

**THE SPIRIT AND THE
BRIDE SAY
COME!**



**THE TWELVE FOUNDATIONS OF
THE NEW JERUSALEM**

Don Randolph



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Introduction



The Book of Revelation is filled with prophetic symbolism as well as many literal components and illustrations. John's vision of the New Jerusalem in the Book of Revelation is a prophetic picture of the Bride of Christ. John saw the New Jerusalem coming down out of Heaven "prepared as a Bride adorned for her husband."

The scripture calls Jesus the Bridegroom and the Church is His Bride. Understanding the meaning of prophetic symbolism will give us greater insight into understanding prophetic revelation and many of the "hidden mysteries of God."

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret since the world began, but now has been made manifest, and by the prophetic scriptures has been made to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith. Romans, Chapter 16, Verse 25-26.

Prophetic revelation can be found in the Bible from the Book of Genesis thru the Book of Revelation. The Mystery of Christ can be found "in the beginning" when God said "let there light." Christ is the Light of the world. In the Bible light speaks of understanding. In the

beginning God separated the light from the darkness even before He created the first day.

Prophetic revelation plays a big part in revealing the mysteries of God to the Church. The Bible tells us “Jesus sanctifies and cleanses us by the “washing of the water by the Word of God so He might present her to Himself a glorious Church, without spot or wrinkle. According to Bible this is a “great mystery.” (Ephesians 5:22-33).

John’s vision of the New Jerusalem is one of the greatest mysteries in the Bible. John said the New Jerusalem was “prepared as a Bride and adorned for her Husband.” Understanding the prophetic symbolism of the “New Jerusalem” will help the Bride to prepare herself for the return of her Bridegroom.

The Word of God is the foundation of truth and knowledge. The Apostle Paul said “all things are upheld by the power of God’s Word.” (Hebrews 1:3).

THE BRIDE



**Into a city, a King did ride,
On a colt so pretty, to find a Bride.
He came to reign upon His throne
And remove the stain that men had known.**

**They nailed His soul upon a cross of wood
In a deep dark hole where their souls stood.
The throngs did sing as angels cried
To see their King die for His Bride.**

**They slew the King, nailed Him to a tree
To find something, they could not see.
Now the King reigns high above,
So His Bride can sing of His amazing love.**

Chapter 1



THE NEW JERUSALEM

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. And I John saw the holy city the new Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verses 1-2.

Among other things the New Jerusalem is a prophetic blueprint of the Church. There was a divine order by which the City had to be built. John describes the New Jerusalem as a bride “adorned” and prepared for her husband. The New Jerusalem is the “dwelling place of God.” (Revelation 21:3). In the New Jerusalem we become one with Christ and one with another as the “body of Christ.”

The Bible says God will make us “pillars” in the Temple of God and that He will write upon us the name of the heavenly city “New Jerusalem.” (Revelation 2:12-13). Paul said we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit—the Holy of Holies. (1 Corinthians 3:16).

The New Jerusalem is a prophetic picture of the body or “Bride of Christ.” The Bride of Christ is represented in the Book of Revelation as a “Holy City.” The New Jerusalem is the “betrothed of Christ.” She is His promised Bride. Jesus bought and paid for her

with His Blood at Calvary. She belongs to Him. She was predestined to be His Bride from the foundation of the Earth.

A city is a place where people live together as a community. It is a conglomeration of buildings, parks, streets, and businesses. However, without people a city is void of life. The most important asset of a city is its inhabitants.

In the New Jerusalem we not only find life, but the Life of Christ which is the greatest asset we can possess. It is the Life of Christ which gives the citizens of the New Jerusalem the capacity and privilege to dwell there eternally with Him.

All cities have limits or borders. When you leave a city, you are leaving the protection which the city provides. The Bible tells us that outside the gates of the New Jerusalem are “dogs, and sorcerers, whoremongers, murders, idolaters, and liars.” (Revelation 22:15). When Christians leave the safety the New Jerusalem extends to its citizens they can fall into the hands of unscrupulous men and women who live outside the city. If they leave the city, they leave themselves open to falling into the traps which Satan the enemy sets for them.

Jerusalem means “City of Peace.” The New Jerusalem is the city where PEACE rules and reigns supreme. The Bible tells us “Jesus is our Peace.” He is called the Prince of Peace. Jesus is the peace which passes all understanding. As long as we remain in the city we will be at peace and under the protection of our Lord.

NATURAL JERUSALEM

Earthly Jerusalem was a type and shadow of the New Jerusalem. Since the inception of natural Jerusalem wars and rumors of wars have threatened her existence, yet she still stands as a “beacon of hope’ to many nations, religions, and cultures. No other city on

Earth has the distinction of being called “the City of God. Surely she is a prophetic representation of the Bride of Christ.

Jerusalem means the “City of Peace.” However, peace is one thing which has eluded natural Jerusalem over the centuries. More battles have been fought over control of Jerusalem than any other city in the world.

According to most Bible scholars, the first part of the Hebrew word Jerusalem, “jeru” means “city.” The second part of the Hebrew word Jerusalem, “salem” means “peace.”

Some Bible scholars believe the Hebrew word “jeru” means “rain.” Others believe it means “teacher.” Since some words can have many meanings in the Hebrew, I believe all of the definitions would be acceptable. The New Jerusalem could be called the “rain of peace” and the “teacher of peace.” These are all representations of the “Prince of Peace,” who is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Like natural Jerusalem, the New Jerusalem, the city of true peace has been through many conflicts. Ever since her foundations were laid at Calvary the Forces of Darkness have tried to destroy her.

The battles which have been fought over Natural Jerusalem were prophetic of the battles we as Christians must fight in order to maintain “peace” within our hearts. The Blood of Jesus was shed at Calvary so we could live at peace in the New Jerusalem. Since Satan is trying continually to steal our peace, we will have to contend for our peace. Fortunately, the “weapons of our warfare” are more powerful than any weapon which our spiritual enemies possess.

We can learn many spiritual lessons from natural Jerusalem. Natural Jerusalem was never meant or intended to be a city of eternal peace, but a type and shadow of the New Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem is a city of “eternal peace.” The New Jerusalem is built upon a foundation of “true peace,” which support walls which cannot

be penetrated by any weapons the enemy may form or forge against her.

A SANCTUARY CITY

Let them make me a sanctuary, that I might dwell among them. Exodus, Chapter 25, Verse 8.

God desires to dwell among His people as a sanctuary. He desires the fellowship of His “created people.” God desires to keep and protect those who are “called by His name.” His Bride is called by His Name. The Bride is called the “Body of Christ.” We are His body. Spiritually speaking we have become the essence of who He is and what He is. We are “one” with Him in Spirit. We become a citizen of the New Jerusalem when we say “I do.” When we say “I believe that Christ died for my sins and rose from the grave, we become “joined” together with Him. At the end of the age the Church will become one with Him in “Holy Matrimony.”

As His Bride we have become covenant partners with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We have become joint heirs of ALL the promises of God because we are one with Christ.

Christ is our sanctuary. He is our place of refuge and safety. In Christ we become “aligned” with and “empowered” by the “fullness of the godhead.”

Being betrothed to Christ, we can proclaim Him as our fortress and our refuge. He is an ever present port in the time of a storm. He is an ever present help in the time of our need. He is a strong tower we can run into during a time of conflict.

Our highest priority should be fellowship with God as we dwell in our “earthly sanctuary.” After all, God created man for the

purpose of fellowship. Fellowship with our Creator is our highest and most important calling.

Chapter 2



THE TWELVE FOUNDATIONS

And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 14.

Twelve is the number of discipleship, apostolic fullness, and government. The wall of the New Jerusalem which John saw was built upon twelve foundations. The foundations had the names of the twelve apostles written in them. Each foundation has a special and specific purpose. They are “living principles and precepts” which are firmly and structurally “joined” together to establish and constitute the New Jerusalem.

The twelve foundations of the New Jerusalem are garnished with “all manner of precious stones.” (Revelation 21:19). These stones represent, among other things, godly character and mindsets which we inherit from Christ. The Bible says we have the mind (motives and attitudes) of Christ. The mindsets, attitudes, and motives of Christ are “incorruptible riches” which establish foundations in the Church with truth, righteousness, and faith.

The walls of the New Jerusalem rest upon those foundations of truth, righteousness, and faith. Godly wisdom, knowledge, and understanding are found only in Christ, and are the spiritual foundations which the New Jerusalem is built upon.

The twelve foundations of the New Jerusalem represent virtues and characteristics of the soul which have been renewed in Christ.

The foundations endow our souls with spiritual stability and strength. They give our souls a place of rest. In the New Jerusalem we are “joined” together with Christ through the foundations of His godly character. The twelve foundations are representations of the character of Christ.

The twelve foundations are godly principles which the city is established and built upon. In the New Jerusalem we walk in the “fullness of Christ” because His Spirit establishes those principles within our hearts.

In the New Jerusalem we are baptized and joined together with Christ. In the New Jerusalem the Bridegroom and the Bride become “joined” together in Holy Matrimony. Our emotional stability and strength will depend upon who Christ is in us and who we are in Him. In the New Jerusalem we become one with Him in purpose, function, and objectivity. In the New Jerusalem we are one with Christ in motive, principle, and godly desire.

Before they became apostles, the twelve men Christ chose to be closest to Him were called His disciples. Jesus taught them the “disciplines” of the Word of God. They needed to learn the disciplines of the Knowledge of God’s Word and how to operate successfully in the Kingdom of God.

There were rules and regulations to follow in the Kingdom of God which they had to learn. There were certain codes of behavior which were unacceptable in their walk and association with Christ. Many times they learned through trial and error “what was” and what “was not” acceptable in the eyes of God.

The disciples had to build spiritual foundations they could stand and walk upon before they graduated to apostleship. Their ascendancy to apostleship did not come without rebuke, turmoil, test, and trial. The learning curve is not always pleasant but needful if we

are going to ascend to “greater things in God. Many times life will throw us a curve, and we will swing at it with all our might, and miss the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

As disciples the twelve would learn foundational principles which would lead them into their calling as apostles. Jesus was their teacher. They could not have had a better teacher than Jesus Himself. Jesus is the “Chief Cornerstone” which all godly foundations are built upon.

John saw that the New Jerusalem was built upon twelve foundations. Godly foundations are built upon TRUTH which can only be found in the Word of God. Each foundation has a different purpose. Each foundation is aligned with and supports the “City of Peace.” They are joined together so the “peace of God” can dwell within our hearts richly. They are joined together so Christ, who is our peace, can rule and reign eternally in our hearts.

THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE

Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God. And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 19-20.

Jesus is the “Chief Cornerstone” which the twelve foundations are built upon. The foundations represent the nature and character of Christ. Jesus laid the foundation for the New Jerusalem at Calvary. He shed His Blood to purchase the City. Now the City belongs to Him and is under His governmental authority.

Our spiritual foundations must be predicated upon the “revelation” of who Christ is, who we are in Christ, and what He accomplished for us at Calvary. When we build upon the twelve foundations of the apostles, we will receive authority to rule and reign with Christ in Life.

Every city has governing authorities which work to ensure the laws, rules, and regulations of that city are observed and upheld by its citizens. As sons and daughters of God, we will be part of the government of Christ in the Kingdom of God. It is our responsibility to make certain we are observing and upholding the laws, rules, and regulations which the Kingdom of God requires of us.

The Bible says “By faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise looking for a city whose foundations were made and built by God.” (Hebrews 11:9-10). Abraham was more interested in a heavenly home than an earthly home. He was looking for a home with foundations that were built and made by God. In other words, he was searching for a home whose foundations would stand forever.

Therefore saith the Lord God, behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Isaiah, Chapter 28, Verse 16.

Jesus is the “precious cornerstone” of the New Jerusalem. His Body was “laid” in a borrowed tomb. It was a “borrowed tomb” because He only needed it for three days and nights. The “chief cornerstone” which the builders rejected turned out to be the only cornerstone which was found worthy to build the Church upon.

The Apostle Paul wrote “For no other foundation can man lay than that which has been laid which is Christ Jesus.” (1 Corinthians

3:12). Jesus is the “chief cornerstone” of the New Jerusalem and the foundation upon which the Church is built.

Many Christians have foundations which are built upon spiritual principles and doctrines that will not stand the tests and trials of life. When the storms of life come, and they will come, their spiritual houses will crumble and fall because they were not built upon foundations that cannot be moved.

THE TWELVE STONES

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; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardis, the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.
Revelation, Chapter 21, Verses 19-20.

The twelve stones which embellish the foundations of the New Jerusalem are the same stones which are found in the “breastplate of righteousness” that was worn by the High Priest as he served in the Temple at Jerusalem. The High Priest was a type and shadow of our High Priest, Jesus Christ. The “breastplate of righteousness” the High Priest wore in the Temple represented the “righteousness of Christ.”

The precious stones in the New Jerusalem express the purity and character of Christ. Each of the twelve stones was a

representation of the “virtues and character of Christ.” The wealth which is embedded in the foundations and walls of the New Jerusalem are also godly principles that “enrich the soul” and establish the Church in truth and righteousness.

Our “spiritual breastplate of righteousness” is worn over the breast where the “Mercy Seat” of our earthly “Ark of the Covenant” resides. As Christians we are Arks which carry the “covenant” of God within our hearts. As Christians Christ dwells within our hearts, thus we become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Righteousness is one of the foundations which the New Jerusalem is built upon. In Christ we wear a “robe of righteousness” which was bought and paid for by the Blood He shed at Calvary. The breastplate of His righteousness covers our heart. The robe of His righteousness covers our entire body.

The base for the “breastplate of righteousness” was made of gold. Gold represents the “divine nature of Christ. Each of the twelve stones in the “breastplate of righteousness” was a representation of the character of Christ. The character of Christ was imparted to us the moment we accepted Him as our Lord and Savior.

Speaking of revelation, Jesus said “Upon this rock I will build my Church.” Jesus is also the “Rock of our Salvation.” He is the stone (foundation) which earthly builders rejected. The fullness of the character and virtues of Christ constitute the twelve foundations of the New Jerusalem.

THE TWELVE FOUNDATIONS ARE:

FAITH

LOVE

THE

FEAR

OF

THE

LORD

REVELATION

**JUSTICE
TRUTH
WISDOM
KNOWLEDGE
UNDERSTANDING
RIGHTEOUSNESS
POWER
PEACE**

Chapter 3



THE TWELVE APOSTLES

Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 14.

All names in the Bible have prophetic significance. For instance, the name “Jesus” means “Savior.” Written on the foundations of the New Jerusalem were the names of the twelve apostles. The names of the twelve apostles represented the virtues and characteristics of Christ which the New Jerusalem were founded upon.

The word “apostle” means “one who is sent.” Jesus “sent” the twelve apostles to the known world to preach the “good news” of the gospel in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the “ends of the Earth.”

There has been much speculation as to who the “twelfth” apostle is whose name is written on the foundations of the New Jerusalem. Some say it is “Mathias.” Others say it is “Paul.” However, I believe the names of the apostles which were written on the foundations were not put there to bring attention to the apostles themselves, but to their doctrines and what their names mean and represent in the New Jerusalem.

Paul means “little man.” The name “Paul” is equivalent of the Hebrew name “Saul.” Paul claimed himself to be the “least of the

apostles.” He was not trying to make a name for himself, but always humbled himself before the Lord. Although Paul’s name may not be found on the foundations of the New Jerusalem, his signature can be seen written over the entire City. Paul wrote over two thirds of the New Testament. His writings have helped multitudes to conform to the image of the Holy City.

John’s revelation of the New Jerusalem was prophetic in nature. Paul’s revelation of the Bride was based upon the actual character and virtues of Christ which would embellish the heart and soul of the “Bride of Christ.”

MATHIAS

Mathias replaced Judas Iscariot after he committed suicide. Matthias means “gift of God.” His name is not mentioned again in the Bible after he became the twelfth disciple replacing Judas Iscariot.

The New Jerusalem is the “gift of God” from the Bridegroom to His Bride. The Bible says “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life.” (Romans 6:23). There are many precious gifts in the New Jerusalem waiting for those who accept Christ as their Lord and Savior. The Bible says “when He ascended on high, He led captivity captive and gave gifts to men. (Ephesians 4:8) One of the gifts Jesus gave us when He ascended to Heaven was the “office of the apostle.”

PETER

The name “Peter” is derived from the Greek word “petros” which means “little rock” or a “piece of a larger rock.” Peter was also called “Cephas” which also means “little rock” in Aramaic. Jesus used a “little rock (foundation)” to help build the foundations of the New Jerusalem in the hearts of others.

Peter was a “little rock” which was “hewn” out of a larger rock, Christ. Peter helped to establish in others the same foundations of the New Jerusalem which Christ had built and established in his heart as he preached the “good news” of the gospel to others.

Peter was a fisherman by trade. Jesus would make Peter a “fisher of men” rather than fish. After Jesus went back to Heaven, Peter became the head of the Church in Jerusalem. He wrote two Books in the Bible which helped to establish “spiritual foundations” in the lives of believers.

Jesus is called the “Rock” of our salvation. The word in the Bible which was used to call Jesus a “rock” is different than the word for “rock” which was used for Peter. This word “rock” comes from the Greek word “petra” which means “a large immovable rock.” The character and virtues of Christ are the foundations which the New Jerusalem were established upon.

ANDREW

Andrew was the brother of Peter. Like Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman. Like Peter he also became a “fisher of men.” Andrew means a “strong man.” The Bible tells us to be “strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.” Jesus is our strength.

JOHN

John means “God is gracious.” Like Peter and Andrew, John was also a fisherman. John was the brother of James. The Bibles tells us we are “saved by grace (gracious), through faith.” (Ephesians 2:8). In Christ we have redemption through His Blood and the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s “grace.” (Ephesians 1:7). John wrote the Gospel of John and the Book of Revelation as well as three other books of the Bible. John is responsible for laying

the foundation of Christ in the hearts of many people as well as giving the Church the “revelation” of the New Jerusalem.

