



# Revelation 21

*The Final Fulfillment – Living with God Forever*

Part 2

## So we only made it to verse 5.

- Remember vs 5 is a KEY verse to understanding how this all comes together.
- Behold I make ALL THINGS NEW!
- This undoes all previous dispensations, covenants, NT Saints, OT Saints, tribulation Saints ETC....

- Tonight, we step further into the final vision John was given — a glimpse not just of a future place, but of our eternal home. The chapter opens with new heavens and a new earth, but starting in verse 6, we're drawn into something deeper — God's final invitation, His eternal city, and His perfect presence.
- This is the moment where everything broken is made whole... where every promise finds its fulfillment, and where our faith becomes sight.
- But this is more than a tour of heaven — it's a call to live differently now.

# It is done...

- “It is done” (v.6) echoes John 19:30 (Last words on the cross)— God's plan is fully completed.
  - This is also echoed with I AM the Alpha and the Omega.
- Water of life freely given — contrast this with the world’s endless striving and spiritual dehydration.
  - Echoes John CH 4 Jacob’s well. Notice vs 13-14
- Two groups emerge:
  - Overcomers (v.7): Those who walk by faith (1 John 5:4-5). They shall inherit ALL Things.
  - The lost (v.8): Notice *cowardly* is listed first — fear over faith, compromise over truth.

# The Overcomer

- The term “overcomer” (Greek: *nikaō*) means to conquer, to prevail, to be victorious.
- This ties directly back to the seven churches in Revelation 2–3, where promises are made “to him who overcomes.”
- Overcomers are:
  - Those who put saving faith in Jesus Christ (1 John 5:4–5).
  - Those who endure and walk in obedience to Christ, despite trials or temptations (Romans 8:37).
- Overcoming is not about perfection — it's about faithfulness.

# The Non-Overcomer

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- These are not just sins, **they are identities** — defining characteristics of people who persistently reject God's rule and refuse His grace.

Group	Description	Spiritual Root
<b>Cowardly</b>	Those who shrink back from faith (Heb. 10:38)	Fear of man over fear of God
<b>Unbelieving</b>	Rejecting Christ or lacking true faith	Refusal to trust God
<b>Abominable</b>	Morally disgusting, rebellious	Rejection of God's holiness
<b>Murderers</b>	Literal & in heart (Matt. 5:21-22)	Hatred, violence
<b>Sexually immoral</b>	<i>Porneia</i> — all sexual sin outside God's design	Lust, selfishness
<b>Sorcerers</b>	<i>Pharmakeia</i> — occult, drug abuse, deception	Rebellion, control
<b>Idolaters</b>	Worshiping anything above God	False allegiance
<b>All liars</b>	Habitual deception	Living in falsehood, not truth

# Did the Overcomers Face These Same Temptations?

Yes — but they overcame them.

- Every overcomer has sinned (Romans 3:23), and many once walked in these exact sins (1 Cor. 6:9–11).
  - But they repented, believed, and allowed Jesus to change them.
- “And such were some of you. But you were washed...”* (1 Cor. 6:11)

Overcomers:

- Don't live in these sins as a lifestyle.
- Fight against them through the Spirit.
- Are covered by the blood of the Lamb (Rev. 12:11).

Non-overcomers:

- Live in and love these sins (John 3:19–20).
- Refuse to repent.
- Ultimately reject Christ — either passively (unbelief) or actively (rebellion).

# How to understand this for us today.

These are not just “bad people” — they are people who chose their sin over God.  
Think “Romans 1:20-32” God gives them up, then gives them over to.

God offers the water of life freely (v.6) — but those in verse 8 reject the **invitation**.

- Our culture normalizes the sins in verse 8 and even celebrates them.
- Some churches now affirm cowardice, unbelief, sexual immorality, and lies.
- The overcomer is not better — they are simply redeemed and repentant.

# VS 9 Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife..

- Now we see the answer to the question. “who is the bride of Christ”
- This is a very intentional detail.
  - The same angel who had the 7 bowls makes this announcement.
- In Revelation 17, **the same angel** says:  
“Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot...” (Rev. 17:1)
- Now in Revelation 21:  
“Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife...” (Rev. 21:9)
  - Remember this is all surrounding the ANTI-christ.

# The choice is clear.

- The world is full of “Babylon” — false religion, corruption, compromise.
- But God has prepared **a better city** and a **better identity** for those in Christ.
- The Bride isn’t about performance — she’s clothed in His righteousness (Rev. 19:7-8).
  - This call back is about the two cities and what will happen to those who inhabit of each city. This further shows us, it is NOT the Saints who will be the future bride, but the bride in CH 19 is the city. IT IS ALL ABOUT THE CITIES!
  - SO when you see this is all about contrast of the two cities, you can clearly see that it ‘s NOT about a people group.
  - The dwellers of Babylon will have their part in the lake of fire
  - The dwellers of the NEW Jerusalem will have their part with GOD forever.
  - Those don’t understand who or what the Bride is, don’t understand the book of Revelation and the judgement of Babylon.

# Jerusalem

- To further make the point lets look at the very word Jerusalem.

