre-existent

Light

I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace,
and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

Isaiah 45:7

Light

I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace,
and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

Isaiah 45:7

אֵרָב

bara (create out of
nothing)

Light

I **form** the light, and **create** darkness: I make peace,
and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

Isaiah 45:7

יצר yatsar

(mould into a form)

**KJV - earthen,
fashion, form,
frame, make, potter,
purpose.**

ברא

bara (create out of
nothing)

The Light of the world

¹² Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying:

I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

John 8:12

The Light of the world

⁵ This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:5

The Light of the world

- Light was pre-existent in the person of Jesus Christ
- God commanded the Light to shine
- The Light simply then illuminated
- Jesus Christ – the pre-existent One – who is the Light, created all things

Symmetry of Design

- Each particle has an antiparticle

particle + antiparticle  annihilation + photon

- Physicists suggest this is a reversible reaction
- The implication...
- Light could have created matter!

The Light of the world

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

John 1:1-5

The Light of the world

- 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.
- 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
- 9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

John 1:1-12

The Light of the world

10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 1:1-12

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

Revelation 21:19-20

The Light of the world

19 The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

20 Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

Revelation 21:24

The Nations?

Who compose the nations?

- 1) The Tribulations Martyrs
- 2) Those born during the Millennium
- 3) The 'Sheep' nations (cf Matt 25)

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 21:25-27

NB: That's why it's perfect!

¹ And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

² In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22:1-2

Water of Life? – cf John 4:10

Healing Gr. *Therapeia* 'Health-giving'

3 And there shall be **no more curse:** but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they **shall see his face** and his name shall be in their foreheads.

Revelation 22:3-4

No more curse – cf Gen 3

Seeing His Face

As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Psalm 17:15

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 22:5

6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

Revelation 22:6

- Faithful & True –
- *‘Dependable & without fiction’*
- All just symbolic?
- Tabernacle: full of symbolism, yet real
- Temple: full of symbolism, yet real

Remember The Promise

² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

John 14:2-3

It is done!



All debts have been paid

It is done!



All judgments have been completed

It is done!



All promises have been fulfilled

It is done!



All questions have been answered

It is done!



All sorrow has been comforted

It is done!



All tears have been cried

It is done!



All longings have been appeased

It is done!



All desire has been satisfied

It is done!



All emptiness filled

It is done!

*No wonder Abraham was looking for
the city whose builder and maker is
God...*

*and was therefore content to dwell
in tents for now...*



“We’re not home yet”



“I can’t wait to get home!”



Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



Simply teaching the Bible, simply