JAMES

James was the older brother of John. He was also a fisherman like his brother. James is derived from the Hebrew name “Jacob,” which means “supplanter.” Supplanter means “he who supplants or “takes the place” of his brother. Jesus was crucified for “our sins.” We should have been punished for our sins, but Jesus “took our place” and bore our sins as He died upon the cross at Calvary.

PHILIP

The name Philip means “he loves horses.” Some Bible references say the name Philip means “warlike.” Most Bible scholars use the “he loves horses” definition of the name Philip. Horses are prophetic of “power.” Today we use the term “horsepower” in reference to the power which drives cars, trucks, and other motor driven vehicles. Through the “power of God’s love” souls are set free as they enter into the New Jerusalem. The gospel is the “power of God unto salvation.” (Romans 1:16).

BARTHOLOMEW

The Bible does not give any insight into Bartholomew, who he was, or what he did before He met Christ. Bartholomew means “son of Talmai (the furrow).” A furrow is a long, narrow trench made in the ground by a plow to plant seeds in. Jesus called the Word of God the “seed.” (Luke 8:11). Bartholomew would sow many seeds of life establishing the foundations of the New Jerusalem in the hearts of people as he went from city to city preaching the “Word of God.”

THOMAS

The name Thomas means “a twin.” As Christians we are to be Christ-like. The Bible says “As He is so are we in this world.” (1 John 4:17). When we become like Christ, we will work to establish the foundations of the New Jerusalem in others by sharing the “good news of the gospel” with them. We will be mimickers of Christ in all we do and say as we “go into all the world” to preach the gospel.

MATTHEW

Matthew means “reward of God.” Matthew was the author of the Book of Matthew. He certainly helped to lay the foundations of the New Jerusalem within the hearts of many people. The Bible says “No other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid which is Christ Jesus. Now if anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he shall receive a reward.” (1 Corinthians 3:11 and 14).

SIMON

Simon means “he hears and obeys.” The Bible tells us to be “doers of the Word, not just hearers only, deceiving ourselves.” (James 1:22). Faith and obedience are the keys which open the gates of the New Jerusalem. When we obey the voice of God instead of hardening our hearts, we will be opening the door for the blessings of God to be poured into our lives. Jesus became the author of eternal salvation to all who believe and obey Him. (Hebrews 5:9).

THADDAEUS

Thaddaeus means “heart or courage.” Like Bartholomew, Thaddaeus is not mentioned often in the Bible. The Bible commands us to be “strong and courageous.” (Joshua 1:9). The foundations of the New Jerusalem are fortified with strength and courage. The Bible tells us to “Wait on the Lord; be of good “courage,” and He shall strengthen your “heart;” wait I say on the Lord. (Psalm 27:14). Jesus said “In your “patience” you possess your souls.” (Luke 12:19).

When our hearts are established with courage AND patience, there will be rest and peace within our souls.

ALPHAЕUS

Alphaeus means “we are kings.” The Bible tells us God has made us “kings and priests.” (Revelation 2:6). According to the Bible, we are a royal priesthood, a chosen generation and a holy people. (1 Peter 2:9). We are the “Holy City,” the Temple of the Living God. In the New Jerusalem we are kings and priests because the King of Kings and Lord of Lords dwells with us and within us. We are joint heirs with Christ according to the promise of God.

When Jesus chose the twelve to be His closest disciples/apostles, He was not looking for men with intellectual prowess or religious zealots. He did not pick the “cream of the crop” from a multitude of religious leaders who were experts in the Law. His mission was to teach His disciples the disciplines and principles of the “New Covenant” which would be established, ratified, and signed with His Blood.

Except for Judas, Jesus chose the men He supernaturally knew would be zealous and become fully dedicated to preaching the “good news of the gospel.” Once Jesus discipled, taught, and trained them, they would “turn the whole world upside down” with their “newly found faith in Him” and the knowledge of God He instilled within them. Although they were not always perfect, they became loyal and trustworthy servants.

When they became apostles, they laid the foundations of the New Jerusalem through their teaching enabling the future Bride of Christ to come to the knowledge and understanding of the truth. The apostles found the path to eternal life which Christ had paved for them, and they dedicated their entire lives to helping others find the pathway which leads to life eternal in the New Jerusalem.

Chapter 4



THE FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH AND LOVE

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders received a good report. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things that were seen were not made of things which are visible. Hebrews, Chapter 11, Verses 1-3.

Faith and love are the first two foundations the New Jerusalem is established upon. The Bible tells us “the just shall live by faith.” (Hebrews 10:38). A person who is filled with “living faith” will always live **BY** faith. As Christians our faith is based upon the “finished works of Christ.” It is our faith in Christ and His “finished works” which assures us a home in the New Jerusalem.

Out of the foundation of love flows a fountain “filled with Blood” drawn from Emanuel’s veins. It is the Blood which flows from Emmanuel’s veins that purifies us and washes away our sins. Love is the most powerful force in the universe. Therefore, love must be and was the first foundation which was established in the New Jerusalem. Love is what upholds the other eleven foundations and the wall of the City by the power of the Word of God.

The word “substance” in the above scripture is derived from the Greek word “substratum.” A substratum is a “sub-foundation.” In other words, it is a foundation which lies underneath and upholds another foundation. It is a foundation which another foundation rests upon like a sub-floor.

By faith we understand the worlds were “framed (built)” by the Word of God. Faith is the “substratum” which created and upholds the worlds in place. The Word of God is a foundation. Faith is the foundation which the Word of God rests upon. It is our faith and belief in the Word of God which establishes and sustains our position in the New Jerusalem.

People who have faith are justified by their faith, and will live by faith. As Christians, we have been forgiven of our sins and justified by our faith in the “finished works of Christ.”

The just shall live by faith. If we are going to “live by faith,” our faith must be rooted and grounded in the Word of God. Without faith, the promises of God are just empty words written on the pages of the Bible. All the promises of God are real, however, without faith we cannot expect to believe in and receive the promises of God.

Faith is the “substance” of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. Because faith is a “substratum,” it is also a “substance.” It is the substance which creates something out of nothing. Faith is a tangible force which commands things which do not exist to become reality. We saw this principle working in the Book of Genesis when the Earth was without form and void. God spoke and the words He spoke became reality.

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

Faith will take us into the realm of the supernatural where “all things are possible.” Many people of great faith are listed in the

“Faith Hall of Fame” found in Hebrews, Chapter 11. These people of faith pleased God because they believed in His promises. They stood firmly on their foundation of faith even through all the trials of life. They demonstrated their faith in the promises of God by refusing to compromise or accepting defeat.

The Bible tells us “all things are possible to those who believe.” (Mark 9:23). Our “personal substratum” in the New Jerusalem is built upon our foundation of faith in the promises of God.

Without faith it is impossible to please God. Hebrews, Chapter 11, Verse 6.

The New Jerusalem is not a reality to those who do not possess faith in the promises of God. A home in the New Jerusalem is guaranteed to all those who “believe God.” The Bible says He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Our reward is the promise that we will be seated together with Christ in heavenly places. (Ephesians 2:6).

Jesus said “In my Father’s House are many rooms. If it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.” (John 14:2 NIV). Our faith in God and the promises God has given us assures us we are dwelling in the heavenly place Christ has prepared for us. Our faith in the promises (Word) of God establishes a firm foundation which we can REST upon throughout eternity.

THE FOUNDATION OF LOVE

Faith works by love. Galatians, Chapter 5, Verse 6.

The Bible says “faith works or is “energized” by love.” The power which “energizes” our faith is “love.” In some places in The

Bible the word power is translated from the same word which means “virtue.”

Love is one of the most important foundations the New Jerusalem rests upon. The New Jerusalem is knit together by love. The New Jerusalem edifies or builds itself up through the power of “love.” Love is what motivated Jesus to bleed and die for our redemption. It was the love of Christ which led Him to the cross where He shed His Blood to wash away the sins of mankind. The foundations of love and faith are the foundation the other foundations in the New Jerusalem rest upon.

Without love, the New Jerusalem would be like a sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. Many people today get up in churches during praise and worship services with their brass instruments and clanging cymbals, but lack love. People can jump up and down, jump the pews, or swing on the rafters, however, if they do not possess “love” they are not fulfilling the “Royal Law of Love.”

For God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John, Chapter 3, Verse 16.

John 3:16 is probably the most well known as well as the most powerful scripture found in the Bible. Many people have been drawn to Christ and committed their lives to Him through the POWER of this verse. Love is the greatest of all foundations. The Bible tells us “God is Love.” (1 John 4:8). Because God IS love, He sent the message of His love to a lost and dying world through the death, burial, and resurrection of His “BELOVED” Son.

Love is the most powerful force (substance) in the universe. True love is not just an emotion, but a tangible force or “substance” which is “energized” by the faith of God to perform the miraculous.

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, you shall love your neighbor as your self, you do well. James, Chapter 2, Verse 8.

Love has the ability to change our attitudes toward one another. When people become rooted and grounded in the “love of God,” they will find God’s plan and purpose for their lives. Above all things, the plan and purpose of God for our life is for His will to be done. His will is carried out in our lives through the “power of His love.” If people are not walking daily in the “love of God,” they are not fulfilling the “Law of Love.”

The Bible tells us to be “filled” with the “fullness of Christ.” If we are not daily walking in the “fullness of God’s love,” we will not be filled with the fullness of Christ.

LOVE’S DIVINE PURPOSE

GOD IS LOVE. Love’s “divine purpose” is to give eternal life to all who choose to believe in Jesus Christ. God is not only LOVE, He is also LIFE. The New Jerusalem is built upon the foundation of love through faith in the “finished works of Christ.”

According to the Bible, the “love of God surpasses all knowledge and understanding.” The “love of God” is a mystery to those who do not believe. Knowledge and understanding alone will not give us insight into His love. God’s capacity to “be love” and “love those who are not loveable” goes beyond human reason and understanding.

As Christians, the love God has imparted to us gives us the “ability” to walk in His love so we can love others as He loves us. As believers, the love of God has taken us to heavenly places where the New Jerusalem is being formed into a Bride without spot or wrinkle. In Christ we live, move, and breathe, and have our being. In Christ we become able to love those who seem to be unloveable. Through faith, the true Church is being built upon the “foundation” of His “amazing love.”

Chapter 5



THE FOUNDATIONS OF FEAR AND REVELATION

Now therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone., in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom also upon are being built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit. Ephesians, Chapter 2, Verses 19-22.

The “fear of the Lord” is the foundation which WISDOM is built and rests upon. In Proverbs, Chapter 1, Verse 7, we see that the “fear of the Lord” is also the beginning or foundation of KNOWLEDGE. WISDOM and KNOWLEDGE are built upon the foundation of the “fear of the Lord.” We cannot and will not possess WISDOM until we have laid a firm foundation. When we have laid a solid foundation, we will be able to build a HOUSE which is pleasing to God.

The person who fears the Lord will always recognize God's authority and right to direct his or her path in life. God will always lead us down the path of righteousness which leads us to the peace and joy unspeakable we all need. People who do not have a "fear of the Lord" are devilishly deceived and desperately delusional.

When speaking of KNOWLEDGE which is resting upon the foundation of the "fear of the Lord," we are speaking of the KNOWLEDGE of God, not just human knowledge in general. The KNOWLEDGE of God is always connected to divine inspiration, truth, and understanding. Godly KNOWLEDGE comes from and is rooted and grounded in the Tree of Life. The Tree of Life which is found in the Garden of Eden is a representation of Christ.

Knowledge is considered to be facts and information gained by studying, experience, and education. Many secular books are full of knowledge which has nothing to do with God or spiritual matters. Many people possess and obtain natural knowledge which helps them to understand how things work and how to do things properly in the natural world. However, this type of knowledge has nothing to do with GODLY knowledge. Godly knowledge exists in order to help us KNOW God personally. Godly knowledge also helps us to understand the precepts and principles which govern His Kingdom.

A foundation is what holds up an entire building. If the foundation is weak, the building will eventually collapse. Fortunately, the foundation which the Church is built upon cannot collapse. Paul said "We are members of the HOUSEHOLD of God." Our spiritual HOUSE is built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Jesus is the "chief cornerstone" of this household, and HIS house will hold together throughout eternity because it is built upon foundations that cannot be moved.

The foundation which Paul was talking about is the foundational principles of the WORD of God which cannot be

compromised or moved. Jesus Christ, who is the WORD, is the “chief cornerstone” upon which the Church is built.

When fitly joined together, the Church grows into the TEMPLE of God where the glory and PRESENCE of God will dwell for eternity. The Church is a living organism which comes together and is built to be the habitation or dwelling place of God. The Bible says “we ARE the Temple (Holy of Holies) of the Holy Spirit.” Our hearts are the place where the Presence and Power of God dwells here on Earth. In the Book of Revelation we are called the “Bride of Christ” and the “New Jerusalem.” We are a city which sits upon a spiritual hill called “Mount Zion.”

Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. Proverbs, Chapter 24, Verses 3-4.

The house which godly WISDOM built, and is continuing to build, is constructed and established by spiritual understanding. Godly KNOWLEDGE fills the rooms of the house with all precious and pleasant riches. Those riches include the WISDOM and “divine nature” of Christ.

Divine, or godly WISDOM, is imparted to the Church by and through the Holy Spirit. He is our teacher, comforter, and guide. God’s first plan for the Church was to impart to her godly wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and instruction. The Holy Spirit is the purveyor of these heavenly treasures.

Disciples of Christ will always hunger and thirst for more of the heavenly treasures to be imparted to them. Through WISDOM we learn to live a disciplined life. WISDOM helps us to discern

between right and wrong, and teaches us how we can please God. The “fear of the Lord” is the beginning of godly WISDOM and KNOWLEDGE. We must begin our journey with the Lord by building our spiritual house upon the foundations He has laid.

We will prosper if we listen to the voice of WISDOM. We will grow into a Church whose foundations can never be shaken if we adhere to the voice of WISDOM.

FOUNDATIONAL REVELATION

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man am?” So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them “But who do you say that I am?” And Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. ” Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” Matthew, Chapter 16, Verses 13-18.

It appears that Peter was the only disciple who received the “revelation” at that time that Jesus was the “SON OF GOD.” The name “Peter” comes from the Greek Word “petros” which means “little rock.” Many people teach that Jesus was saying He was going to “build His Church” upon Peter because “Peter” means rock, but that is not what Jesus was saying. Jesus was referring to another rock when He said He would build His house upon a rock.

The “rock” Jesus said He would build His Church upon comes from the Greek word “petra,” which means a “large immovable rock.” Therefore, Jesus could not be saying the Church was to be built upon Peter. Jesus told Peter it was not flesh and blood that had REVEALED to Him that He was the Christ, but the Father in Heaven. The rock Jesus was talking about was the “rock of revelation,” the revelation that Jesus IS the Son of God.

The above scripture has more than one meaning. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the ROCK of our Salvation. The Bible also says Jesus is the “chief cornerstone” which the Church is founded and built upon. Jesus was also saying that the Church would be built upon the REVELATION that He IS the Son of God.

The word “REVELATION” means an “unveiling or uncovering.” The Book of Revelation is about the unveiling of the message Christ gave to the seven Churches, as well as the events which will transpire here on Earth during the end of days.

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. Ephesians, Chapter 1, Verse 17.

Paul continually prayed for the Ephesians to receive the Spirit of WISDOM and REVELATION in the KNOWLEDGE of the Lord Jesus Christ. We also receive the KNOWLEDGE of God by the Spirit of WISDOM and REVELATION. The KNOWLEDGE that Jesus was the Son of God was REVEALED to Peter by the Spirit of REVELATION. God REVEALS Himself and the KNOWLEDGE of His Word to us by His Spirit. This is called “REVEALED KNOWLEDGE.”

If we fail to understand God’s Word it is because He has not yet revealed it to us. That is why we need to possess the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation. When we possess the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation, the eyes of our understanding will be enlightened. We will then be able to know the depths of the WISDOM of God and the mysteries which are hidden in His WORD.

With REVELATION KNOWLEDGE we can and are building a house upon the foundation of God’s WORD. When our house is built upon the “Rock of Revelation,” the Gates of Hell cannot prevail against it. When we receive REVEALED KNOWLEDGE, Satan has no weapon which he can use against us that will prosper.

The color “blue” in the Bible represents REVELATION. The color blue (revelation) is said to be the link between the known and the unknown. The color blue (revelation) is said to be the link between God and Man. REVELATION connects the Spirit of God to the spirit of man. Revelation is the spiritual link between God and man.

The color blue also represents the “prophetic.” Prophetic ministry is based and relies upon the gifts of the Spirit which are distributed by the Spirit of Revelation. Prophetic ministry REVEALS the wisdom, truth, knowledge, and understanding which God wishes to impart to His people. The ENTIRE Bible is actually a “BOOK OF REVELATION.” It REVEALS the past, the present, and the future

of God and His dealings with mankind. It **REVEALS** God's will, plan, purpose, and desire for mankind.

When we receive "revelation knowledge," we go beyond natural reason. Faith is a **BYPRODUCT** of **REVELATION**. Faith always interferes with and overpowers natural reason. Natural reason tells us some things are impossible. God tells us **ALL** things are possible with Him. By faith the worlds were framed by the Word of God. By faith the impossible becomes possible. **REVELATION** is one of the keys to spiritual understanding.

DREAMS AND VISIONS

Dreams and visions are given to believers by the Spirit of **REVELATION**. The Spirit of **WISDOM** and **REVELATION** work together to reveal the plans and purposes of God. Many people receive **REVELATION**, however sometimes they misinterpret what God is trying to convey to them. If we are not in tune with the **SPIRIT**, the flesh may misinterpret what God is saying. That is why we must have **WISDOM** in order to understand what the **REVELATION** means, and what we are to do with what God has "revealed" to us.

