

# Bereans Bible Institute

## Module XI – Revelation

### Lesson 55 – Rev. 21-22

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- I. Most common **incorrect** interpretations of the “New Jerusalem”:
- A. That “New Jerusalem” is “heaven” or a city in “heaven,” outside this creation
  - B. That “New Jerusalem” (in heaven) contains the “many mansions” (Jn. 14:1-2) inhabited by Christians’ “ghosts” or reincarnated (new bodies)
    - 1. Imposes Greek cosmology of Plato & undermines prophets & Apostles:
      - a. Amillennialism: **fails to believe the prophets & Paul** and instead imposes an allegorical interpretation – heaven
      - b. Dispensationalism: **ignore Paul’s reliance on the prophets**
- II. The CORRECT interpretation is the present city of Jerusalem restored by God.
- A. This fact is proven by demonstrating that its features are drawn primarily from 2 OT prophetic books and 2 NT books:
    - 1. Isaiah 54, 60, 62, 65-66 & Ezekiel 43, 47, 48
    - 2. Gal. 4:21-31 & Heb. 11:8-10,13-16; Heb. 12:22-23 (which refer to these)
  - B. The prophets’ naming specific locations and comparing Jerusalem’s past to its future **as the same city** demand literal interpretation, the SAME CITY.
  - C. The prophets’ called the groom “the LORD”; Paul & John identified the Son
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#### Jerusalem Restored (OT)

Isaiah 54:1-15

1 **“Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate Than the children of the married woman,”** says the LORD. 2 “Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes. 3 For you shall expand to the right and to the

#### New Jerusalem (NT)

Gal 4:25-27

25 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children — 26 but **the Jerusalem above** is free, which is the mother of us all. 27 For it is written: **“Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband.”**

left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited.

4 "Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame; For you will forget the shame of your youth, And will not remember the reproach of your widowhood anymore. 5 **For your Maker is your husband, The LORD of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth.** 6 **For the LORD has called you Like a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, Like a youthful wife when you were refused," Says your God.** 7 **"For a mere moment I have forsaken you, But with great mercies I will gather you. 8 With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you," Says the LORD, your Redeemer.** 9 "For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you. 10 For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed," Says the LORD, who has mercy on you. 11 "O you afflicted one, Tossed with tempest, and not comforted, **Behold, I will lay your stones with colorful gems, And lay your foundations with sapphires. 12 I will make your pinnacles of rubies, Your gates of crystal, And all your walls of precious stones.**

Rev 21:2-3

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

Rev 21:9-10

9 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, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife.**" 10 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,

Rev 21:18-21

18 **The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.** 19 **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,** 20 **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.** 21 **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.**

Isaiah 60

1 Arise, shine; For your light has come!  
And the glory of the LORD is risen  
upon you. 2 For behold, the darkness  
shall cover the earth, And deep  
darkness the people; But the LORD will  
arise over you, And His glory will be  
seen upon you. 3 **The Gentiles [nations]  
shall come to your light, And kings to  
the brightness of your rising.**

4 "Lift up your eyes all around, and see:  
They all gather together, they come to  
you; Your sons shall come from afar,  
And your daughters shall be nursed at  
your side. 5 Then you shall see and  
become radiant, And your heart shall  
swell with joy; Because the abundance  
of the sea shall be turned to you, The  
wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.  
6 The multitude of camels shall cover  
your land, The dromedaries of Midian  
and Ephah; All those from Sheba shall  
come; They shall bring gold and incense,  
And they shall proclaim the praises of  
the LORD. 7 All the flocks of Kedar shall  
be gathered together to you, The rams of  
Nebaioth shall minister to you; They  
shall ascend with acceptance on My  
altar, And I will glorify the house of My  
glory.

8 "Who are these who fly like a cloud,  
And like doves to their roosts? 9 Surely  
the coastlands shall wait for Me; And  
the ships of Tarshish will come first, To  
bring your sons from afar, Their silver  
and their gold with them, To the name  
of the LORD your God, And to the Holy  
One of Israel, Because He has glorified  
you.

Rev 21:24

4 **And the nations of those who are  
saved shall walk in its light, and the  
kings of the earth bring their glory and  
honor into it.**

10 "The sons of foreigners shall build up your walls, And their kings shall minister to you; For in My wrath I struck you, But in My favor I have had mercy on you. 11 **Therefore your gates shall be open continually; They shall not be shut day or night, That men may bring to you the wealth of the Gentiles, And their kings in procession.** 12 For the nation and kingdom which will not serve you shall perish, And those nations shall be utterly ruined.

13 "The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, The cypress, the pine, and the box tree together, To beautify the place of My sanctuary; And I will make the place of My feet glorious. 14 Also the sons of those who afflicted you Shall come bowing to you, And all those who despised you shall fall prostrate at the soles of your feet; And they shall call you **The City of the LORD, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.**

15 "Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, So that no one went through you, I will make you an eternal excellence, A joy of many generations. 16 You shall drink the milk of the Gentiles, And milk the breast of kings; You shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior And your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

17 "Instead of bronze I will bring gold, Instead of iron I will bring silver, Instead of wood, bronze, And instead of stones, iron. I will also make your officers peace, And your magistrates righteousness. 18 Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, Neither wasting nor destruction within your

Rev 21:25-27

**25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). 26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.**

borders; But you shall call your walls Salvation, And your gates Praise.

