

# **Revelation 21**

## **Revelation 21.1-4**

**V1** – Did John mention anything about the old earth being burned off and given to those who were saved, but were not among the 144,000 (Jehovah's Witness doctrine)? No, not at all

-See *2 Peter 3.1-10* – the old universe will melt with intense heat, etc.

-**Why was the sea left out of heaven?** The Israelites were afraid of the sea – many people had died on the sea and continue to perish on the seas of the world today

**V2** – How did John describe the view of the New Jerusalem? As a bride coming down the aisle ready to greet her groom (one of the most beautiful sights we have in this life)

-**Why was the New Jerusalem coming out of heaven?** So that it could be shown to the Apostle John

**V3** – What is the reference to the tabernacle? The tent of dwelling from the days of Moses until the temple was built by Solomon

**V4** – Another characteristic of heaven? On our arrival there God will wipe away our tears

-**Why would we be crying when we arrive in heaven?** Possibilities:

1. Sadness of this life (maybe adult children who have denied the faith, etc.)
2. Possibly the pain of death (from persecution, from a terrible disease or injury)
3. Maybe tears of joy over reaching heaven
4. Maybe over loved ones who will not be there to greet us (lost eternally)

-But God himself will wipe away our tears

## **Revelation 21.5-9**

**V5** – How did God describe heaven? Everything is new there

-We like a new car, a new house, etc.

**V6** – Where did we see God referred to as the Alpha and Omega? *Rev. 1.8*

-**Where in the New Testament have we read about the living water?** *John 4* and the woman at the well

**V7** – Is salvation unconditional to all people? No – we must overcome Satan and remain faithful to Jesus Christ

**V8** – List the 8 categories of people who will be sent to hell....

-**Which categories might surprise us?** Liars...fornicators ("immoral")...others

**V9** – John will receive a special showing of the New Jerusalem

## **Revelation 21.10-13**

**V 10** – Where was the New Jerusalem being kept? In heaven

**V 11** – What precious stone is mentioned in this verse? Jasper

**V 12** – What is described next? High wall, 12 gates, 12 angel at the gates (not the apostle Peter waiting there to question people before they enter!)

-What were the names over the 12 gates? Names of the 12 tribes of Israel

**V 13** – 3 gates on each of four sides

**V 14** – What names were on the 12 foundation stones of heaven? Names of the 12 apostles

-Notice that both those saved under the Old Testament and under the New Testament are represented by the gates

## **Revelation 21.15-21**

**V 15** – What did the angel have in his hand at this time? A "measuring rod"

**V 16** – What are the dimensions of heaven? 1500 miles in height, width, length (a cube)

-The Romans did not use miles, but "stadia"

-But our modern translations generally put the measurements for North America (miles) or elsewhere in the metric system (not invented until the French Revolution of 1789) (just an interesting side note about translations)

**V 17** – Measurement in yards (again, not a Roman unit of measurement)

**V 18** – What was the composition of the city? Pure gold, like clear glass

**V 19-20** – The 12 precious stones which adorned the city

**V 21** – What were the gates made out of? Pearls

-What were the streets made out of? Transparent gold

## **Revelation 21.22-27**

**V 22** – What was missing from heaven? A physical temple

-Why? Because Christ will be the temple there (no church buildings, cathedrals, etc.)

**V 23** – Why will there not be the sun or moon there? God is light, and that light will shine in the city

**V 24** – The nations and the kings will be there

**V 25** – Will there be day and night there? No, only daytime

-There will be no need to fear the night

**V 26** – The glory of the nations will be there

-Maybe a modern day comparison would be the opening ceremonies of the Olympics – but it will not be for great athletes, but the children God who remained faithful until death

**V 27** – **What else will not be there?** Not anything unclean there

**-But who will be there?** Those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life

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