Some **Denominations** and **Churches** are erroneously built upon **REVELATION** without using **WISDOM**. Someone gets a **REVELATION** from a dream or vision from God, and starts a **Church** which ends up as a **Denomination**. They misunderstood everything God was trying to **REVEAL** to them. They interpret part of the vision or dream correctly, but misunderstand what the entire **REVELATION** means. I could go into more detail about this, but I do not wish to discourage anybody from worshipping in the **Church** or any **Denomination** they are associated with. Many churches and denominations today are preaching the truth and doing the work of the ministry, and this **IS** acceptable in the eyes of God.

Denomination is just another word for DIVISION. There are too many DIVISIONS in churches today. Which DIVISION do you belong to? Jesus only has one Church. It is not the “Jesus Only” Church. The Church is made up of people from all CHRISTIAN groups, churches, and denominations.

When we receive a REVELATION from God, we must always ask Him for the interpretation of what He is trying to convey to us. I am not advocating that anyone leave their church or denomination. I just wish to educate and inform believers on where their loyalties and priorities belong, and where their focus should always be. If we are placing church or denomination over the plan and purpose of God for our life, we will be missing God’s plan and purpose for the entire Church. Our focus and faith should always be on the REVELATION of who Christ is, what He did for us at Calvary, and what He wants us to do for Him here on Earth.

By faith I believe Christ died for me on the Cross even though I was not there to see Him die. I believe, and I know, Jesus was crucified on the cross. It was not flesh and blood which revealed this to me, it was revealed to me by and through the Spirit of WISDOM and REVELATION. That REVEALED KNOWLEDGE is firmly planted within my spirit, and like an immovable rock, it cannot be moved. I KNOW the Spirit of Christ LIVES in me, and nothing and no one can ever convince me otherwise. “CHRIST IN ME THE HOPE OF GLORY” is all the proof I need. When “revelation” and “reason” oppose each other, “revelation” always triumphs.

Wisdom is not an option. Wisdom is something every Christian needs and must have if they are going to be pleasing the Lord. Without wisdom we will continue to remain carnally minded. If we are carnally minded, we will be opposing God, His Word, and His will, and righteousness.

John was given a revelation of the New Jerusalem. He saw the New Jerusalem “coming down” from God out of Heaven. John’s revelation of the “great city” was a type and shadow of the Church. Revelation gives us insight into the plan and purpose of God for the Church. With “revelation” we are able to build upon the foundations of the New Jerusalem which the apostles and prophets laid before us.

Chapter 6



THE CITY—THE BRIDE

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come and I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. And her light was like a most precious stone like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. And the construction of its wall was of jasper, and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and

the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verses 9-21.

The New Jerusalem is a prophetic picture of the Bride of Christ, the Church. The New Jerusalem sits on a high mountain which is called spiritual Mount Zion. It is clothed with the glory (cloud) of God. According to the above scriptures, the light of the City John saw was like a “jasper stone.” Jasper symbolizes the “glory” of God. It is also symbolic of the Blood Atonement through the sacrifice of Christ. Of course, Jesus is the LIGHT of that City.

When we see the cloud of God’s glory in meetings where He is present, it appears as a clear, shining, billowing cloud. Just because we cannot see “the cloud” does not mean that God is not present in our midst. Many people see the cloud of glory in meetings while others may not see the cloud of glory at all.

Her light was like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

The LIGHT of the city was transparent like a jasper stone. It was as clear as crystal. When getting a revelation or understanding of something we did not previously understand, we use the term “it is clear as crystal.” LIGHT speaks of understanding. The Bride John “saw coming down out of Heaven” was full of understanding. She had obtained all the WISDOM of God and the hidden mysteries of the gospel which had been REVEALED was now clear to her.

The walls of the city and the first foundation of the city were made of jasper. Again, we see that the city was built upon the foundation of REVEALED KNOWLEDGE. We must ask ourselves

“WHOM DO YOU SAY JESUS IS? The foundational principles of the true Church is built upon the REVELATION that Christ Jesus is the Son of God and that He died for our sins. To those who are believers it is clear that Jesus IS the Son of God. His Church (the bride—the city) is built upon the foundation or REVELATION (understanding) of who CHRIST is.

The BRIDE of Christ becomes a “glorious Church” WHEN SHE IS FILLED WITH WISDOM, REVELATION, AND UNDERSTANDING. It is a Church which will be found “without spot or wrinkle or any such blemish.” The Bride will be filled with the fullness of Christ who is her LIGHT. That LIGHT dispels all darkness in order that His Bride can see and understand (revelation) all He IS and all He HAS provided for her.

The entire City was made of pure gold. Even the street of the city was made of transparent gold. However, unlike the gold we have here on Earth, this gold is PURE and transparent. It is gold in its purest form. In the Bible “gold” represents the divine nature of Christ. In other words, the Bride has been filled with the “golden nature of Christ.”

This City (the Bride) and its foundations are also made of precious stones and jewels. Each stone is a different color and represents a characteristic found in the DIVINE NATURE of Christ. Colors represent different things and have different meanings in the Bible. The color blue represents “revelation,” white represents “purity,” green represents “prosperity,” and purple represents “royalty,” to mention a few.

THE SHEKINAH GLORY

THE SHEKINAH GLORY is referred to as the “divine presence” of God. Shekinah, or Shechaniah, is a Hebrew word meaning “Jehovah dwells or causes to dwell.” It is represented as

LIGHT. The glory or **LIGHT** of Shekinah is actually a clear bluish color. The New Jerusalem is “filled” with the Shekinah Glory of the Lamb.

When I have on occasion experienced the **SHEKINAH GLORY** in manifestations, dreams, and visions of God’s glory, it has appeared in the color of blue. On some occasions when I saw the City of God, there was a clear, bluish, colored haze or cloud which surrounded the City (the Bride).

But I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God almighty and the Lamb are its temple. And the city had no need of the sun or the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the lamb is the light. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verses 22-23.

In the Book of Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 22, the term “glory of God” is rendered “God’s” Sh’khiyah” according to the Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures. The wording used in the Jewish New Testament is a little different, but the meaning is the same.

The word “Shekinah” is actually not found in the Bible. However, the word Shechaniah is found in the Bible. Shechaniah is another form of the word Shekinah, as I stated above, which means “Jehovah dwells or causes to dwell”. Shechaniah was the name of several men in the Old Testament. However, it is derived from the Hebrew word “mishkan” or “shakan,” which is translated in the Bible as “tabernacle.” As believers, we are the Tabernacle or Temple of God where the presence of His “Shekinah Glory” resides.

We saw earlier that the color “blue” speaks of REVELATION. Blue is the link between the “known and the unknown.” It is also the link between God and man. Some of the foundations in the City of God are made of bluish colored gems and precious stones. Through REVELATION KNOWLEDGE we become rooted, grounded, and formed into the image of Christ. The City of God, or the Bride of Christ, is a reflection of Christ.

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it is not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 1 John, Chapter 3, Verse 2.

We are the children of God, however, what we SHALL be like has not yet been revealed. When Christ is REVEALED in all of His glory, we will be like Him for we shall see Him as He is. We will see and know Him “face to face” and “spirit to spirit.” In other words, spiritually speaking we will be like Him because we have been recreated “in His image.”

We will see Christ as He is because we will be a reflection of His divine character. We are the Bride of Christ; the City which sits upon a hill and lights up the world. As Christians we possess the divine nature of Christ because Christ is living within us. When we see Him as HE IS, we will be reflecting His divine nature. When we become filled with the “fullness” of Christ, we will “be like Him.”

We are HIS BODY, the fullness of Christ. Christ is not fully complete without His Bride. We are all one in Him, and He is One with us. In Christ we move, and live, and have our being. The plan and purpose of God was for CHRIST and His Bride to be “one nation under the rule and authority of the Kingdom of God.”

Chapter 7



RIGHTEOUSNESS JUSTICE AND TRUTH

You have a mighty arm; Strong is your hand, and high is your right hand. RIGHTEOUSNESS and JUSTICE are the foundation of your throne; MERCY and TRUTH go before your face. Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O Lord in the light of your countenance. Psalm 89, Verses 13-15.

The foundational principles which govern the Kingdom of God are righteousness and justice. The Foundation of God's Throne IS Righteousness and JUSTICE. Thus, His mercy and truth proceeds from His Throne. God's people are blessed because they walk in the LIGHT of His countenance. Jesus is the LIGHT of God's countenance, and in Him we walk in God's MERCY and TRUTH.

God prefers justification rather than justice. We are justified by the Blood of Jesus when we repent of our sins and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. When God sees our hearts covered with the Blood of Jesus, judgment is averted.

God is a God of justice, judgment, and justification. He judges in righteousness and truth, and shows mercy and grace to those who repent of their sins and lawlessness. We are justified by faith when we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, thus we are no longer

under the threat of His judgment. We are saved by grace through faith.

Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. What shall we say to these things? If God is for us who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 30-33.

God predestined His Church to be Holy. In order to make His Church Holy, we had to be justified. God justified and glorified the Church by sending Jesus Christ to die on the Cross and become a propitiation for our sins. We are justified by faith in the finished works of Christ. We no longer walk according to the “works of the flesh,” but in the SPIRIT.

Jesus died on the Cross to remove our sins and offences by willingly shedding His Blood on Calvary. On the third day Jesus arose from the dead for our justification. Jesus paid the penalty for the sins of all mankind so all who would believe in Him would receive Eternal Life. Romans, Chapter 4, Verses 24-25.

A WISE MAN will trust in the saving power of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is wisdom to trust in God and the work of His marvelous GRACE which He displayed at Mount Calvary. There is only one path leading to Salvation. That path leads directly to the Cross of

Calvary where Jesus willingly shed His Blood so all who would believe in Him would be justified by faith.

It is the law that condemns; it is the Lord who justifies the condemned. It is the WISDOM of God that prevailed at Calvary so the condemned could be justified and set free.

To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice. Proverbs, Chapter 21, Verse 3.

Righteousness and justice are more important than our “sacrifices of praise.” We have become the “righteousness of God in Christ Jesus” because we have been justified by Him. God demands that we be Righteous and Holy. To Him, righteousness is more important than the sacrifices we give Him. A “sacrifice” is something we give to God which costs us something, or something WE do FOR Him.

For the Jews it was a “sacrifice of their first fruits,” as well as the sacrifices of goats, bulls, and lambs. However, these sacrifices did not take away the sins of the people. They were just a type and shadow of the sacrifice of Christ when He would pay the penalty for sin on the Cross at Calvary. God no longer accepts a substitute sacrifice of goats, bulls, and lambs. Today we are to offer God the heartfelt sacrifices of PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING for His amazing grace and tender mercies.

When we portray the righteousness of Christ in our life, it is more pleasing to God than our sacrifices. Anyone can offer up sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving to God, but that does not mean they are doing so with the right motives and attitudes in mind. It is Christ “in us” that God sees when we portray His righteousness. Righteousness and obedience pleases God more than our sacrifices.

We are justified by the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, not the sacrifices we make because of Christ. A sacrifice is something which is a byproduct of WHO we are in Christ, but our RIGHTEOUSNESS is a sign Christ has justified us.” When God looks at us He sees we have been justified by the Blood of Christ. It is Christ who qualifies us to be righteous, not our own sacrifices.

We have been purchased by the greatest price ever paid for anything. It was a price only Jesus could pay. The shedding of His Blood and the horrible death He suffered on a Cross was the price Jesus paid so the process of justice and justification could free us from our sins. We deserved death and judgment, but JESUS paid the price we could never pay for our justification. We must never forget to THANK God for His love and mercy.

As believers we will not receive the judgment or punishment we deserve. We have been justified by faith in the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. God has freely given us the gift of eternal life through the sacrifice of Jesus, His only Begotten Son. The Blood of Christ was the ONLY THING which could free mankind from sin so we could stand justified before God.

THE FOUNDATION OF TRUTH

Sanctify them by your truth, your word is truth. As you sent me into this world, I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. John, Chapter 17, Verses 17-19.

TRUTH sanctifies us and sets us apart from the rest of the world. God’s Word is Truth. Truth is one of the foundational

principles of WISDOM. Truth IS reality. Truth has the ability to set us free from the power of sin, oppression, and perverse thinking. Truth transforms us into the image of Christ. Jesus Christ IS the embodiment of Truth. The Bible says “Christ is the Truth (reality), the Life, and the Way.” WHEN the TRUTH sets us free, we are FREE INDEED.

Many people are seeking for truth. However, they are seeking truth in the wrong way and in all the wrong places. Many people are seeking the path which leads to Heaven, however, they are seeking truth in all the wrong places. False religions exploit people by offering them a “form” of truth and wisdom which are based upon false pretenses and heresies. The wisdom of this World will always lead them down the pathway to sedition and perdition.

False religions and false gods are designed by Satan to draw people away from God. They are demonically inspired and designed to promote satanic cults and agendas. Their foundations rest upon the Gates of Hell which deceptively lead people down the path which leads to fire and brimstone.

TRUTH is NOT transient as some religions teach. Truth does not change its disposition from day to day. If truth could be changed, it would not be TRUTH, but only a temporary illusion. ONLY Truth can transform us into the image of Christ who is our WISDOM.

TRUTH and WISDOM are inseparable foundations found in the New Jerusalem. They rest upon the same foundation in Heavenly Places. These foundations strengthen the wall of the New Jerusalem. They work together in order to promote righteousness and peace within the heart of believers. Truth and WISDOM have stood the test of time, even when evil men tried to discredit them. Truth and WISDOM will prevail throughout eternity because the foundation on which they rest cannot be moved.

Chapter 8



THE FOUNDATION OF WISDOM

But as many as received Him (wisdom), to them gave He power to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name. And the Word (wisdom) was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and mercy. John, Chapter 1, Verses 12 and 13.

WISDOM IS THE PATH WHICH LEADS TO ETERNAL LIFE. Jesus, who is our wisdom, has given us the **POWER** to become the Sons of God. When men begin their quest to seek godly wisdom and continue that journey to the end, they are travelling the **PATH** which will lead to Eternal Life. Wisdom leads us into the gates of the New Jerusalem.

Many men seek wisdom in order to be admired by their peers. However, this wisdom is earthly, sensual, and devilish. It originates from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil which draws attention to self rather than God. James, Chapter 3, Verse 15.

The Path of godly wisdom always leads to the true riches which are found only in the **TREE OF LIFE** (Christ). Wisdom is the path which leads to Salvation. It is also the path which leads to Holiness. Wisdom is the path which leads to God's **GRACE** and **MERCY**. We are saved by His grace through the faith wisdom offers to us. We are

saved by GRACE, through faith and God's MERCY toward us endures forever. If we are not following the path of wisdom we will surely find ourselves travelling down the path of destruction!

Wisdom is the Path which leads us to the RIVER OF LIFE. When we are drinking from the River of Life, we are drinking LIVING WATERS which flows from the Wells of Salvation. Jesus is the LIVING WATER. WISDOM is a Well of Water which springs up into a fountain and becomes a RIVER of Life. That RIVER flows out of THE THRONE OF GOD into the heart of every believer. That same fountain should be "flowing" out of believers into the hearts of thirsty souls who are lost and dying without Christ. If living water is not flowing out of our innermost being, we need to find out what is DAMNING it up, and ask the Lord to "cleanse" us from all unrighteousness.

Wisdom is the CORNERSTONE of ABUNDANT LIFE. Jesus, who is our wisdom, became the CHIEF CORNERSTONE when His body was raised from the dead three days after He was crucified at Calvary. God raised Christ from the dead, thus He became the Chief Cornerstone in the Church which God is building with people from every earthly nation.

Howbeit we speak WISDOM among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: but we speak the WISDOM of God in a mystery, even the hidden WISDOM, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: which none of the princes of this world knew: for

had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. I Corinthians, Chapter 2, Verses 6-8.

Two thousand years ago WISDOM (Jesus) met some religious men in the City of Jerusalem. They rejected WISDOM, and nailed Him to a Cross because they despised TRUE holiness and the godly principles He proclaimed. They were influenced and controlled by demonic principalities and powers. They knew not what they were doing, and failed to realize what the outcome would be. As the nails were being thrust through the hands and feet of Christ, without realizing it, the principalities and powers were sealing their own fate.

If the Princes of Darkness had known what they were doing by crucifying Christ at Calvary, they would have never crucified the King of Glory. They did not understand the WISDOM of God's Perfect Plan of Salvation. What happened at Calvary shows us that the wisdom of this World cannot and will not ever compete with the WISDOM of God.

In the world today the wisdom of many is based upon dishonesty, selfishness, and sensuality. This worldly wisdom cannot compete with the righteousness, joy, and peace which can ONLY come from godly wisdom.

Godly wisdom is a mystery to those who oppose righteousness. Godly wisdom will ALWAYS be opposed by those who walk in the flesh and detest the purity which is found in God's Holy Word.

Godly wisdom is hidden from fools but is given to those who are prudent and pure in heart (sincere). Godly WISDOM is given to those who seek to be "HOLY as He is HOLY." WISE people are always prepared for what they may encounter along the pathway of life because they have sought after the riches of godly wisdom and understanding. A fool fails to prepare for the future and will be

found lacking in faith and hope when faced with adversity and trouble.

At the foundation of the world godly wisdom was ordained to overcome every obstacle earthly wisdom would place in its path. Christ, who is our WISDOM, defeated the purveyors of earthly wisdom at the Cross.

THE SECRET PLACE OF HIS POWER

Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him show out of a good conversation (lifestyle) his works with meekness of wisdom. James, Chapter 3, Verse, 13.

A WISE man is EMPOWERED with knowledge because WISDOM inhabits the sanctuary of his soul. He lives a lifestyle of holiness before God and men. He makes decisions based upon wisdom rather than what he or others thinks he should do. Wisdom is the habitation of godly thoughts and ideas. Godly minds will always seek and embrace the ways of wisdom.

WISDOM is a STRONG TOWER and an ever present help during a storm as well as in the time of trouble. WISDOM is a TOWER OF POWER for those who dwell in the Secret Place of the Most High under the SHADOW of the Almighty God. WISDOM is a habitation where godly men abide in the Presence of a Holy God. Their lifestyles reflect the holiness of God because the Presence of WISDOM (Christ) is dwelling richly within their hearts and minds. WISDOM bestows upon us humility and meekness in order for the riches of God's grace and understanding can empower us to walk in His will for our life.

