



Revelation With Daniel

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Verse 1 - A new heaven and a new earth is what we are pressing toward. This world is waxing old as a garment and it will be changed (**Hebrews 1:10-12**). **Isaiah 65:17, 66:22-23, John 14:1-3, 2 Peter 3:11-13**, and many other Scriptures speak about the new heavens and the new earth. Notice **Hebrews 11:10**, by faith Abraham “looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” How did God make the city? Through His Son! (See **John 14:1-3**)

There was no more sea. Can it be that waters, or the sea in this reference, means people? On the new earth will there be no more people? I believe we are reading here of a physical description of the new earth. No more sea, which separated John from the people he had given his life to minister for. There would be no more waters of separation representing persecution for the faith he loved so dearly (see **Revelation 1:9**). There would be no more loneliness and distance from loved ones. He saw a new and perfect earth.

Verse 2 - Picking up from the vision John had seen earlier (**17:18**), yet with a major difference: this city was holy. This holy city is not coming down to the earth populated with the unbelievers which had been resurrected and trying to overtake the city. This is when that same city had come down (as in **20:9**), yet after the creation of the new heavens and the new earth! Will we, the chosen, called, and faithful be able to watch and listen to the Word of God create the heavens and the earth again? Is Heaven our honeymoon and the new earth our first home? (See **Matthew 5:5**.) Look to **Revelation 3:12** to see similar thoughts to this verse.

This verse speaks of the city of God as a bride adorned for her Husband. There's one other verse in the Bible with similar language, it's found in **Isaiah 61:10-11**. It speaks of righteousness being as the garments of a bride with that same righteousness springing up as a flower before the nations.

Verse 3 - The words ‘tabernacle’ and ‘dwell’ are both from the same root word. They can both be understood as meaning tent, or tabernacle. The tabernacle of God is with men and He did tabernacle with them. This is the fulfillment of the last, long awaited feast day (**Leviticus 23:34**). God has wanted to be His people's “only true God” (**John 17:3**) for a long time. Notice **Genesis 17:8, Exodus 29:45, Jeremiah 24:7, 31:33, 32:38, Ezekiel 11:20, 14:11, 34:30, 37:23, 37:27, Zechariah 8:8, 2 Corinthians 6:16, Hebrews 8:10, and Revelation 21:7**.

Verse 4 - It isn't until *after* the 1,000 years that God will wipe away all tears, where the emotions of this world will be consumed with His glory. During the 1,000 years, when we will be asking why our friends or relatives aren't saved and in Heaven, there will be great emotional outbreaks, longings for those who had rejected God's mercy while they were living on earth. I suppose we will be feeling the personal responsibilities for not making more asserted efforts to show them truth with God's love. But God will make all things new—our understanding of the history of this earth, the purposes He has had from the beginning, and everything about us, to give us that beautiful and coveted eternity with Him. May God give us all the ability to see with His eyes while living on this side of eternity! (Similar thoughts on death are in **Isaiah 25:8, Hosea 13:14, and 1 Corinthians 15:54-55**.)

Verse 5 - God says He will make “all things new.” Does that mean that we as humans will finally be recreated at that time as well? No. Our recreation begins on this earth. See **2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 3:2-3**. Also, in the building of Solomon’s earthly temple there was an illustration in the process. Notice **1 Kings 6:7** which says, “The house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready *before* it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.” The stones were prepared before they were brought up to Mount Zion to be put in place to “build the house of the LORD” (**1 Kings 6:1**). It is the same with us today, our characters must be prepared “as lively stones” while here on earth before being brought up to the heavenly Mount Zion! (See **Hebrews 3:6, 1 Peter 2:5-12, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19** [ye and you are plural terms in the KJV, while thee and thou are singular]).

Verses 6-8 - This is the fourth time the Bible shows God saying something like, “It is done.” What is done? The final ministry phase of the sanctuary service! God has shown, through figures and types in the sanctuary services, what He will be doing throughout the ages. He has given us the ability to see what He will be doing/has done in all of the phases of ministry. The last phase, in the Most Holy place, He will have completed the judgment ministry for this world—the pre-thousand year, thousand year, and post-thousand year judgments (investigating, being investigated, and the final executive judgments).

