







THIS WORLD IS NOT OUR HOME . . .

OR IS IT?

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OUR LONGING FOR EDEN

- We are homesick for Eden
- We long for a return to Paradise a perfect world, without the corruption of sin, where God walks with us and talks with us in the cool of the day.
- ❖ God promises us exactly that —

a home that will not be destroyed, a kingdom that will not fade, a city with unshakable foundations, and an incorruptible inheritance.

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OUR ETERNAL HOME



REVELATION 21:1-4

Then I saw <u>a new heaven and a new earth</u>; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away.

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HEAVEN ON EARTH

"God will make the new earth his dwelling place.... Heaven and earth will then no longer be separated as they are now, but they will be one."

Anthony Hoekema

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"Our destiny is an earthly one: a new earth, an earth redeemed and transfigured. An earth reunited with heaven, but an earth, nevertheless."

Paul Marshall

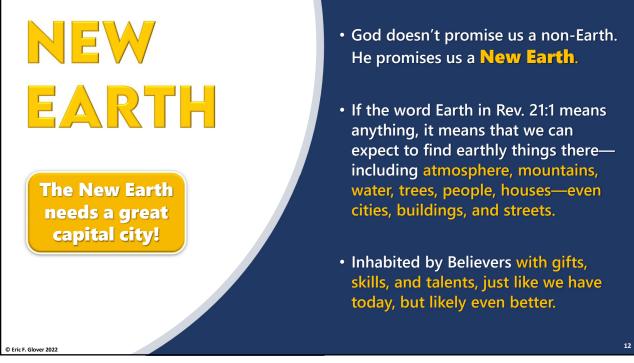
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Are there any clues as to what the

ETERNAL HEAVEN

will be like?





NEW ENDURING CAPITAL

HEBREWS 11:10

For he was looking forward to **the city** that has foundations, whose **architect and builder is God**.

HEBREWS 13:14

For we do not have an enduring city here; instead, we seek the one to come.

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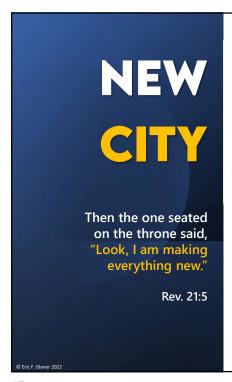
GLORIOUS SIGHT TO BEHOLD

REVELATION 21:9-14

Then one of the seven angels, who had held the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues, came and spoke with me: "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰He then carried me away in the Spirit, to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹arrayed with God's glory. Her radiance was like a precious jewel, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. ¹²The city had a massive high wall, with twelve gates. Twelve angels were at the gates; the names of the twelve tribes of Israel's sons were inscribed on the gates. ¹³There were three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. ¹⁴The city wall had twelve foundations, and the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb were on the foundations.

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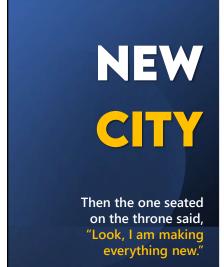
REVELATION 21:18-23

¹⁸The building material of its wall was jasper, and the city was pure gold clear as glass. ¹⁹The foundations of the city wall were adorned with every kind of jewel: the first foundation is jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, ²⁰the fifth sardonyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. ²¹The twelve gates are twelve pearls; each individual gate was made of a single pearl. The main street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass.

²²I did not see a temple in it, because the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because the glory of God illuminates it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

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Rev. 21:5

BUILDING MATERIALS (Rev. 21:18-21)

Walls:

- Jasper (red)
- Pure gold (clear as glass)

> Foundations (12):

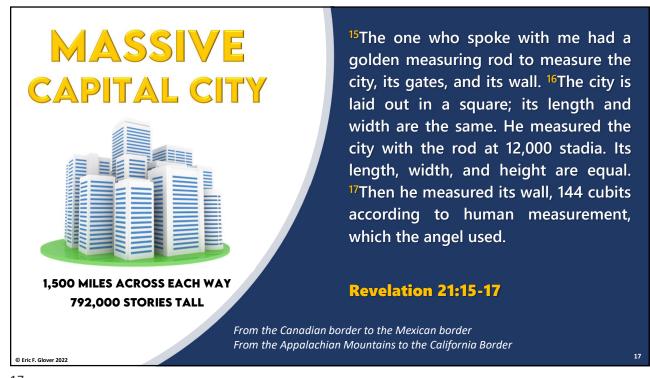
- Jasper
- Sapphire
- Chalcedony
- Emerald
- Sardonyx
- CarnelianChrysolite
- Beryl
- Topaz
- Chrysoprase
- Jacinth
- Amethyst

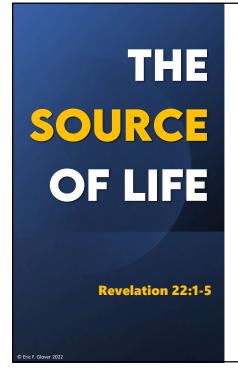


moon for lighting.

- > Gates (12): Solid pearl, made of a single pearl each
- > Streets: Pure gold (transparent as glass)

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Then he showed me the river of the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²down the middle of the city's main street. The tree of life was on each side of the river, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree are for healing the nations, ³and there will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will worship him. ⁴They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵Night will be no more; people will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, because the Lord God will give them light, and they will reign forever and ever.

THE NEW EARTH

- God always sees us in light of what he intended us to be, and he always seeks to restore us to that design.
- He sees the earth in terms of what he intended it to be, and he seeks to restore it to its original design.

God has never surrendered his title deed to the earth. He owns it—and he will not relinquish it to his enemies.

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EARTH REDEEMED

God's Renewal Plan

GOD IS IN THE SALVAGE BUSINESS

Reconcile – **Re**deem – **Re**store – **Re**cover **Re**turn – **Re**new – **Re**generate – **Re**surrect

All of these biblical words begin with the *re-* prefix, suggesting a return to an original condition that was ruined or lost.

- <u>Redeem</u> means to buy back what was formerly owned.
- **Reconcile** means to restore or reestablish a prior friendship or unity.
- <u>Renew</u> means to make new again, restoring to an original state.
- **<u>Resurrect</u>** means becoming physically alive again, after death.

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THE EXTENT OF REDEMPTION

"Whatever sin has touched and polluted, God will redeem and cleanse. If redemption does not go as far as the curse of sin, then God has failed. Whatever the extent of the consequences of sin, so must the extent of redemption be."

Steven J. Lawson

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WAITING FOR THE RIGHT TIME

✓ Peter preached that Christ "must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets." (Acts 3:21)

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The New Earth is the Old Earth Restored

Jesus will come from Heaven to Earth, not to take us away from Earth to Heaven, but to restore Earth to what he intended so He can live with us here forever.

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