

The Glorious Church

The Holy City, New Jerusalem

The New Heaven and the New Earth

- **Rev 21:1** – And I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and the sea is no more.
 - In **Genesis 1**, the heaven and the earth are the **original** heaven and earth.
 - In this verse we have a **new** heaven and a **new** earth.
 - At the time of the new heaven and new earth, the **church** will attain the position according to **God's standard**.
 - There will not be just a **group** of saints who are perfected, but **all** the saints, the **whole Body**, from all nations throughout all the ages. They will all be together before God and **glorified** in His presence.
- **Rev 21:3** – And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His peoples, and God Himself will be with them *and be their God*.
 - The new heaven and new earth are in the **eternal blessing**, and positive blessing is spoken of here.
 - The positive and eternal blessing is that **God will be with us**.
- In the new heaven and new earth, the **woman** and the **holy city** are **one**; they are no longer two separate entities.
 - Since the New Jerusalem is the woman, the New Jerusalem is the **wife** of the Lamb.
 - God's throne is established in the New Jerusalem—God Himself **dwells** within this woman.
- The difficulty that we face today is that even though **we are the new creation**, we still **live** in the **old creation**.
 - In that day all things will become new; all things will be in the new creation.
- God spoke these things because He wants to tell us that He will bring His plan to fulfillment, He will reach His goal, and He will accomplish what He has begun.
 - God is not only the **Alpha** who **purposed in the beginning**, but also the **Omega** who will **finally succeed**.

- In the new heaven and new earth **we are all overcomers**! In the New Jerusalem, the entire Body overcomes – if we have faith, we are an overcomer.

The Holy City Descending from Heaven

- **Rev 21:10** – And he carried me away in spirit onto a **great and high mountain** and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
- In the sight of God, everything that has its origin in **Babylon** is in the **wilderness**; it is deserted.
 - When the angel showed John the **great harlot**, he led him into the **wilderness**.
 - When the angel showed John the **wife of the Lamb**, he brought him up to a **great and high mountain**.
- If we desire to see the eternal **vision** of God, we must be brought by Him to a **great and high mountain**.
 - Never think that just being an ordinary Christian day by day, not committing any great sin, is good enough.
 - We must hope to do some **spiritual climbing** and have some **spiritual attainment**.
- To be an **overcomer**, we must have **revelation**.
 - We must remember that **knowledge** can never produce fruit; only **revelation** is fruitful.
 - In order to have revelation we must go up to the high mountain; we cannot dwell in the plain.
- In **verse 9**, the angel said that he would show him the **wife of the Lamb**, but John saw the **holy city, Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God.
 - The wife of the Lamb whom John saw was the holy city, Jerusalem.
 - The city is a **figure**, describing the **characteristics and spiritual condition** of the **corporate** Body whom God chose before creation.
- This city comes down out of heaven **from** God.
 - God not only is concerned about the **destination** of this corporate man, but also about the place from which this corporate man **comes**.
 - God desires to have a corporate man of the **kindred of Christ**.

(The Glorious Church – Chapter 5)