The first time we find God saying, “It is done” is in the prophecy relating to this very time—during the destruction of God and Magog—in **Ezekiel 39:8**. We then find, in the New Testament, Christ saying it on the cross, fulfilling and completing the Outer Court ministry (**John 19:30**). We read of Christ saying it after the intercession between Himself and God is completed in **Revelation 16:17** (fulfilling and completing the Holy Place ministry), and finally at the end of all evil when He fulfills the final Most Holy Place ministry.

Some other verses that are interesting in this section are as follows: **Isaiah 41:4, 6, 48:12, 55:1, Revelation 1:8, 11, 17, 2:8, 22:13**.

Verses 9-11 - Look to the study of chapter 17 to see the similarities between this Great City, and the other great city.

Verses 12-14 - “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**). God’s people on earth, as a “holy temple” are “built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone” (**Ephesians 2:20-21**).

An interesting thing to notice here in these verse is what seems to some as inequality. If God’s trajectory idea was to include women as spiritual leaders, why would He put the names of twelve men on the gates and the names of twelve men on the foundations? Wouldn’t it have suited Him well to include the name of at least one woman in this everlasting list of twenty-four men?

Verses 15-17 - Some wonder if this city is one size or another. Let’s consider the two options I’m aware of: from the 80 freeway in the center of Sacramento to the Ventura Freeway (which is the 134) in Glendale, CA it is 375 miles. Driving 60 mph for 6.25 hours will get you there. That’s one side of the New Jerusalem if the entire building is 1500 miles around.

But if the New Jerusalem is 1500 miles on each side, then we're talking about a building that has one of its four walls being more than half the length of the United States! (which is roughly 2,850 miles from sea to sea) Remember, the building is as tall as it is wide, according to verse 16.

The word “foursquare” occurs throughout the Bible ten times, each of which point out specifics of the sanctuary services of the Old Testament except for this one in verse 16.

Verses 18-21 - The two stones that make up the wall and the city are jasper and gold. The only other places in the Bible where jasper and gold are found together are either on the priests (as on the breastplate which is “foursquare” as in **Exodus 28:20**) or on Lucifer (as in **Ezekiel 28:13**).

The gates being made of pearls (with angels standing at each of them, **21:12**) could represent the trials God's people have been brought through here on earth. Watch this brief video which explains the making of a pearl: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T18E58vOTus>. An irritant comes inside the shell of an oyster (interestingly, an unclean animal), and that irritant is covered by the host time and time again for years by a thin layer of tiny crystals called nacre. Each layer of nacre builds upon the last until finally the tiny crystals work together to reflect light in the beautiful display of a pearl. Do a little research on your own about pearls to be amazed at what the symbol of a pearl could represent in your own life.

Verse 22 - God has been illustrated by the temple since it was created by Bezaleel and Aholiab (**Exodus 36:1**). Imagine the head of Jesus Christ at the Most Holy place, while “in his right hand [are] seven stars” (**1:16**) as He is “standing upon the altar” of sacrifice (**Amos 9:1**). The sanctuary has illustrated the salvation plan of God ever since its inception. When we are in the new earth, how much *more* will we be able to see the beauty, meaning, illustrations, and truth of the way the earthly and Heavenly sanctuaries represent the gospel and character of our Lord!

Verses 23-26 - The city had no need of the sun. This doesn't mean there will be no sun. Anyway, by the grace of God, I will be there with my family!

Verse 27 - Obviously, from reading this verse alone, those who are in the Lamb's book of life are surrounded in Christ's righteousness, undefiled by everything unholy, had been given a new heart through miraculous re-creation, and are honest and true in their dealings. God has always wanted a people who are willing to reflect His image. May the God of mercy continue to change my heart that I'll be used of Him to show forth His most worthy and amazing character!

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