Christ is WISDOM as well as a REFUGE and FORTRESS from the storms of life for those who put their faith and trust in Him. WISDOM also delivers us from the “snare of the fowler” and the “noisome pestilence.” WISDOM covers us with His feathers, and under His wings we trust Him to deliver us from all evil. WISDOM is also our buckler and our shield. A thousand may fall at our side and ten thousand at our right hand, but WISDOM assures us that no harm will come to us because we are trusting in God. Read Psalm 91.

Christ, is our foundation of WISDOM. He empowers us to tread upon serpents, scorpions, and over ALL the power of the enemy. Wisdom will bear us up in His hands to keep us safe during the evil days which lie ahead of us. Wisdom will deliver us from perils when foolish and ungodly men are being tested and tried in the fiery furnace of Tribulation.

WISDOM is a place of safety when the Nations of this World are falling apart. WISDOM says the safest place to be is in the perfect WILL of God. Wise men see when trouble is coming and will make preparations for the future.

FAITH will assure us that we will lack nothing while others around us are unable to find enough food or sustenance for themselves or their families. As Christians, we are admonished to share what we have with those who cannot help themselves. When we share the natural things we have with others, we have an “open door” and opportunity to share Christ with them.

With WISDOM all things are possible. When we trust in God WISDOM will never leave nor forsake us, but will always be there when we need to make important decisions. Wisdom will be with us even unto the END OF THE AGE. WISDOM will lead us to safety when stormy seas and the woeful winds of life blow, tossing our earthly ships to and fro. When our earthly ships become imperiled

and the trials of life seem to engulf us with danger, WISDOM will be our peace and rest because we trust in the promises of God's Word.

Chapter 9



THE FOUNDATIONS OF KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong, yes, a man of knowledge increases strength. Proverbs, Chapter 24, Verses 3-5.

The Bible reveals to us the values and principles which the New Jerusalem is founded upon. The knowledge and mysteries of the Kingdom of God are being revealed today at an alarming rate to the Church. The Word of God is the foundation of knowledge. The Bible tells us “all things” are upheld by the Power of God’s Word. (Hebrews 1:3).

“Knowledge increases strength.” A “firm foundation” is built through knowledge, wisdom, and understanding. If we are spiritually minded, we will be FILLED with the knowledge which increases and establishes the riches of God’s grace and understanding within our hearts and minds.

Many of God’s people are being “transformed” into the image of Christ as they passionately seek to know Christ more intimately. Those who become FILLED with His Spirit are those who diligently “seek to know Christ with their whole heart.” Those who hunger and

thirst for the righteousness of Christ WILL become FILLED with His righteousness.

The Bible has many things to say regarding the importance of godly knowledge. One of the most important virtues we can possess is the “knowledge of God.” If people are going to receive “eternal life,” they must accept the knowledge of how to obtain eternal life. If Christians are going to walk in total victory, they must “know what they must do” in order to walk in total victory.

The Apostle Paul prayed that the Church at Ephesus would be filled with the “Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation” in the KNOWLEDGE of the Lord Jesus Christ. Knowledge is information and facts which people obtain by reading, studying, hearing, asking questions, and through personal experience. The knowledge of God is received in the same manner we gain natural knowledge. The only difference, however, is the SOURCE by which the knowledge is imparted to individuals. We gain the knowledge of God by reading, studying, listening to God, and listening to others.

It is imperative that we establish a firm “spiritual foundation” based on the Word or knowledge of God. If we desire to “know” more about Christ, we must have more information about Him. If we desire to know how to be like Christ, we must “study to show ourselves approved” so we will be “approved by Him.”

Jesus said “Whoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house upon a rock (strong foundation).” (Matthew 7:24). Jesus said men must not only hear what He says but do what He says. Being “doers” of the Word is just as important as being “hearers” of the Word. If we “hear” but fail to “do” what Jesus says our foundation cannot and will not stand when the winds of adversity come to test our faith and resolve.

Line must be upon line and precept upon precept before we will be able to understand the “knowledge of the truth.” When knowledge and truth are diminished the Church will continue to remain carnally minded. Every “jot and tittle” in the Bible must be weighed and rightly divided by those who seek the “knowledge of God.” When all the dots have been connected, and all the “Ts” have been crossed the narrative of God’s Word will produce fruit in believers.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER. Through knowledge we can obtain a greater understanding of how to build a “firm foundation” which will withstand the schemes of the enemy who tries to hinder our walk with Christ. The more knowledge we have regarding our enemy and how he operates, the more we can stand firm against him in the day of adversity, trial, and tribulation.

Godly knowledge is important. However, what is more important is that we “understand” how to apply godly knowledge to every grievous and harmful circumstance in our lives. Without godly knowledge and the correct interpretation of the Word of God, we will be leaving ourselves open to be deceived by the schemes and wiles of the Devil.

THE FOUNDATION OF UNDERSTANDING

And I will give you pastors according to my heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. Jeremiah, Chapter 3, Verse 15.

Knowledge without understanding is unfruitful and useless. Albert Einstein once said “Any fool can know—the point is to understand.” Knowledge without understanding profits no one.

Anyone can obtain knowledge. However, understanding is the key which unlocks the treasures of knowledge.

I once read a quote which said “The greatest enemy of knowledge is not ignorance, but the illusion of knowledge.” The illusion of knowledge can be more counterproductive than no knowledge at all. If the foundation of knowledge is not based upon truth, it will be useless and unproductive. We will not gain any spiritual understanding from knowledge which is inspired by deception and/or illusion.

Jeremiah said “God would send pastors who would teach them knowledge and understanding.” Knowledge and understanding is the foundation upon which the foundation of wisdom is laid in the New Jerusalem. Without godly knowledge and understanding, we cannot possess the capacity to decide which spiritual road we need to travel, which important decisions we need to make, or who we can put our faith and trust in.

The Apostle Paul prayed that the Ephesians would be able to “comprehend or understand” with all the saints what is the breadth, and length, and height, and depth of God’s love. God wants us to understand the power of His love and why we are called to be conduits of His love. Through the foundation of knowledge we understand that the depths of the love of God is immeasurable and unfathomable. As Christians, we have the capacity to understand why Jesus loved us so much that He was willing to endure the pain, shame, and death on the cross as He willing gave His life for us.

Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore, I hate every false way. Psalms, 119, Verse 104.

A person with understanding is one who has been enlightened by the truth. They will be less likely to fall into the snares of the

enemy or into the pit of temptation. Having godly knowledge without understanding of how to interpret or use that knowledge will lead to confusion, and ultimately failure. When a situation arises where the knowledge of God is needed, and people are unable to understand what they are supposed to do, they will continue to remain perplexed and confused. The answers to all our problems lie in the tenants found only inside the “walls of the New Jerusalem” where knowledge and understanding are plentiful.

When Christians fail to understand what God is saying in His Word, they will either cast it aside, misrepresent it, or seek to understand it better. Christians need to have a “good understanding” of what God says in His Word. When we are sharing the Word of God with others, we MUST “know the truth,” not just what we assume the truth to be. It is the truth which sets people free from bondage. Conjecture, false doctrines, and false interpretations will continue to keep people in bondage until they “find” the truth.

Chapter 10



REVELATION KNOWLEDGE

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. Ephesians, Chapter 1, Verse 17.

We become united with Christ through “revelation knowledge.” In the believer “revealed knowledge” is the foundation God’s Word rests upon. The Living Word (Jesus) brings “new life” into our spirit when we accept Him as our Lord and Savior. As we study God’s Word and seek to dwell consistently in His presence, we become enlightened, renewed, and refreshed by His Spirit.

The word “revelation” comes from the Greek word “apocalypse” which means an “unveiling or uncovering.” The Book of Revelation is the “revelation” of Jesus Christ and the messages He gave to the seven churches in Asia Minor. It is also an unveiling of the events which will transpire on Earth and in Heaven during the end times.

Many people have attempted to interpret the Book of Revelation. However, it is impossible to interpret the Book of Revelation correctly without the “Spirit of Revelation.” The foundation the false interpreters of the Book of Revelation build upon always crumbles and falls under the weight of inaccurate and false analysis and perception.

Many books which expound on the Book of Revelation are written out of greed instead of need. Most often writers do not have a clue about what Jesus was revealing to John. For some it is all about selling books written by thieves and crooks. Many people are enthralled and fascinated by the Book of Revelation, as well as the stories of the supernatural events which will transpire during the Great Tribulation.

Without “revelation” it is impossible to interpret the “Book of Revelation” correctly. A false narrative of the Book of Revelation will cause many to go down the wrong path and end up in a place where they do not want to find themselves.

Many people spend money on books and tapes which are flooding the market about the “End Times.” People are hungry for “information” about the “Great Storm” which John wrote about while he was imprisoned on the Isle of Patmos. Unfortunately, many individuals write books about the Book of Revelation who have not received “revelation” from God regarding the events which will transpire at the “end of days.” They are more interested in selling books than they are in “enlightening people” with the truth.

If we lack a good understanding of God’s Word, it could be because many things in His Word have not yet been revealed to us. God reveals Himself and the foundational principles of His Word to us by the Spirit of Revelation. This is called “revelation knowledge.”

Just as natural knowledge is increasing today, the Spirit of Revelation is also revealing truths which God has kept secret for millennia. These “revelations” include the hidden mysteries which permeate the Book of Revelation.

God is opening the “books” of Heaven and is pouring out knowledge, wisdom, and understanding regarding the mystery of the “New Jerusalem.” These mysteries have been stored up and hidden

for “such a time as this.” Without a foundation of “revealed knowledge,” people cannot and will not understand the hidden mysteries which are found in the Bible.

Through “revealed knowledge” we can find the “true character” of Christ. Through the knowledge of God we will be able to understand how the true character of Christ in us becomes the hope of glory for us.

When we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and enter into “heavenly places” the Holy Spirit “reveals” the truth to us. We did not see Jesus die on the cross, nor did we witness His resurrection. However, we know these events are true because the Spirit of Revelation has personally revealed these things to us individually.

Now that we have accepted Christ as our Lord and Savior, He needs to be revealed to us in a greater, more personal way. We will know more about Him and what He expects of us as “new creations” in the New Jerusalem. If the character of Christ is to be “revealed” within us, we must allow the Spirit of Revelation to reveal the character of Christ to us. We must be willing to allow the Spirit of God to “change us into the “image” of Christ.

REVELATIONAL RELATIONSHIP

To “know” Jesus is to love Him. As His character is “revealed” in us, we are able to become closer to Christ and follow more closely in His footsteps. When we see Him as He is, we will become like Him. (1 John 3:2). When we become more like Him, we will love Him even more, because His love will permeate our hearts. When we seek Him with our “whole heart,” we will find Him in all His mercy, grace, power, and glory. As we seek to know Christ more intimately, we will find greater spiritual insight, revelation, wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

When we desire to know Christ more intimately, many of our “church peers” who only warm the “church pews” will try to convince us we have “gone off the deep end of the baptismal pool.” Others will declare that we have lost our “spiritual minds” and have become too heavenly minded to do any earthly good.” However, we must NOT accept any substitutes. We are not just seeking information about Christ, but we are desiring to become more “like Christ” so we can know and serve Him through the power of His resurrection.

Head knowledge will never get us an audience with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Head knowledge will not get us into the Throne Room of Grace where we can find help in the time of our need. The Spirit of Revelation is the key to knowing, understanding, and finding an intimate relationship with Christ our Redeemer.

THE POWER OF REVELATIONAL RELATIONSHIP

The New Jerusalem is not built upon the foundation of knowledge alone. It is also built upon the foundations of wisdom, understanding, faith, truth and love, to name a few. The “revelation knowledge” which the New Jerusalem is built upon is not just facts and information. It is Holy Spirit breathed, and spirit of man received. Revelation knowledge is a tangible force which enters into and occupies the fortress of the “regenerated spirit” of man to bring him emotional and motivational stability. Revelation knowledge strengthens the will and emotions of believers so the plan and purpose of God can be fulfilled in their lives.

The Bible tells us that knowledge alone “puffs up,” or makes people prideful; therefore, we must possess more than knowledge. Being filled with the character of Christ is what gives us victory over all the “works of the enemy. Being “filled” with Christ and the “power of His resurrection” is much more desired than just hearing about the “historical and rhetorical” Christ. Revelation knowledge

will give us tangible wisdom and understanding which in turn establishes spiritual stability, faith, and NEW LIFE within our hearts.

Many people have attended church for years listening to sermon after sermon, and yet never make an attempt to “fully commit” their lives to Christ or seek a more intimate relationship with Him. They may be keeping the pews warm, however, there is no fire in their hearts.

Without “revelation knowledge” our perception of God and His Word will be somewhat obscured and ambiguous. Information and facts in the Word of God will do us no good if they are not “rightly divided” by the Spirit of Revelation. If we allow our relationship with Christ to suffer, we will also suffer and become unfruitful in the knowledge and understanding of the truth.

God delights in His people when they desire to know Him more intimately. When we seek to know Christ with all of our hearts, we will find Him AND the “power of His resurrection.”

Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desire of your heart. Psalm, 37, Verse 4.

The “joy” of the Lord and His loving kindness are imparted to us as we delight ourselves in Him. He promises to give us the desires of our heart when we “delight ourselves IN Him.” When we are delighting ourselves in the Lord, we will not be seeking earthly gain. We will be seeking to become filled with the “divine character” of Christ. The joy of the Lord becomes our strength when we seek to know Him and be like Him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

The character of Christ is “revealed” in us through the person of Christ. Jesus is the “embodiment” of the fullness and character of

God. The fullness of the godhead is found in Christ. (Colossians 2:9). When the fullness of the character of Christ is found within us, the fullness of the godhead will be found within us. When we become FILLED with the fullness of Christ, we will be filled with all the riches which are found in the New Jerusalem.

Chapter 11



THE FOUNDATIONS OF PEACE AND POWER

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Christ Jesus. 1 Corinthians, Chapter 3, Verse 11.

The foundation of true peace is found only in our relationship with Christ. Jesus is our Peace. Jesus IS the foundation of our peace. In Christ we live and move and have our being. Where the Spirit of Christ does not exist, true peace will not exist.

Peace is not the opposite of war. Peace is defined as “freedom from disturbance or conflict.” It is also defined as “tranquility.” Varied forms of the word “peace” are found 429 times in the Bible. Some of those include inner peace, peace with man, peace with God, and false peace.

In Hebrew one of the words for peace is “shalom.” Shalom can mean different things in the Hebrew language, but it mostly alludes to “peace.” Shalom is the “standard greeting” among many people in Israel. We saw in Chapter 1 that Jerusalem means “City of Peace.” Earthly Jerusalem has never known “true peace.” The only true peace natural Jerusalem came close to experiencing was when Jesus, the “Prince of Peace,” walked among the people there.

Natural Jerusalem has been surrounded and besieged approximately forty different times. She has been partially destroyed

thirty-two times, and completely destroyed and rebuilt at least six times. Since the inception of natural Israel, wars and rumors of wars have been a constant threat to her existence.

The “City of Peace” has always been a type and shadow of the heavenly Jerusalem. There is much prophetic symbolism which surrounds the mystery of natural Jerusalem. She has been a city of violence, spiritual fornication, and death. Yet, she still stands as a beacon of light to lost souls from many cultures who are seeking redemption. Their focus may be misplaced, but their religious zeal is unquestionably heartfelt and fervent.

The New Jerusalem is the NEW and TRUE City of Peace. It embodies all that is righteous and favorable in the eyes of Jehovah. It is rooted and grounded in “true peace” because the Blood of Jesus was applied to her soul outside the eastern gate of natural Jerusalem on Mount Moriah. Moriah means “the Lord is my teacher.” Mount Moriah is also known as Mount Calvary, the place where Jesus was crucified.

We saw in Chapter 1 of this book that one of the meanings of shalom was also “teacher.” We can learn many things about the New Jerusalem and “peace” through our teacher, the Holy Spirit. He was there the day Jesus paid the penalty for our sins so we could receive “true peace—the peace which surpasses all natural understanding.”

The “true City of Peace” was founded and established upon the BLOOD Jesus shed on Calvary. Paul called Jesus “the Lord of Peace.” (2 Thessalonians 3:16) Through the gift of justification we have found peace with God. (Romans 5:1). Through prayer and supplication the “peace of God” which surpasses understanding guards our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7). The “foundation of peace” gives us the “power to be at peace” while others around us are filled with fear and turmoil with no hope for the future.

*Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.
Psalms, 34, Verse 14.*

God commands us to “pursue peace.” Peace can be elusive, and we must pursue peace before we will be able to rest in peace. We must make every effort to live peaceably among others or peace will elude us. When we continue to believe and trust in the Prince of Peace, we will be resting on the “foundation of His peace.”

The Bible tells us to “let the peace of God rule in our hearts.” Peace is one of the nine fruits of the Spirit. If we are not allowing the peace of God to rule in our hearts, we will not be bearing the “fruit of peace,” but of conflict and emotional stress. To be spiritually minded brings life and peace to our hearts. (Romans 8:6). When we become spiritually minded, we will find ourselves bearing the fruit of peace.

Jesus took the chastisement of our peace upon himself. (Isaiah 53:5). In bearing our sins at Calvary, Jesus not only became the object of our sin, punishment, and conflict, He became the author and finisher of our peace. Because we have become recipients of His peace, we have the ability to become “peacemakers” among those who are experiencing spiritual turmoil and conflict.

THE FOUNDATION OF POWER

*And upholding all things by the word of His power.
Hebrews, Chapter 1, Verse 3.*

The Word of God is the foundation of knowledge. All things in Heaven and on Earth were established by God and are upheld by the power of His Word. We have all heard the quote “KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.” Knowledge becomes powerful when it is rooted and grounded in the “Spirit of Knowledge.” It is the Spirit of Knowledge

which imparts the “power of knowledge” to us. The source of God’s power is found in His Omnipotent Word.