19 "The sun shall no longer be your light by day, Nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; But the LORD will be to you an everlasting light, And your God your glory. 20 Your sun shall no longer go down, Nor shall your moon withdraw itself; For the LORD will be your everlasting light, And the days of your mourning shall be ended. 21 Also your people shall all be righteous; They shall inherit the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified. 22 A little one shall become a thousand, And a small one a strong nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time."

Isaiah 62

1 For **Zion's** sake I will not hold My peace, And for **Jerusalem's** sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns. 2 **The Gentiles [nations] shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of the LORD will name.** 3 You shall also be a crown of glory In the hand of the LORD, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God. 4 You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; For the LORD delights in you, And your land shall be married.

Rev 21:23-24

23 **The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.**

Rev 21:27

27 **But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.**

Rev 21:24

4 **And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.**

Rev 21:2-3

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

5 For as a young man marries a virgin,  
So shall your sons marry you; **And as  
the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,  
So shall your God rejoice over you.** 6 I  
have set watchmen on your walls, O  
Jerusalem; They shall never hold their  
peace day or night. You who make  
mention of the LORD, do not keep silent,  
7 And give Him no rest till He  
establishes And till He makes **Jerusalem**  
a praise in the earth. 8 The LORD has  
sworn by His right hand And by the  
arm of His strength: "Surely I will no  
longer give your grain As food for your  
enemies; And the sons of the foreigner  
shall not drink your new wine, For  
which you have labored. 9 But those  
who have gathered it shall eat it, And  
praise the LORD; Those who have  
brought it together shall drink it in My  
holy courts." 10 Go through, Go through  
the gates! Prepare the way for the  
people; Build up, Build up the highway!  
Take out the stones, Lift up a banner for  
the peoples! 11 Indeed the LORD has  
proclaimed To the end of the world:  
"Say to the daughter of **Zion**, 'Surely  
your salvation is coming; **Behold, His  
reward is with Him, And His work  
before Him.**" 12 And they shall call  
them The Holy People, The Redeemed  
of the LORD; And you shall be called  
Sought Out, **A City Not Forsaken.**

Isaiah 65:17-19

17 "For behold, **I create new heavens  
and a new earth;** ... 18 But be glad and  
rejoice forever in what I create; **For  
behold, I create Jerusalem as a  
rejoicing, And her people a joy.**

Rev 21:9-10

"**Come, I will show you the bride, the  
Lamb's wife.**" 10 **And he carried me  
away in the Spirit to a great and high  
mountain, and showed me the great  
city, the holy Jerusalem.**

Rev 22:12

12 "And behold, I am coming quickly,  
and **My reward is with Me, to give to  
every one according to his work.**

Rev 21:1-2

1 **Now I saw a new heaven and a new  
earth, for the first heaven and the first  
earth had passed away.** Also there was  
no more sea. 2 **Then I, John, saw the  
holy city, New Jerusalem, coming  
down out of heaven from God,**

Ezek 43:1-7

1 Afterward he brought me to the gate, the gate that faces toward the east. 2 And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory. 3 It was like the appearance of the vision which I saw — like the vision which I saw when I came to destroy the city. The visions were like the vision which I saw by the River Chebar; and I fell on my face. 4 And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. 5 The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

6 Then I heard Him speaking to me from the temple, while a man stood beside me. 7 And He said to me, "**Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever.**"

Ezek 47:1-12

1 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar. 2 He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side. ...

Rev 21:3-4

3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "**Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.**"

22:3 **And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.**

7 **When I returned, there, along the bank of the river, were very many trees on one side and the other.** 8 Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed. 9 And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes. 10 It shall be that fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be places for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many. 11 But its swamps and marshes will not be healed; they will be given over to salt. 12 **Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine.**"

Ezek 48:30-35

30 "These are the exits of **the city**. On the north side, measuring four thousand five hundred [measures], 31 **(the gates of the city shall be named after the tribes of Israel), the three gates northward: one gate for Reuben, one gate for Judah, and one gate for Levi; 32 on the east side, four thousand five hundred cubits, three gates: one gate for Joseph,**

Rev 22:1-2

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

2 **In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.**

Rev 21:12-13

12 **Also 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: 13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.**

one gate for Benjamin, and one gate for Dan; 33 on the south side, measuring four thousand five hundred [measures], three gates: one gate for Simeon, one gate for Issachar, and one gate for Zebulun; 34 on the west side, four thousand five hundred [measures] with their three gates: one gate for Gad, one gate for Asher, and one gate for Naphtali. 35 All the way around shall be eighteen thousand [measures]; and **the name of the city from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE."**

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*Hebrews 13:10-16*

*10 We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. 11 For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. 12 Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate [of Jerusalem]. 13 Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. 14 **For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.** 15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. 16 But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.*