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit will lead us into “all truth.” When the Holy Spirit reveals and imparts “truth” to us, we are being transformed “by the renewing of our minds.” Our carnal thoughts and emotions are replaced by the Holy Spirit with thoughts and emotions which embody Christ-like virtues.

The great evangelist Dwight L. Moody said “The Bible was not given to increase knowledge, but to change our lives.” Knowledge alone will not change us unless the Spirit of Knowledge permeates and changes our hearts with the LIVING WORD. Knowledge only has POWER when we receive and follow the instructions which tell us how we can be transformed into the image of Christ.

The Bible says we are transformed into the image of Christ by the TRUTH. Jesus is not only the personification of TRUTH, He is the TRUTH which sets us free. We are changed into His image when “truth” is imparted to us by the Spirit of Truth. We are transformed into the image of Christ as we apply the Word of Truth to our lives. Jesus is the Truth. Jesus is the Word.

Through Christ we have been given the POWER to become sons and daughters of God. (John 1:12). The Apostle Paul said, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation.” (Romans 1:16). When we accept Christ as our Lord and Savior, we become sons and daughters of God through the POWER of the gospel.

The gospel is the foundational principles which the New Jerusalem is built and firmly established upon. As sons and daughters of God, we carry within us the POWER to do the “works of Christ.” Jesus said we “even” have the power to do a “greater amount” of works than He did while He was here on Earth. The same

faith which gives us the power to become the sons and daughters of God is the same faith which gives us the power to do the “works” of Christ.

Knowledge tells us we have the POWER to do “ALL things through Christ which strengthens us.” We cannot do anything in our own power, but we can do all things through the power of Christ which dwells richly within us. If we are going to do the “greater works” which Christ said we can do, we must believe in the power of the “One” who dwells within us. We CAN do ALL THINGS Christ says we can do.

All things were created and exist by and through the power of God’s Word. All things which were created were created by the power of His Word. All things were created by faith through the substance (foundation) of God’s Word.

The Bible tells us that faith works (is energized) by love. When we are filled with the “fullness of Christ,” we will be filled with the power of His love. When we are filled with the power of His love, we will be transforming lives wherever we go. Our faith becomes empowered by God’s love as we continue to walk daily in the fullness of the “divine nature of Christ.”

Chapter 12



THE WALL OF THE CITY

And the construction of its wall was of jasper, and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 18.

Walls represent fortifications, protection, safety, strength, and refuge. Natural Jerusalem was built as a fortress. Most cities in ancient times were built as fortresses. Fortresses were built to be a place of safety from invaders who might invade the area, kill the inhabitants of the land, take their possessions, and/or take them as slaves. When an invading army came to attack a city, the citizens who lived outside the walls of the fortress would flee into the city for protection behind the fortifications.

Natural Jerusalem offered more to its inhabitants than safety. Two Temples were eventually built inside the city on Mount Moriah. Mount Moriah was the place Abraham was going to offer his son up as a sacrifice to the Lord. King David, who was a type and shadow of Christ, built an altar on Mount Moriah and offered burnt offerings to the Lord. Jesus was crucified just outside the city gate of natural Jerusalem on Mount Moriah.

Natural Jerusalem was a place where the Jews came to worship and offer up sacrifices unto the Lord. However, Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well that God was looking for people to worship Him in “spirit and in truth.” The Jews worshipped God on

Mount Zion in Jerusalem and the Samaritans worshipped God on Mount Gerissim in Samaria.

The New Jerusalem in Heaven is the “New Mount Zion.” The New Jerusalem is not a natural city, but a spiritual city. In the New Jerusalem we worship God in “spirit and in truth.” The New Jerusalem is not just a fortress like natural Jerusalem was, but a spiritual one also.

*I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress.
Psalm 91, Verse 2.*

The writer of the above Psalm called the Lord his fortress. The word “fortress” is derived from the Hebrew word “metsada.” The New Jerusalem is a “stronghold” or “fortress.” A wall is built around the New Jerusalem to protect her from all negative outside influences. The Bible says that “outside the gates of the city are dogs and sorcerers, and sexually immoral, and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.” (Revelation 22:15).

In the Bible walls can also represent “mindsets.” The “wall of the city” represents the godly principles which build strongholds of faith, strength, peace, love, and joy. The same spiritual principles which built the first foundation of the city also built the wall of the city. Just like the first foundation of the city, the wall of the New Jerusalem was made of jasper. In Revelation 4:3 Jesus was like a “jasper” and sardius stone in appearance as He sat upon His throne. In Revelation, 21:11 the Bible says, The Bride (city) was filled with the glory of God and her light was like a “jasper stone” as clear as crystal.

Jasper represents the character of Christ. The nature or character of Christ is found in the Bride (city) as “clear as crystal.” In other words, she is pure in heart and no hidden iniquities and sins can be found in her heart. Because the Bride is holy she is

scrupulously and morally pure. The Light of the city of course, also represents Jesus. Jesus is the “Light of the world.” However, in this context He is not the Light of the world, but the Light of His Bride (the city), the New Jerusalem.

WALLS OF SALVATION

*Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, neither wasting or destruction within your borders; but you shall call your walls salvation, and your gates praise.
Psalm 60, Verse 10.*

The walls of the New Jerusalem also represent salvation. We are “saved” by grace through faith in the finished works of Christ. Jesus IS our salvation, The Bible says, “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12). Jesus is the author and finisher of the faith by which we are “saved.” Our salvation is rooted and grounded IN the finished works of Christ and the power of His Blood.

*He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense;
I shall not be greatly moved. Psalm 62, Verse 2.*

The walls of the New Jerusalem represent “salvation.” The Name “Jesus” means “salvation.” Jesus is our rock (foundation), our “salvation,” and our defense. The stone which the builders rejected has become the rock (foundation) of our salvation. Jesus is the Rock which the Children of Israel drank water from in the Wilderness. (1 Corinthians 10:4). Jesus is the “living water” which springs up from the “wells of salvation.”

The Bible says we are “clothed” with the “salvation of the Lord. (2 Chronicles 6:41). In Christ we have become the righteousness of God. We will wear the garment of praise in the New Jerusalem because we have entered into His gates with praise and into His courts with thanksgiving. (Isaiah 60:18).

Isaiah 26:1-2 says “We have a strong city; God will appoint “salvation for walls and bulwarks. Open the gates that righteousness the nation which keeps the truth may enter in.” Salvation was “appointed” or “designated” to be walls and bulwarks (fortifications) for the Church. The walls (salvation) of the New Jerusalem are our fortifications.

The walls of New Jerusalem are not meant to keep people out. We are told the gates of the city are always open. The walls of the new city are there to fortify and protect the Bride who dwells within the New Jerusalem. When we put on the “helmet of salvation,” we are building up strongholds in our minds which the words of deception, fear, and beguilement of our enemies cannot penetrate.

THE FOUNDATION OF JASPER

And the foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 19.

The first foundation of the wall was made of jasper. The wall was also made of jasper and of gold. Jasper means “Yah has saved.” The Hebrew word for jasper is “Y’sha’yahuw.” It is a form of the Hebrew word Yeshua (Joshua). Yeshua is the Hebrew form of the Greek name “Jesus.” “Yah” is one of the Hebrew Names for God. Gold represents the “divine nature of Christ.” The wall of the New Jerusalem represents “Jesus our salvation” and the “divine nature of

Christ” which was imparted to us when we received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

The first foundation the New Jerusalem was built upon was “JESUS” which means “God is my salvation.” Jesus is the ROCK (foundation) of our salvation. He was the stone the builders rejected, but He has now become the “chief cornerstone” in the great city, the New Jerusalem. The foundation of our faith rests upon Christ and the finished works He so majestically and masterfully consummated at Calvary.

Chapter 13



THE GATES OF THE CITY

And she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel, three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verses 12-13.

Many of the gates leading into natural Jerusalem were named after one of the twelve tribes of Israel. The meaning of each name was prophetically significant because they describe some aspect of the New Jerusalem. Later, all the gates were given names which, like the names of the twelve tribes had prophetic significance which represented different aspects of the Kingdom of God. The gates of the New Jerusalem are named after the twelve tribes of Israel. Each name has prophetic significance regarding the Bride and the character of Christ.

Before Jacob died he spoke prophetic words over his twelve sons. Moses spoke a prophetic blessing over most of the Tribes of Israel as they were sojourning in the Wilderness. These prophetic blessings all pointed to Christ and His Bride, the New Jerusalem.

Going into the New Jerusalem through the twelve gates of the city, we receive our blessings and inheritance as joint heirs with Christ Jesus.

THE JUDAH GATE

In Natural Jerusalem the Judah Gate was one of the most important gates which led into the city. The name “Judah” means “praise.” Jesus was from the tribe of Judah. The Bible tells us to enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with “praise.” The courts in natural Jerusalem were located just outside the gates of the city. When we enter into the New Jerusalem through the “Judah Gate,” we are “with joy” entering through the gate with “praise (Judah).”

When we enter into the New Jerusalem through the Judah Gate, we enter with the “sacrifices of praise” on our lips. The sacrifices of bulls, goats, and lambs are no longer accepted in The City of God. The “power of praise” unlocks the Judah Gate as we sacrifice our life, our mind, our will, and emotions to the Lamb of God in the New Jerusalem. We are able to go boldly before the throne of God through the Judah Gate. Christ has opened up a “new and living way” into the throne room of God.

THE SHEEP GATE

One of the gates of natural Jerusalem was named or called the Sheep Gate. The Sheep Gate was the gate where sheep were brought into the city to be sold at market. The Bible says, “Verily, verily I say unto you, I am the gate (actual Greek translation) of the sheep. (John 10:7).

When we enter into the New Jerusalem through the Sheep Gate, we become born again. Jesus is the “Lamb” of God who was slain from the foundation of the world so His sheep could enter into the New Jerusalem through the “Sheep Gate.” Jesus is the Lamb of

God---Jesus is the “gateway” of the sheep. The Sheep Gate, Jesus, provided a “new and living way” for us to enter into the New Jerusalem through the power of His Blood.

After leaving Babylonian captivity, a remnant of the Children of Israel went back to Israel to restore breaches in the walls and gates of Jerusalem. The “Sheep Gate” was the first gate to be repaired. The High Priest Eliashib gathered together other priests, and they “rebuilt” the Sheep Gate. Eliashib means “God restores.” Like sheep, we have all gone astray and in need of “restoration.” Christ, who is our High Priest, is the repairer of the breach and the restorer of paths to dwell in. (Isaiah 58:12).

THE REUBEN GATE

For who he foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many nations. Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 29.

The Reuben Gate was also called the Sheep Gate. Reuben was the firstborn of Jacob (Israel). He was a type and shadow of Christ. When we first enter into the New Jerusalem, we enter into the City through the gate of the firstborn from the dead “Jesus.” (Revelation 1:4).

The name Reuben means “behold a son.” When John the Baptist first saw Jesus at the Jordan River, he proclaimed “BEHOLD THE SON of God that takes away the sins of the world.” Many sons (and daughters) have followed Christ and entered into the New Jerusalem through the Reuben Gate.

Before Jacob’s death, he called his sons together and blessed them and prophesied over them. The first part of the prophetic words he spoke to Reuben alluded to Christ. To Reuben, Jacob said

“Rueben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellence of dignity and “excellence of power.” The excellence of power and dignity are prophetic references to Christ who was the firstborn from the dead. We enter into the New Jerusalem through the Rueben Gate by the strength, and excellence of power and dignity of Christ.

THE LEVI GATE

You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar people, that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of the darkness into His marvelous light. 1 Peter, Chapter 2, Verse 9.

The Levitical priests were from the Tribe of Levi. They performed all the sacrifices, as well as other duties in the Temple of God in natural Jerusalem. The Hebrew word “levi” means “joined.” Because we have entered into the New Jerusalem through the “Levi Gate,” we are “joined” together and have become one with Christ. The Bible says “He who is “joined” to the Lord is one spirit.” (1 Corinthians 6:17).

Peter said “We are a “royal priesthood” who have been called out of darkness into the marvelous Light of Christ.” Jesus IS the Light of the world. He is the Light which shined in the darkness of our hearts to enlighten the eyes of our understanding. Before we knew Christ, we lived in spiritual darkness. However, the Light (understanding) of Christ has led us into the New Jerusalem through the “Levi Gate,” and now we are “joined” together with Him as a “royal priesthood.”

THE FISH GATE

The Fish Gate in natural Jerusalem was called the Fish Gate because “fish” were brought into the city to be sold at the market through this gate. It was the closest gate to the Fish Market inside the city of Natural Jerusalem. Most of the fish which was sold in the city were caught in the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River, and were brought into the city through the Fish Gate.

Prophetically, the Fish Gate speaks of “evangelism.” Bringing fish into the City of Peace through the Fish Gate speaks of evangelism. Jesus said “Follow me and I will make you “fishers of men.” We have been called to be “fishers of men” as we follow Christ in evangelistic ministry to lead people into the New Jerusalem through the Fish Gate.

THE GAD GATE

And of Gad he said: Blessed is he who enlarges Gad; He dwells as a lion, and tears the arm and crown of his head. He provided the first part for himself, because a lawgiver's portion was reserved there. He came with the heads of the people; he administered the justice of the Lord, and his judgments with Israel. Deuteronomy, Chapter 33, Verses 20-21.

The blessing Moses spoke over the Tribe of Gad in the Wilderness points us to the character and work of Christ. Those who “enlarge” Gad will be blessed. He dwells like a lion. Jesus is the “Lion of Judah.” He had a portion as a lawgiver.” Jesus walked

among the “leaders” of the people. He administered justice and judgment among Israel.

When Leah, Jacob’s wife, was past bearing age she gave her maid Zipah to Jacob as a wife. Zipah bore Jacob a son. According to the Bible, Leah then said “A troop comes! So he called his name “Gad.” (Genesis 30:11). Gad means “good fortune.” Before his death, Jacob blessed Gad and spoke over him saying “A troop shall trample on him, but he shall triumph at last. (Genesis 49:19).

The word “troop” used by Leah and Jacob are derived from two different Hebrew words. The Hebrew word for “troop” is the word “Gad.” The word Leah used for Gad means “good fortune.” The Hebrew which word translated as “troop” Jacob spoke concerning Gad was “geduwd,” means “troop or band of men.”

Gad possessed many of the characteristics and missions in Natural Israel which Christ possesses and performs in the New Jerusalem. In Christ we find good fortune. In Christ we find justice and judgment. In Christ we are “blessed and enlarged.” Like Christ, Gad was persecuted by men, but in the end he triumphed over his enemies. In the New Jerusalem we find “good fortune” through our relationship with Christ.

THE ASHER GATE

Bread from Asher shall be rich, and he shall yield royal dainties. Genesis Chapter 49, Verse 26.

Jacob’s prophetic blessing upon Asher was that “bread from Asher would be rich and he would “yield dainties (pleasures or delights).” Asher means “happy and blessed.” When Leah’s maid bore Jacob another son, she said “I am “happy” for the daughters will call me “blessed.” (Genesis 30:12-12). The Bible says the “blessing of

the Lord makes us rich.” (Proverbs 10:22). When we are partaking of the Bread of Life, we will become filled with the riches of God’s grace, wisdom, and understanding. (Ephesians 1:3-8).

Christ is the “Bread of Life.” He is our “spiritual bread.” The Word of God is also referred to as BREAD. Jesus was born in Bethlehem which means “House of Bread.” The Bread of Life was born in the House of Bread. When we are spiritually partaking of the Bread of Life, we are feasting on and ingesting the character and nature of Christ.

Moses spoke a prophetic blessing over the tribe of Asher. The Bible says “And of Asher he said Asher is most BLESSED of sons; let him be favored by his brothers, and let him dip his foot in oil. Your sandals shall be iron and bronze; as your days so shall your strength be.” (Deuteronomy 33:24-25).

Chapter 14



THE GATES OF THE CITY PART II

THE SIMEON GATE

The righteous cry out and the Lord hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles. Psalm 34, Verse 14.

Simeon was also the son of Leah. The Bible says, “Then she conceived again and bore a son, and said “Because the Lord has “heard” that I am unloved, He has therefore given me this son also.” And she called his name “Simeon.” God always “hears” the voice of our faith. We obtain faith by “hearing,” and God always responds affirmatively when He “hears” us “holding fast to our confession of faith.”

The name Simeon means “hearing.” Leah was not loved by Jacob. She was Jacob’s first wife, but not his first choice for a wife. That distinction fell to Rachael. When God saw Leah was unloved, He opened her womb and she conceived and bore Simeon.

Jesus said “My sheep “hear” my voice, and I know them, and they will follow Me. (John 10:27). Those who have entered into the New Jerusalem entered in by faith. Faith comes by “hearing,” and “hearing” by the Word of God.

Jesus said “Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone “hears” my voice and opens the door, I will come in to Him and dine with him and he with me. (Revelation 3:20). Jesus desires to dine

with us in the New Jerusalem. When we “hear” the voice of Jesus and open the door of our hearts to Him, He will come in and “break the bread of life” with us in the New Jerusalem.

THE ISSACHAR GATE

And God listened to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son. Leah said “God has given me my “reward,” because I have given my maid to my husband.” So she called his name Issachar. Genesis, Chapter 30, Verses 17-18.

The name “Issachar” means “he will bring a reward.” Leah said she was “rewarded” with another son, and she called him Issachar (he will bring a reward). The Bible says “If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.” (1 Corinthians 3:14).

When we build our house upon the Rock (foundation) of the Word of God, we are building upon the foundation which cannot be moved or destroyed. We are building a spiritual house that will endure forever in the New Jerusalem.

The Bible says “Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; Behold His “reward” is with Him, and His work before Him.” (Isaiah 40:10). Jesus “brings His reward” with Him. John saw the New Jerusalem coming down out of Heaven as a Bride adorned for her Husband. The New Jerusalem is the “reward” of the Bride of Christ. As the Bride of Christ we become the New Jerusalem and rule and reign with Him in glory.

Isaiah also said “Say to the daughter of Zion, surely your salvation is coming; behold His “reward” is with Him, and His work before Him. (Isaiah 62:11). The “daughter of Zion” speaks of the Bride of Christ—the New Jerusalem.

THE ZEBULON GATE

Zebulon shall dwell by the haven of the sea; he shall become a haven for ships, and his border shall adjoin Sidon. Genesis, Chapter 49, Verse 13.

Zebulon means “habitation.” Moses said Zebulon would be a “haven for ships.” The tribe of Zebulon’s portion or “habitation” in the “promised land” was located on the Mediterranean Sea. During their battle with Sisera, the men from the Tribe of Zebulon fought valiantly and without fear of death. Deborah, one of the Judges of Israel, wrote of their valor in The Song of Deborah and Barak. (Judges 5:18).

When Zebulon was born, Leah said “God has “endowed (gifted)” me with a good endowment; now my husband will dwell with me, because I have given him six sons.” So she called his name Zebulon. The Bible says “the gift of God is eternal life.” We enter into the New Jerusalem as a new creation in Christ.

In Christ we have received a new “habitation.” The Bible says “Now therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the “foundation” of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Cornerstone. In whom the whole building, being joined together, grows up into a “holy temple” of the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a “habitation” of

God in the Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:19-22). The New Jerusalem is the “habitation” of the saints, the Bride of Christ.

THE NAPHTALI GATE

And Rachael's maid Bilah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son. Then Rachael said, "With great wrestling I have wrestled with my sister, and indeed I have prevailed." So she called his name Naphtali. Genesis, Chapter 30, Verses 7-8.

Rachael felt as though she was “wrestling” for the affections of Jacob. The name “Naphtali” reflects the wrestling she experienced in her heart over and over again. This “wrestling” took the form of jealousy, even through childbearing in both Leah and Rachael. Rachael’s womb had been closed up, and she had not been able to give Jacob a son. She became very ashamed and distraught because she had failed to give him a child. However, her fortunes would change and she would bear two sons, Joseph and Benjamin for Jacob her husband.

Naphtali’s father Jacob wrestled with an angel and was determined to secure the “blessing of God” on his life. Moses blessed the Tribe of Naphtali saying, “O Naphtali, satisfied with favor, and “full of the blessing” of the Lord, possess the west and the east.”

The Bible tells us that we “wrestle not against flesh and blood,” but against spiritual wickedness in high places. (Ephesians 6:12). It is with much prayer and spiritual warfare we receive the blessings and promises of God as we enter into the New Jerusalem through the Naphtali Gate.

THE MANASSEH GATE

Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh,, “For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father’s house.” Genesis, Chapter 41, Verse 51.

The name “Manasseh” means “God causes me to forget.” Joseph went through many trials and afflictions during his life before becoming the governor of Egypt. The Bible says “many are the afflictions of the righteous but God delivers them from them all.” (Psalm 34:19). The Apostle Paul said “Forgetting those things that are behind I press on toward the Mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:13-14).

THE JOSEPH GATE

And of Joseph He said: “Blessed of the Lord is his land, with the precious things of heaven, with the dew, and the deep lying beneath.” Deuteronomy, Chapter 33, Verse 13.

The blessing Moses spoke over the tribe of Joseph was much like the blessing Jacob spoke over his son, Joseph. (See Genesis 49:22-26). The blessing of Moses over the tribe of Joseph was over the land he would possess in the Land of Israel. The land would be blessed with the “precious things of Heaven.” The land the tribe of Joseph would dwell in was a type and shadow of Heaven.

The land the tribe of Joseph dwelt in was fruitful and produced an abundance of fruits and vegetables. Because Joseph had fed the known world during times of famine, his offspring were

blessed with “great harvests” as long as they served the God of Heaven.

The Bible says, “Then God remembered Rachael, and God listened to her and opened her womb. And she conceived and bore a son, and said “God has taken away my reproach.” So she called his name Joseph, and said, “The Lord shall add to me another son.” (Genesis 30:22-24).

The name “Joseph” means “God adds a son.” Joseph was a type and shadow of Christ. The life of Joseph shows us that God’s plan and purpose for our lives is greater than what we may think. God’s plan and purpose for our lives will always be greater than OUR plans. Joseph was always faithful to God, even through all the adversities and trials which he patiently endured.

God added a Son, Jesus, who would build the New Jerusalem, and the Son would build and establish the “gates” of the city. Every time a new convert enters into the city through the Joseph Gate, God “adds another son” to dwell in the New Jerusalem.

THE BENJAMIN GATE

The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by him, who shelters him all the day long; and he shall dwell between his shoulders. Deuteronomy, Chapter 33, Verse 12.

The Bible says “And so it was as her (Rachael) soul was departing (for she died) that she called his name Ben-Oni, but his father called him Benjamin. (Genesis 35:18). Ben-Oni means “son of my sorrow.” Benjamin means “the son of my right hand.” In her

“sorrow,” Rachael died giving birth to Benjamin. For Jacob, Benjamin was “the son of his right hand.”

Benjamin was a “type and shadow” of Christ. After Jesus was crucified and was raised from the dead, He sat down at the “right hand of God” in Heaven where He forever lives to make intercession for us. (Hebrews 7:25). We enter into the New Jerusalem through the Benjamin Gate because Jesus is sitting at the “right hand of the Father” in the Holy City. Jesus is continually making intercession for us, and the power of His Blood continues to cleanse us from sin when we repent.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness . (1 John 1:9).

Chapter 15



THE LIGHT OF THE CITY

And the city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in the light, and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honor into it. The gates shall not be shut at all (there shall be no night there.) Revelation, Chapter 21, Verses 23-25.

The Bible says that “Jesus is the Light of the world.” The moment God said “Let there be LIGHT,” the Light of Christ pierced the darkness of the universe. The darkness which was upon the face of the deep was illuminated by the “Light of Christ Jesus.”

Jesus is the LIGHT which illuminates the New Jerusalem. In Christ was “life” and that life was the “light” of men. In the beginning His Light “shined in the darkness” and the darkness “comprehended it not.” (John 1:4-5). That Light was the True Light which gives light (understanding) to every man that comes into this world. (John 1:9).

Jesus was a “pillar of cloud” which led the Children of Israel through the Wilderness by day and a “pillar of fire” which gave them light at night. (Exodus 13:21). Jesus was the Light in the Holy of Holies in the Temple of God in Jerusalem. King David said “He shall

be like the “light of the morning” when the sun rises, a morning without clouds, like the tender grass springing out of the earth, by clear shining after rain.” (2 Samuel 23: 4).

Nehemiah said “Moreover, You led them by day with a “cloudy pillar,” and by night with a “pillar of fire,” to give them light on the road which they should travel.” (Nehemiah 9:12). Jesus gives us “light” so we can see the road we are travelling on during times of darkness as we are walking through the Wilderness (world).

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. Ephesians, Chapter 1, Verse 18.

The Bible says that God is LIGHT and LIFE. Prophetically, “light” speaks of understanding. Those who live in “spiritual darkness” will possess no spiritual understanding. Jesus came into the world to enlighten the eyes of those who lack spiritual guidance and understanding. He was sent to “enlighten” the hearts and minds of individuals and give clarity to those who walk in “spiritual darkness.” The Bible says if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the Blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin. (1 John 1:7).

The Bible says “For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. (Psalm 36:9). Jesus is a fountain of life which produces LIGHT within us. Psalm 37:6 says “He shall bring fourth your righteousness as the “light,” and your justice as the noonday.” Jesus brings forth righteousness and “light of salvation” into our hearts. The “light” of His righteousness justifies us in the eyes of God when we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Paul told the Ephesians “In Christ we inherit the “riches of His glory.” Jesus said “And the glory which You gave Me I have given them that they may be one just as we are one.” (John 17:22.) In the New Jerusalem we become “one” with Christ and one with each other as He shares His glory with us.

THE GARMENT OF LIGHT

Bless the Lord O my soul!! O Lord my God, you are very great: you are clothed with honor and majesty, who covers yourself with light as with a garment, who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. Psalm, 104, 1-2.

The New Jerusalem (the Bride) is “filled” with the glory of God. Glory speaks of the “Light, Majesty, and Magnificence” of God. The “light of God” is like a “garment.” He covers Himself with “light as a garment.”

In the New Jerusalem the Bride is covered with the “garment of God’s Light, the LIGHT of Christ. Jesus said “You are the LIGHT of the world.” (Matthew 5:14). When we put on the garment of HIS LIGHT, we become the LIGHT OF THE WORLD. Jesus told us to, “Let your light shine before men, that they will see your good works and glorify God in Heaven.”

The lamp (light) of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. Matthew, Chapter 6, Verse 23.

Prophetically, light speaks of “understanding.” When the “Light of Christ” enters into our hearts, it dispels the darkness and

enlightens us with knowledge and truth. The “eyes of our understanding” are enlightened, and we “understand “what is the hope of His glory and the riches of the glory of His inheritance we have been given in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 1:18).

Jesus said “I am the Light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” (John 8:12). When we “follow Jesus,” we obtain light (understanding) and eternal life. Jesus said in John 12:46, “I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.”

The Light (understanding) of Christ permeates our soul and drives out all the darkness which leaves men void of spiritual understanding. Truth transforms us into the image of Christ through the power of His Word. When we are dwelling in the New Jerusalem, we will understand the scriptures and the mysteries of God which were hidden from the foundation of the world.

THE LIGHT OF REVELATION

For my eyes have seen your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel. Luke, Chapter 2, Verses 30-32.

The word “revelation” means an “unveiling” or “uncovering.” The Book of Revelation is the “revelation” or unveiling of many things which pertain to Christ as well as world events which will transpire in the last days. It is also a revelation of the New Jerusalem, the Bride of Christ, which John saw coming down out of Heaven.

The Holy Spirit “revealed” to Simeon that he would not die before he Messiah was revealed to him. After seeing the baby Jesus,

Simeon prophesied that Jesus was a “light” which would bring revelation to the Gentiles and to Israel.

Light speaks of understanding, and revelation speaks of an unveiling. The Light of the World, Jesus, enters into the darkness in the souls of men to unveil the truth and lead men into right standing with God. The Bride of Christ are those who have been “enlightened” to the truth by the Spirit of Revelation. By faith in Christ we enter into the New Jerusalem and become “new creations” in Him.

The New Jerusalem is “filled” with “revelation knowledge.” According to the Bible, the Church is built upon the foundational principles which are laid out in the Word of God. With the “light of revelation” we build our spiritual houses on the Word of God. When our spiritual house is built upon the “Rock of Revelation,” the gates of Hell cannot and will not prevail against it.

The foundations of the New Jerusalem are built upon the “Light of Revelation.” Through wisdom, a house is built; and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. (Proverbs 24:3-4). The New Jerusalem is “filled” with precious and pleasant riches through the knowledge, wisdom, and understanding God imparts to us.

In the “light of revelation” we see Messiah, the Son of God, who came to Earth to die on the cross to take away the sins of the world. The “light of revelation” brings us into an intimate relationship with Christ. The Apostle Paul said “I know in whom I believe.” The Bible says Paul desired to not only know Christ, but to also know the “power of His resurrection”

We know Christ as our Lord and Savior, but do we have a relationship with Him which goes beyond “just knowing who He is” and that He dwells within us? When we experience Christ AND the “power of His resurrection,” we will know Him as He is NOW. We

will not just know the historical or rhetorical Christ, but we will experience the “power of His resurrection” NOW. Christ lives in our hearts NOW, yet many do not really KNOW Him “as He is” and the “power of His resurrection.”

AND THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT THERE: THEY NEED NO LAMP NOR LIGHT OF SUN, FOR THE LORD GOD GIVES THEM LIGHT. AND THEY SHALL REIGN FOREVER AND EVER. (Revelation 22:5).

Chapter 16



A TIME FOR PREPARATION

Husbands love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify it with the washing of the water by the word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but it should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians, Chapter 5, Verses 25-27.

Some of the foundational principles many believers build their spiritual houses upon are unstable, and become unsustainable when the storms of life come to test them. Others have foundations which are weak because they fail to find true intimacy with Christ, the “chief cornerstone” of the New Jerusalem.

All foundations which are not rooted and grounded in truth will ultimately collapse under the pressure of many tests and trials. Tribulation, tests, and trials are meant to strengthen our foundations rather than destroy them.

New foundations must be laid upon the “solid rock” when old ones crumble and fall beneath our feet. Many spiritual foundations in churches are built upon sinking sands. Many are built over spiritual “sink holes” which will eventually devour people as they fall into the

pit of the seductive traps and temptations laid by the charms and schemes of the Serpent.

False doctrines which are not built upon godly knowledge, wisdom, and truth must be removed from the foundations of the Church. The foundations which are built upon the truth cannot and will not fail when the storms of life come to test our faith and our love for Christ and others.

Several years ago on New Years Eve my wife and I were attending a Watch Night Service at the Church where I served as the Associate Pastor. The praise and worship was awesome, and the Presence of the Lord filled the Church building. The building was filled with so many angels which seemed to be “shoulder to shoulder” in some areas of the church.

I was standing near the back of the Church when all of a sudden I saw a vision of a beautiful Bride standing on the platform near the podium. She was wearing a beautiful, long white wedding gown. There seemed to be a glow of light surrounding her.

As I looked closer at the Bride, I noticed there were a few dark spots on her wedding gown. Suddenly, Jesus appeared and was standing about ten feet away from her on the platform. His loving arms were stretched out toward her as if He was bidding her to come to Him.

Suddenly, the Lord gave me a glimpse into the loving feelings He had for His Bride which was standing before Him. I cannot express the astonishing, awe-inspiring feelings I felt as Christ opened my heart to feel the same love and adoration He has for His Bride. However, I could not help but focus on the spots which were on the wedding gown of the Bride.

The Lord was showing me the awesome feelings and love He has for the Church. He was also showing me His beloved Bride was

not yet prepared for His coming. There were spots on her gown which had to be removed before He could “rapture her away.” Before He returns for His Bride, she must go through a time of preparation and cleansing in order to make her wedding gown a garment without spot or wrinkle.

God commands us to love one another. There are few people in churches today that are filled with the love of God and love others unconditionally. Many pastors in churches today are preaching sermons about the “love of God” and their congregations sing songs about loving one another. Just singing “Bind us Together” DOES NOT “bind us together.” Until we learn to love one another unconditionally with the same love Christ has for us, the wedding gown of the Bride will remain spotted and wrinkled. Love is the cord that “binds” God’s people together.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians, Chapter 4, Verses 4-6.

The Church is not a religious order but a “holy convocation.” The New Jerusalem is a “holy assembly” of men and women who are knit together by the “love of Christ.” In Christ, the Bride dwells together in one accord by one Spirit. We all become one with Christ when we enter into the gates of the Holy City.

By speaking the truth in love, we “grow up” in all things into Christ who is the Head of the Church. The whole body is joined and knit together when everybody in the Church is fulfilling their call and

purpose in the body. When everybody in the Church is doing his or her share to edify the body in love, the body will grow up into the head which is Christ. (Ephesians 15-16).

In order for the Bride to find eternal grace in the eyes of the Lord, she must be cleansed of all the blemishes, spots, and wrinkles in her wedding gown. She **MUST** go through spiritual cleansing by the “washing of the water by the Word.” What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief’s to bear! He will help us clean our garments, His cleansing Blood He comes to share.

He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the house of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. Luke, Chapter 1, Verse 17.

Chapter 17

THE TWELVE BLEMISHES

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, speak unto Aaron saying: "No man of your descendants in succeeding generations, who has any defect, may approach to offer the bread of God." Leviticus, Chapter 21, Verses 15-17.

Twelve is the number of "completion," as well as the number of "divine order of government" in the Kingdom of God. We become "complete" in Christ when the righteousness of Christ dwells within us richly. There is a divine order in the New Jerusalem which we **MUST** follow in order to become "complete" in Christ Jesus.

The Lord gave Moses specific instructions concerning priests who were disqualified from ministering to people in the "holy place." Priests with certain physical blemishes were not permitted to minister in the Tabernacle of Moses or in the Temple in Jerusalem. These physical blemishes were prophetic examples of their character.

The Bible tells us we are a "royal priesthood" and a "chosen generation." The Bible tells us we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit." (1 Corinthians 6:19). Our "temples should be without spot or wrinkle before the Lord. We are to be "pure and holy" before Him. Spots and wrinkles in our wedding gown must be removed if we are going to be wholly (Holy) acceptable and pleasing in His sight.

Jesus is coming back for a glorious Church (Bride) without spot or wrinkle, or any such blemish. (Ephesians 5:27). A glorious Bride is a Bride which has been glorified and continuously walks in the Light of God's Word. She shines with the glory and brightness of

the SON. Her righteousness is the righteousness which was imparted to her by the Bridegroom.

For any man who has a defect shall not approach: a blind man or lame, who has a flat nose, or anything superfluous, or a man who has a broken foot, or broken hand, or is a crooked back, or a dwarf, or a man who has a blemish in his eye, or be scurvy, or scabbed, or has his stones broken. Leviticus, Chapter 21, Verses 18-20.

The physical blemishes on the priests were prophetic of spiritual blemishes found in the hearts of individuals. I am in no way implying that people who have physical blemishes today cannot be ministers of the Lord. The scriptures concerning the physical blemishes on the Levitical Priests were never meant to disqualify anyone from the work God has called them to do in the ministry today.

As Christians we have been cleansed by the Blood of Christ and now we are required to offer up sacrifices of praise and adoration to the Lord. However, many people in the Church have spiritual blemishes which hinder their work in the ministry as well as their walk with the Lord. The twelve blemishes mentioned are blemishes in people's spiritual senses which hinder their relationship with Christ and the "work of the ministry."

THE TWELVE BLEMISHES:

BLINDNESS: The Bible says there are people who have eyes yet they see not, and ears but they hear not. (Jeremiah 5:21) Those who are spiritually blind are filled with darkness. They lack spiritual understanding. They cannot comprehend the depths of the love of

God or the reason Christ died on the cross for them. They have no spiritual vision.

The Bible says that “without a “vision” His people perish.” (Proverbs 29:18). Spiritually blind people in the Church will have no or very little revelation. Jesus called the Scribes and Pharisees “blind guides” because their hearts were filled with darkness. Jesus said “the eyes are the light of the body. If the eye is evil the whole body will be filled with darkness. (Matthew 6:22-23).

A LAME MAN: Our walk and relationship with the Lord is the most important thing in our lives. The Bible says, “And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way: but let it rather be healed.” (Hebrews 12:13). A person who is spiritually lame is one who has left the pathway which leads to Heaven. Because he has “turned away” from God he has lost his spiritual focus. He has lost his spiritual direction. People who have turned away from the Lord will need a “spiritual healing” in order to get them going in the “right” direction.

A FLAT NOSE: The nose speaks of discernment. Spiritually speaking, if a person has a “flat nose” they will have no spiritual discernment. When something smells “rotten in Denmark,” they will be unaware of the “presence of evil” around them. Like the five foolish virgins, the “flat nose” people will let the oil in their lamps go out causing them to become unaware of the evil that is constantly trying to lure them into the darkness.

The Bible says, “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! (Isaiah 5:20). Christians without spiritual discernment will have a hard time discerning between what is good and what is evil. In other words, they lack Christian common sense. They tend to be more “politically correct” than “biblically

correct” in their judgments. They will make decisions based upon their intellect, or lack thereof, rather than godly wisdom.

SUPERFLUOUS: A superfluous Christian is one who distorts the truth by “adding to” what the scripture says. What they believe is out of balance, and does not always line up with the scripture. The truth does not always fit in with THEIR plans and purpose for their lives, thus they ignore the truth.

The Bible says “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind.” (Romans 12:2). Superfluous Christians are non-conforming as well as spiritually irresponsible. They are somewhat spiritually indigent and impoverished. Superfluous Christians are those who have “itching ears” which causes them to be tossed about by every wind of doctrine. (2 Timothy 4:3).

A BROKEN FOOT: The Bible says, “Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint.” (Proverbs 25:19). A broken foot (bone) speaks of a broken part of the skeletal structure. When a structure (bone) is broken, it weakens the entire body. Spiritually speaking, a Christian with a “broken foot” is someone who is unreliable. In other words, he is spiritually immature. Like the Christian who is spiritually lame, his walk with the Lord is hindered because he is spiritually limp.

Spiritually speaking, a Christian with a broken foot is unstable in all his ways. He is a “promise breaker” and a “handout taker.” When asked to do something which will help the cause of Christ, he is the first one to volunteer, but is the last one to show up if he shows up at all. He is unfaithful and untrustworthy. I am sure many of you pastors are acquainted with people who have a “broken foot!”

A BROKEN HAND: The Bible says we are to be “Hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self controlled, “holding

fast” the faithful word as we have been taught, that we may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict. (Titus 1:8-9). This scripture was written to bishops (pastors); however, the principle of “holding fast” to the “faithful word” of God applies to ALL Christians.

The Christians with “broken hands” are those who once “put their hands to the plow,” but took their eyes off of Christ and placed them back onto the “things of the world.” They have a hard time getting a “firm grip” on the truth because they are not focusing on things which lie ahead of them, but they remain focused on their past.

Many people have a hard time forgetting the past. Others may still desire the things which gave them pleasure in the past. Their “hand” is weak, therefore they cannot carry or bear the responsibility of the call the Lord has upon their lives. The Bible says “We must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.” (Hebrews 2:1).

A CROOKED BACK: Spiritually speaking, a “crooked back” speaks of a Christian with a flawed backbone. Our spiritual backbone keeps us standing upright (righteous) in the eyes of the Lord. When we are standing upright in the “sight” of the Lord, our eyes will continually be focused on Him not on the things of this world.

The Bible says. “And behold there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up.” (Luke 13:11). The “woman” represents people in the Church that are “earthly minded.” A Christian that is “hunchbacked” will be earthly minded. Their eyes will be focused on earthly things rather than heavenly things. They are usually morally bankrupt, and will be unable to stand against the wiles and schemes of the devil.

A DWARF: Spiritually speaking, the “dwarf” represents people who never excels. They will remain “spiritually immature” and will never attain to the “mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” The Bible says, “But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. (1 Corinthians 13:10). God is looking for “spiritual perfection (holiness)” within us. He commands us to be perfect (complete), as He is perfect (complete). (Matthew 5:48). A “spiritual dwarf” is one who will never be able to reach those things which are hidden in “heavenly places.” They will never be able to comprehend the things that come “highly recommended” by the “Most High God.”

A BLEMISH IN THE EYE: Spiritually speaking, those who have a “blemish in the eye” are the “hypocrites.” Jesus said, “Woe to you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup of the dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.” (Matthew 23:25). C. S. Lewis wrote, “Of all bad men, religious bad men are the worst.”

As a “holy priesthood,” our “heavenly sacrifices” should be without blemish. Our sacrifices of praise should always be directed to the Father. Many in the Church today offer sacrifices of praise to their own self-righteousness. The Bible says, “For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.” (Romans 10:3).

Those with a “blemish in their eye” are those who have a “beam in their eye.” (Luke 6:42). They will boldly stand and criticize others for committing the same sins which they are committing. Jesus called them “vipers and whited sepulchers.” They are hypocrites who put on “fig leaves” to “hide their nakedness.”

SCURVY: In ancient Israel “scurvy” was a condition of the skin which caused a bad rash. With the rash came a constant and

overwhelming itch that left people with an insatiable desire to “scratch the itchy, burning, rash.” Prophetically, scurvy is likened to “inordinate desires.” Many Christians have a continual “itch” to do something which is inordinate and spiritually damaging to the branch which attaches them to the Vine (Jesus).

The Bible says, “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers, and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. (2 Timothy 4:3-4). Many Christians have “itching ears” desiring to hear the “doctrines” that cater to their flesh rather than those that nourish their spirit.

SCABS: A scab is a blemish which covers a wound that has not totally healed. A priest had to be healed of all his “wounds” or he could not minister effectively to the people. A priest entering into the Holy Place with a scab (wound) was not allowed to perform the duties of the “priesthood.” The flesh of every priest had to be without blemish. Scabs speak of Christians who are “oversensitive” and easily “wounded” or “offended.” A wounded Christian cannot effectively minister to others until their own spiritual wounds are healed.

The Bible says “And if the priest sees the scab has indeed spread on the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean. It is leprosy.” (Leviticus 13:8). If a priest had a scab on his body, he had to show it to the High Priest before he could serve in the Temple. If it had spread on the skin from the previous time he had shown it to the High Priest, he was to be declared “unclean” because it would be leprosy. Prophetically, leprosy represented sin. A priest could not enter into the “Holy Place” with sin in his life.

BROKEN STONES: Broken stones speaks of the reproductive parts of the body which are “broken” or “unproductive.” If a priest was

unable to produce children, he was not allowed to minister in the Temple. This speaks prophetically of bearing spiritual fruit.

The Bible says, “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” If Christians are not bearing fruit, it is because the “fruit-giver which is Jesus,” does not dwell richly within them.

The key to bearing fruit is found in bearing the Fruit-giver, Christ. Jesus said “Abide in me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.” (John 15:4).

The New Jerusalem is free of all spiritual imperfections, blemishes, and things that offend. All earthly desires, motives, and attitudes have been left “outside the gates.” All desires which are impure, self-seeking, and self-motivated cannot and will not enter into the gates of the Holy City.

Chapter 18

THE WASHING OF WATER

According to the Bible, Jesus is coming back for a Church without spot, wrinkle, or blemish. Spots in the Bible represent sin. Wrinkles represent a place where a garment remained pressed against an object too long causing it to become wrinkled. Before the return of the Bridegroom, the washing of the water of the Word of God **MUST** remove all spots from the wedding gown of the Bride. The wrinkles are also removed by the washing of the water of the Word of God.

Jesus laid down His life on the cross at Calvary so that He could cleanse the Church with the “washing of the water by the Word.” He cannot present the Church to Himself until it is **HOLY** and cleansed of every spot and wrinkle.

The Apostle Paul wrote “Wherefore beloved seeing that you look for such things, be diligent that you may be found in Him in peace, without spot, and blameless.” (2 Peter 3:14). If the Bride of Christ is going to be without spot and blameless at His coming, she has much work to do in preparation for His coming.

In Ancient Israel a bride had to go through “a time of purification” before her bridegroom could come to her home to take her away with him. This ritual was called “Mikveh.” Mikveh was symbolic of “spiritual cleansing” in the Church. The bride would take a bath immersing herself in running water using scented soaps and perfumes.

Before the betrothal, the groom had to pay a price called “the bride price” for the bride. The bride price was always decided by the Bride’s father. After the wedding, the father of the bride gave the gift to the bride.

Jesus paid the price at Calvary for our redemption. He gave the Father the price He was asking for His Bride. The Bride came at great cost to Christ. The Bride was paid for by His Blood as He bled and died on the cross at Calvary. The Bible says we have been “redeemed with a price.” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). The Bible also says the price Christ paid for the Bride was not silver or gold, but His own Life. (1 Peter 1:18-19).

In ancient Israel to fulfill his obligations to his future spouse, the groom would prepare a new dwelling place for his new bride. This was usually not a “new home,” but an extension of the home he was living in with his parents. (John 14:1-3). The place had to be “better” than the one the bride was presently living in. The father of the groom would decide when it was time for the groom to go to the bride’s house and take her to her new home. (see Matthew 24:36).

During the betrothal period, the bride had to keep herself busy preparing herself for the wedding day. One of the most important things she had to focus on was her “wedding garment.” She had to make sure her wedding gown was without spot or wrinkle, and was ready to wear when the bridegroom “knocked on her door.” She would prepare her “holy garments” in anticipation of the return of her groom. She had to have her wedding gown on when the groom came to her house to “take her away.” (Ephesians 5:27).

A GLORIOUS CHURCH

How much more shall the Blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Hebrews, Chapter 9, Verse 14.

The Church becomes a “glorious Church” without spot or wrinkle by the “washing of the water” by the Word of God. She becomes Holy as she washes her robes in the Blood of the Lamb. In the New Jerusalem she is found to be Holy and blameless without spot or wrinkle. Throughout the ages, the Church has worn a “crown of persecution” which set her apart from the world which despised, demeaned and rejected her.

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 1 John, Chapter 3, Verse 2.

We will only see Christ as He truly is by the Spirit of Revelation. Will see Him as He is when we desire and seek to be more like Him. If we want to be more like Him we must seek Him with all our heart. The Blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin, and we will become a glorious Church the more we become like Him.

The Blood of Jesus is the only thing that can keep us from stumbling. Through the Blood of Jesus we become faultless and without blame. (Jude 23). We will become a glorious Church in Christ as the power of His Word changes us from glory to glory.

The Bible says, “My son do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked of Him; for whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.” (Hebrews 12: 5-6). The chastening of the Lord is designed to transform us into principled and responsible citizens of the New Jerusalem. Chastening is never pleasant, but when we see the results of the “chastening of the Lord,” we realize it opens the door for us to become more “Christ-like.”

The Bible says, “You are fair, my love, and there is not spot (sin) in you. (Song of Solomon 4:7). The Shulamite woman in the Song of Solomon is a type and shadow of the Bride of Christ. She is found in the eyes of her beloved to be without spot of wrinkle. When the Church is purged from all her sins and her gown is found without spot or wrinkle, she will be like-Christ.

The wedding garment without spot or wrinkle speaks of the “righteousness of the saints.” We become righteous through the power of the Blood of Christ. Christ has redeemed us from the Law of Sin and Death and became a propitiation for our sins. He has set us free and delivered us from the bondage of sin.

We were bought with a price by the Blood of the Bridegroom so we could live eternally with Him in the New Jerusalem. It is our responsibility to make sure our garments are clean and we are wearing them when He arrives at our house to “take us away.”

If our thoughts are not His thoughts and our ways are not His ways, we must change the way we do things and the way we think. If we are going to live, and move, and have our being in Christ, we must think like He thinks and do things the way He does them. If we are going to be “Christ-like” we must adhere to Christ-like desires, motives, and attitudes. If we are going to become ONE with Christ and follow in His footsteps, we must put aside the “old man” and be renewed in the “spirit of our minds.”

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the

*righteous acts of the saints. Revelation, Chapter 19,
Verses 7-8.*

Chapter 19



THE HOLY CITY

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 2

John called the New Jerusalem the “Holy City.” The Holy City is the “Bride of Christ. She is also called the Temple of the Lord. The Apostle Paul said “We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 6:19). Revelation 21:22 says that “Jesus and God are the Temple in the New Jerusalem.”

You cannot separate Christ from His body. The Church is the body of Christ. We are IN Him and He is IN us. We are one with Him in Spirit and in Truth when we accept Him as our Lord and Savior. The Holy City has taken on the distinction and honor of being “filled” with the fullness of Christ. In the Holy City we are “in Him.” In the Holy City Christ dwells “within us richly.”

Christ is the “Rock” of our salvation. Christ is the “hope of glory” for all who trust in Him. Christ is the “Lamb of God” that takes away the sin of the world. Christ is the “hope of our salvation.”

Christ is the “Truth, the Life, and the Way.” Christ is the door or “gate” we go through to enter into eternal life.

In Christ dwells all the fullness of the godhead. In Christ dwells the “Light of understanding.” In Christ dwells all the treasures of righteousness, grace, faith, and peace. In Christ we find the joy which becomes our strength. In Christ the foundations of the “Holy City” are made firm and immovable. On Christ the “Solid Rock” we stand together as a Holy Nation.

The Holy City is where the holiness of the Bridegroom permeates the atmosphere. Holiness is what sets the Bride apart from those who are unable to enter into the great city. Holiness sets the Bride apart from the rest of the world. Her love for the Bridegroom is established upon the foundation of His righteousness.

In Christ our spiritual foundations are made complete and secure. In Christ we have become the righteousness of God. In Christ we find the peace which surpasses all understanding. In Christ we are more than conquerors. In Christ we live and move and have our being.

The “Holy City is a living, breathing organism which has been established on the spiritual principles that produce LIFE. It is not JUST LIFE, but it is the “more abundant life” which eludes natural man. Yet, it is not just a “more abundant life,” but it is also “eternal life.” Eternal life is life which exists in the Eternal God.

In the Holy City the Bride knows and understands who she is in Christ, and the price He paid for her redemption. She sees Christ though the eyes of love, worship, and adoration. In the Holy City she continually and thankfully wears the garment of salvation, the garment of light, and the garment of praise. Her adoration for the Groom is extended to Him throughout eternity.

THE REMNANT

And it shall come to pass that whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, among the remnant whom the Lord calls.

The word “remnant” comes from the Hebrew word “sheriyth” which means “remainder or residue.” The “chosen ones” are those who have been through the fire. They will have been tested, tried, and proved themselves to be worthy to be part of the Holy City the New Jerusalem. They were refined “by fire” and cleansed by the Blood of the Lamb. They “called upon the Name of the Lord,” and inherited eternal life.

The “remnant” of God are the fulfillment of all prophetically inspired types and shadows which found of her in the scriptures. The Bride is the City that sits upon a Hill. She is the “Church of the Firstborn.” She is the “Church Triumphant. She is the “City of Peace.” She is the “Holy City.” She is the “Bride of Christ.” She is the “NEW JERUSALEM.”

The “remnant” are those who sought diligently and found the “pearl of great price.” They all sold all their earthly possessions in order to obtain her. They entered into the Holy City through the “Gates of Pearl.” They have found the “secret place of the most high” and they consistently dwells with Christ therein.

The remnant is a Church within the Church. Not all who say “Lord, Lord” will be found worthy to enter into the gates of the Holy City. Many have been called, however, only a few were found qualified to enter into the “gates of the Holy City.

Even so at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. Romans, Chapter 11, Verse 5.

The Remnant Church is “the real thing.” She is the Bride of Christ. She has been justified by faith in the finished works of Christ. She follows Him into the Gates of the Holy City which provides every spiritual blessing she can think or imagine. She was saved by grace through the FAITH of the One who shed His Blood to pay for her redemption.

The Remnant Church hungers and thirsts for the manifestation of the sons of God. They hunger and thirst for a drink of “living water.” No weapon that is formed against the “remnant” will prosper. Her weapon is a two edged sword which she inherited from the Bridegroom.

The “Remnant” are those who are encompassed about with a great cloud of witnesses. The “witnesses” are men and women of God who refused to compromise their faith. They are now dwelling in the Holy City and are looking down upon the Earth with great anticipation. They are waiting to embrace their friends and loved ones who are “running” their earthly race. Those who have “ears to hear” can hear the “witnesses” encouraging them to remain faithful in the “race they are running” toward the goal of the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

The Remnant are those who have laid the foundations of the Holy City in their own hearts which were first laid by the Apostles and Prophets of old. The Gates of Hell will never prevail against their foundations of revelation, righteousness, faith, love, and wisdom. On Christ the Solid Rock they stand, waiting for their call to Heaven’s Promised Land. All other ground is sinking sand.

Those in the Remnant Church have overcome all adversity by the Blood of the Lamb and the WORD of their testimony. From Genesis to Revelation, from the beginning of time to the end of time, a Royal Priesthood was being prepared to dwell in the Holy City. The Lamb is the Light in the Holy City, the City where there will be no more night.

The true Church are the believers who forsook all they had and paid the price to enter into the Holy City through the Gates of Pearl. They are THE TRUE—THE FAITHFUL—THE BRIDE—they are the REMNANT.

The remnant is a “Royal Priesthood,” a Holy Nation,” a “Chosen Generation.”

Chapter 20

FROM ADORATION TO ADORNMENT

Then I John, saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 1.

Because she “adored” the Bridegroom with all her heart, the Bride “adorned” herself with all the precious jewels the Groom had endowed her with. She wanted to make sure she was “ready” for His coming. She did not know what day or at what hour her betrothed would come for her. She wanted to make sure she would be ready for Him when in “heavenly rapture” He would come to take her away.

She came out of the Wilderness--out of “great tribulation.” She stood against the onslaught of her enemies who were determined to take her life and destroy her faith. She became strong in faith as she endured the many trials of life. The journey was hard at times, but she persevered during times of adversity because she trusted her Bridegroom would soon come to rescue her from peril.

She is the fairest among women. She is virtuous woman to be desired above rubies and gold. It is no wonder her betrothed has given His heart to her. Rivers of living water flow forth from her heart of hearts. The living waters spring forth from the well of salvation the Bridegroom had conceived in her when she accepted Him as Lord and Savior.

She is like a vineyard which bears the fruit of Life—the grapes the Bridegroom planted within her which produces the New Wine of His Spirit. She is “filled” with the fullness of His Spirit, and “living waters” flow from the NEW LIFE He has established in her heart.

Upon her chest the Bride donned the “breastplate of His righteousness.” The breastplate was adorned with 12 precious jewels. The jewels were encased in “pure gold” which represented the “divine nature of the Bridegroom.” The jewels covered her heart, and “His Light” reflected His nature through the precious jewels deep into her heart. The Bridegroom had paid a great price for her “breastplate of righteousness,” and the Bride wanted to make certain she was wearing the breastplate when He came for her.

The Bride adorned herself with a “crown of righteousness” upon her head. (2 Timothy 4:8). Over her shoulders she donned a “garment of salvation” and a “robe of righteousness” which the Bridegroom had given to her. She was clothed with a “garment of praise” in her heart which would enrapture her for eternity.

The Bride had put on a “girdle of truth” around her waist which had transformed her into the image of the Bridegroom. Soon their bodies would merge together and they would become one in “Holy Matrimony.” The truth had set her free from the bondage and slavery of her oppressor and slave master. Her slave master had held her in bondage for millennia.

On her ears were “golden earrings” embellished with the same precious stones which were in the “breastplate of His righteousness” that rested on her breast. She had heard the Voice of the Bridegroom when He admonished her to “prepare yourself for I AM coming soon.” Her ears had been open to the sound of His Voice as the Living Word filled her heart to overflowing. The precious jewels she adorned her body with are reflections of the treasures she is hiding within her heart.

A foundation of Jasper (salvation) was laid within her heart. All the foundations of the twelve apostles were established within her heart when she heard the WORDS the Bridegroom had first spoken to her. It was His WORDS of grace and mercy which had drawn her to Him in the beginning of their courtship. It was the LIFE in His words that brought light and understanding into her heart of hearts.

When she first saw the Groom hanging on the cross, she knew she wanted to spend an eternity with Him. Something stirred deep within her heart when He first spoke her name as He hung upon the cross. She had been filled with shame, regret, and sorrow. She was destitute and without hope. When she saw Him hanging on the cross bleeding and dying for her sins, hope had become resurrected within her heart again.

The Blood flowing from the wounds in His nail pierced hands and feet, and from the spear which clung tightly in His side were shouting out “I love you with all my heart.” She was once blind, but now she sees. The Bridegroom’s amazing grace has set her free from the bondage of sin. Now she has found forgiveness for her sins. Now she has prepared herself for her Bridegroom, and is ready and waiting for Him to come and rapture her away to her eternal home, the New Jerusalem.

They will live together forever in His “Palace of Joy.” Her “joyful noise” will never cease in the New Jerusalem. Praise and worship will sustain their relationship as the Bride eats from the Tree of Life and drinks from the crystal clear River flowing from the Throne of the Bridegroom.

The Bride had washed her “robe” in the Blood of her betrothed, and was now ready for Him to “take her away” to their “heavenly abode” where they would dwell together for all eternity. The Bridegroom had endowed her with a “crown of everlasting life.” They live together in “heavenly bliss” for all eternity.

The scent of her perfume smelled of all the heavenly fragrances which are found in the New Jerusalem. The aroma of myrrh and frankincense filled the room around her. Her betrothed had anointed her with every precious fragrance found at the markets in the New Jerusalem. She had been to the Bridegroom's "holy mountain of myrrh" and His "hill of frankincense." (Song of Solomon 4:6).

The Bride went out to the Garden of Delight and picked a beautiful rose which she pinned to her wedding gown. It was the "Rose of Sharon," the most beautiful rose ever found. She knew soon she would be in the Garden of Eden, the Garden of Her Delight, with the Groom forever.

Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth—for your love is better than wine. Song of Solomon, Chapter 1, Verse 1.

The Bride would soon wake up in eternity hoping for a kiss from her beloved. The "New Wine" upon His lips would bring "joy in the morning." She had anointed her head with the "oil of gladness," and was anxiously awaiting the moment when the "New Wine" would touch her lips. She knew when their lips met there would be "joy unspeakable" filled with "His glory."

In the New Jerusalem things would be different. There would be no more sorrow; there would be no more shame. In the New Jerusalem there would be a new tomorrow; there would be no more pain. She delighted in her beloved, and He became the only desire of her heart. Now, her heart is eternally fixed upon Him. His ways have become her ways. His thoughts have become her thoughts.

Her wedding gown is whiter and brighter than the whitest snow. It glistens from the Light of the Son as bright rays from His

nail scarred hands reflect through the diamonds, rubies, and other precious gems which are established firmly within her heart.

A KNOCK AT THE DOOR

Behold I stand at the door and knock. Revelation, Chapter 3, Verse 20.

Through an open window in her home the Bride hears a soft, gentle, breeze blowing in the tree tops. She is not sure if it is just the wind or the Holy Spirit. She feels the breeze as it gently enters through the open window and engulfs her as she falls upon her knees. She began singing praises to the Bridegroom she knew would be coming soon. She always kept her lamp at her side. The Bridegroom had admonished her to “always keep a light burning in the window of her soul” until He came back to take her away.

Suddenly, she heard a knock at the door. She ran with excitement to open the door. To her surprise, it was a fellow virgin begging her for some oil to put in her lamp. She had allowed her light go out, and feared the Bridegroom would come for her and would pass by her house because her light had gone out. The Bride wanted to help her, but she could not give her any oil because she only had enough oil in her lamp for herself. She knew the Bridegroom could come at any minute, and she too would be left behind if she allowed her light to go out. Sorrowfully, the Bride had to turn her friend away. Her friend left in sorrow with much sadness on her face.

Suddenly, she hears another knock at the door. A voice she is familiar with says “Behold I stand at the door and knock.” Her heart leaps with joy inside her chest; “has the Bridegroom come for His Bride?” She runs quickly to open the door. To her surprise she sees a bright City standing before her. It is the New Jerusalem sitting atop Mount Zion.

On her feet she wears the “good news of the gospel” as she stands upon Mount Zion the “City of God.” She hears a song resounding from out of the City. “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say in Zion: **OUR GOD REIGNS, OUR GOD REIGNS, OUR GOD REIGNS, OUR GOD REIGNS.**”

The Holy City is filled with life, shining with the brightness of the SON. There are twelve foundations which the Great City is resting upon. She sees the names of the twelve apostles written on the twelve foundations. The foundations of the City are all made of precious jewels and gems. The wall of the City is made of gold and jasper stones. The Gates of the City are each made of one large pearl.

The Bride then hears a Voice that sounds like rushing water coming from the Holy City saying: “Come and drink of the water freely. The Spirit and the Bride say come. The foundations have now been laid, and the Spirit and the Bride have now become one.”

“It is the beginning of the beginning”

Chapter 21



THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE SAY COME

And the Spirit and the bride say "Come!" And let him who hears say "Come!" And let him who thirsts come, And whosoever desires, let him take of the water freely. Revelation, Chapter 22, Verse 17.

The Spirit and the Bride bid those who are thirsty to COME and drink of the Water of Life freely. There is a river that flows out of the "throne of God." It is called the "River of Life." All who drink from the River of Life will receive "life eternal."

John saw a "pure river" of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. (Revelation 22:1). Out of the River of Life flows "living waters" that are "clear as crystal."

Jesus said, "He that believes in me will have rivers of "living water" flowing out of their innermost being." (John 7:38). Jesus is the "Water of Life." That river flowing out of the throne room of God flows from the "Spirit of His love."

THE STREET OF GOLD

And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. Revelation, Chapter 22, Verse 21.

The street in the New Jerusalem is made of “pure gold.” Gold is prophetic of the “divine nature of Christ.” Transparent gold speaks of moral purity. Only the “pure in heart” will be able to enter into the Holy City. There is nothing hidden in the Bride that would profane or offend her “Soul Mate.” No darkness or sin inhibits the Light of Christ from shining in and through the walls of the City, the Bride of Christ. She is spiritually transparent. The Light of Christ shines through her and illuminates the “entire city.”

The Bible says that “Jesus is the WAY (pathway) that leads into the New Jerusalem.” The street of gold was paved with the virtues of His “divine nature.” The “divine nature” of Christ sustains the Bride as she walks the street of the Holy City.

The Bride enters into the gates of the New Jerusalem after much suffering, persecution, trials, and tribulations. The courtship has been a long, difficult, and arduous journey throughout time. Many obstacles and pitfalls have blocked her way, however, through the Blood of the Bridegroom she was able to overcome all adversity and enter into the “pearly gates.”

The Bride of Christ was destined to walk with her Bridegroom down the street of gold. She has been anxiously waiting for her final invitation to the “Wedding Supper of the Lamb.” She knows her Bridegroom told her to be “anxious for nothing,” however, she cannot wait to be enthralled by His loving embrace. She has to wait just a “little while longer” until the rest of the Lamb’s entourage can enter into the Gates of Pearl with her.

THE GATES OF PEARL

And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. Revelation, Chapter 22, Verse 21.

The Bride enters into the New Jerusalem through the Gates of Pearl seeking her betrothed. She finds the glory of her future husband embracing the entire city with His Life and His Light. His Light illuminates the City, and His Life makes it pure and Holy.

The Bride has found more than the “pearl of great price” in the New Jerusalem. She has found riches beyond compare. She enters into the city through a “pearl of great price,” however, what she sees before her eyes as she enters through the gate of the City almost takes her breath away. There standing before her is her Savior, the Bridegroom. He is standing there before her with His arms open wide. “Well done my good and faithful servant” He says, “You may enter into the joy of the Lord.”

His eyes are like flames of fire. They peer deeply into the windows of her soul. He sees all the treasures of the New Jerusalem He embedded in the foundations He established within her heart. He had placed them there with the power of His Blood and the incorruptible treasures of His Word.

The Bridegroom is wearing a golden crown which says “King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” Somehow she knew the golden crown rested over His brow where the “crown of thorns” had pierced His Holy Head. The crown was embellished with all manner of colorful precious stones, jewels, and gems. They seemed to permeate and brighten the entire City making an amazing rainbow over the New Jerusalem like a heavenly umbrella.

He is wearing a white robe which envelopes Him like a mist that seems to softly emanate from within Him. His robe then turned into a bright, clear, light blue cloud reflecting His glory. The clear mist from the cloud surrounding Him fills the entire City embracing all the residents of the New Jerusalem.

His raiment seems to be permeated with LIFE. The soft, clear, blue mist surrounding Him seems to gently move with Him with every move He makes and every step He takes. The clear mist embraces the Bride as she looks into His fiery eyes. His eyes seem to look deep inside her as they embrace her enraptured soul. The Bridegroom has a golden ring on His finger with a large, white pearl embedded in the center. It is the “pearl of great price.” The pearl had His name written on it. It said “Yah is my salvation.”

As the Bride looks upon His hands that are reaching out to hold her in His loving embrace she sees the scars where the Roman soldiers nailed Him to the cross. She looks upon His head just below where His golden crown sits, and she sees the scars where the crown of thorns had pierced His brow. She then looks down at His waist, she knows there is a deep scar where He was wounded by the spear which pierced His side. She falls down on her knees and pulls His golden sandals off His feet. There she sees the nail scars where they nailed His feet to the cross at Calvary. She knows the scars she sees will forever remain on His body. The scars are there forever to remind her of the great price the Groom paid for her redemption.

**Tears of great joy stream down her face
She looks up and finds love’s embrace.
Her heart keeps beating oh so fast
She shouts aloud “I am home at last.”**

**She kisses the Holy Hands that set her free,
The nail scarred hands “they were the key.”**

**They opened wide the pearly gate,
They set her free and sealed her fate.**

**“Welcome Home,” He says to her,
My Bride, my wife--you are oh so pure.
I’ve longed for you throughout the ages,
I had your name on my hearts open pages.**

**He takes her by the hand and holds it oh so tight.
Out of a nail hole in His hand, shines a beam of light.**

**He looks into her eyes with mercy and grace
With loving lips He places a kiss upon her face.**

**He walks her down the pure street of gold
In the land where she will never grow old.
He says “my beloved I am glad you are here,”
She looks in His eyes--she sees a small tear.**

**Now they dwell enraptured for evermore,
Across life’s sea on Heaven’s sweet shore.
They abide together in the bright City of Gold,
With walls of jasper—what a sight to behold!**

**He holds her in His arms, she feels His Spirit go deep inside
Now the two have become one—the Groom and the Bride.
Now the Bride lives forevermore in LIFE’S loving embrace.
Filled with His love and clothed with His AMAZING GRACE.**

**To Christ, His Bride is the fairest of women. To the Bride, He
is the Lily of the Valley and the Rose of Sharon. She is the “apple of
His eye,” the Bride which once was blind and barren. The fruit of her
womb became sweet when she ate of the fruit on the Tree of Life.**

To the Bridegroom the price He paid for His Bride was worth more than the cost. Every drop of His precious Blood that He shed for the Bride saved many from an eternal inferno in the Lake of Fire. In “sweet repose,” He clothes each of “those” with His “ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS” and their hearts deepest desire. Each one knows where His Spirit goes they are clothed with HIS everlasting FIRE.

He took her to the Wedding Supper being held in the Banquet House of the New Jerusalem where she drank of the “New Wine.” The New Wine was poured out from His earthen vessel for her on Mount Calvary. She was His sleeping beauty who arose after the Prince of Peace kissed her upon her cheek. She was immersed in the New Wine and was awakened by His Voice as He said “I love you,” my Queen.

He said to her “Arise up my love, my fair one, and come away with me. Oh my dove, in the cleft of the rock, is the secret places of the cliff, let me see your countenance, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and your countenance is lovely.” (Song of Solomon 2:14). Now the Voice of the Bridegroom and the voice of His beloved echoes together eternally throughout the streets of the New Jerusalem.

If you want to go to the New Jerusalem because of the mansions, the gold, or the abundance of “rich stuff,” you are wanting to go for ALL the wrong reasons. The “true riches” of the Holy City are found only in the virtues and godly character which the City is built upon. The Holy City is not to be exalted above its inhabitants or the Lord of the City.

The New Jerusalem is a prophetic picture of the Bride of Christ. She had “adorned” herself with the robe of righteousness which the Bridegroom had bought for her with His Blood. Jesus was the “pearl of great price” by which the Bride entered through the

gates of the Holy City. Without the Blood of the Bridegroom, the City would not exist.

Jesus is the reason the New Jerusalem exists. If it had not been for the shedding of His Blood, there would be no Bride, and there would be no New Jerusalem. There would only be malicious motives and vain desires in the hearts of men and women everywhere. Jesus is the author and finisher of the New Jerusalem. He laid the first foundation of the New Jerusalem with the POWER of His Blood. He ratified a New Covenant and signed it with His Blood on Calvary. In the New Jerusalem, Jesus is all in all, and He fulfills all in all.

Is there an actual city called the “New Jerusalem?” Does the Bride really exist, or is she just a type and shadow of the Church which will dwell with Christ in Heaven for eternity? The answer is yes. The Bride is not just a prophetic example of the Holy City which exists in Heaven. Heaven is a place where everything is established and rests upon the power of God’s Word, and the virtues and doctrines which are the foundational principles of ETERNAL LIFE.

**It was the power of love that led Him to the cross.
It was with the power of love He paid salvation's cost.
He bought and paid the price for His Holy Bride,
As upon the cross He CRIED, BLED, and DIED.**

**He removed all our shame and broke all our chains.
He removed all our guilt and washed away our stains.
Now His Bride can sing of His great power and love,
In that Holy City He built for His Bride high above.**

The invitation to the “Wedding Supper” is open to all. So secure your reservation before it is too late. Jesus would LOVE to meet you at the “pearly gates.” THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE SAY “COME.”

The Spirit and the Bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who thirsts, Come. And whoever desires, let him come and drink of the water of life freely. Revelation, Chapter 22, Verse 17.

AMAZING GRACE



**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
His grace so full and free.
I once was lost but now I'm found
It is amazing how grace can be.**

**Amazing grace my Savior's word
Falls down from Christ above.
The sweetest sound I've ever heard
Resounding with Heaven's love.**

**Amazing grace has set me free
From sin which did abound.
His grace came down so gracefully
With grace I have been crowned.**

**Amazing grace a heavenly place
Where mercy searched for pain
Shinned down upon a sinful face
Till all my pain was slain.**

The scripture states that “all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” Romans Chapter 3, Verse 23.

If you do not know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, or if you are not sure of your Salvation or where you will spend Eternity—please pray this prayer now and ask Jesus to come into your heart.

Father, I come to you in the name of your Son Jesus. I admit that I am a sinner and am in need of a Savior. I have sinned and come short of your glory. I believe that Jesus is your Son and that He died on the Cross at Calvary for my sins. I believe that three days later you raised Him from the dead. I realize it was for me Christ died on the Cross that I might have Eternal Life. I am sorry for all the sins I committed. Please forgive me. Jesus I ask you to come into my heart and life right now and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. I also ask you to baptize me with the Holy Spirit. I desire to walk in the fullness of the Holy Spirit to never be the same again. Amen.

Signature

and

date:

After you have given your life to the Lord you need to get a Bible if you do not have one and study it daily. Ask God to give you WISDOM and understanding to help you find His will and purpose for your life. Find a Church or a body of Believers who can help you grow in Christ and with your walk with the Lord.

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email: donrandolph@gmail.com