“Yeru” / “Yireh” (יְרוּ)

- Comes from the verb "ra'ah" (רָאָה), meaning “to see” or “to provide.”
- It's related to "Yireh", as in Jehovah-Jireh — “The Lord will provide” (Genesis 22:14).

Some scholars believe this references Mount Moriah, where Abraham offered Isaac — later to become the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

*“And Abraham called the name of that place The-Lord-Will-Provide [YHWH Yireh]...”*  
(Gen. 22:14) While we can clearly see this is the place of the cross, but it will also mean to provide...

# “Shalayim”

- Related to "shalom" (שלום) — meaning peace, wholeness, completeness.
- The ending “-ayim” is dual in Hebrew grammar, suggesting “double peace” or “complete peace.”
- The reason I believe this is more a reference to the city than Jesus, is Jesus was crucified outside the city
- Hebrews 13:11–13
- In the Law, sin offerings were burned outside the camp (Leviticus 16:27).
- Jesus became our once-for-all sin offering (Heb. 10:10–14).
- His crucifixion outside the gate fulfilled this Levitical pattern perfectly.  
Jesus was treated as unclean, rejected, cast out — though He was without sin.
- Being crucified outside the city symbolized rejection by man.
- He was excluded from the holy city so we could be welcomed into the New Jerusalem.

<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Earthly Jerusalem</b>	<b>New Jerusalem</b> ( <i>Revelation 21–22</i> )
<b>Origin</b>	Built by man, rooted in history	Built by God, revealed from heaven (Rev. 21:2)
<b>Location</b>	On earth, in present Israel	Descends from heaven to new earth
<b>Temple</b>	Central to worship in OT (2 Chron. 7:1–3)	No temple — God and the Lamb are the temple (Rev. 21:22)
<b>God’s Presence</b>	Came and went (cloud, fire, exile, return)	Permanent dwelling of God with man (Rev. 21:3)
<b>City’s Purpose</b>	Political, religious, national center	Eternal dwelling of all God’s redeemed
<b>Peace</b> ( <i>shalom</i> )	Often disrupted (wars, invasions)	Everlasting peace — nothing unclean enters (Rev. 21:27)
<b>Population</b>	Mostly ethnic Israel	All who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life (Rev. 21:27)
<b>Security</b>	Walls breached often in history	Gates never shut, nothing harmful enters (Re

# Old vs New

Jesus was cast out of the earthly Jerusalem so we could be welcomed into the heavenly one.

- The earthly Jerusalem rejected the Messiah (Luke 13:34).
- The New Jerusalem is the Bride of the Lamb — those who receive Him live with Him there.
- This is also why it is called HOLY.

# Understanding John 14

## John 14:1–3 (NKJV)

*“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.  
In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you.  
I go to prepare a place for you.  
And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself;  
that where I am, there you may be also.”*

## “My Father’s house”

- Commonly refers to God’s dwelling — not just heaven in general, but the place of God’s presence.
- This points forward to the New Jerusalem, described in Revelation 21:3:  
*“Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them...”*
- **“Many mansions” (Greek: *monai*)**
- Better translated “dwelling places” or “rooms.”
- Jesus is preparing a place in the Father’s house — a permanent, relational home.
- It aligns with Revelation 21, where God's people dwell with Him forever in a prepared city.

# So What Is John 14 *Not* Primarily About?

It's not directly about:

- Glorified bodies (although those are promised elsewhere: 1 Cor. 15:42–44; Phil. 3:21)
- A temporary heaven
- Merely spiritual comfort or metaphorical peace

It is primarily about:

- Jesus preparing a real, eternal place for His Bride — the New Jerusalem
  - Remember the CH 19 it tells us the Bride has made herself ready. The rooms are done!
- A restoration of dwelling with God — what was lost in Eden, restored forever

# John's connection.

- John 14: “I go to prepare a place...”
- Revelation 21: “I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven, prepared as a bride...”

They use the same language of preparation, presence, and relationship.

- New bodies are real and biblical, but they're taught in:
- 1 Corinthians 15:42–55 – Resurrection/glorification
- Philippians 3:20–21 – Transformation of our lowly body
- 1 John 3:2 – “We shall be like Him”
- These go hand-in-hand with the New Jerusalem, but John 14 is not the direct teaching text for that.
- Our hope isn't just “a better body” — it's **being with Jesus in a better place**, forever.

# Two Spiritual Brides in Revelation

- The Bride of the Lamb (Revelation 21:2, 9)
- Represents the redeemed who are set apart for Christ.
- She is pure, faithful, prepared, and dwells in the New Jerusalem.
- Her destiny: to be with Jesus forever in glory.
- THIS IS NOT JUST THE CHURCH BTW
- The Great Harlot (Babylon) (Revelation 17:1–5)
- Represents false religion, worldliness, and spiritual adultery.
- She is corrupt, enticing, political, and destined for judgment.
- She seduces kings and nations — those who love the world system over God's truth.

# Being One with the World = Being the Bride of the World

James 4:4

*“Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”*

- Friendship with the world = spiritual betrayal
- You can't love both systems — you must choose your allegiance

2 Corinthians 11:2

*“For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.”*

- Paul's concern: that the Church would be seduced away by the world (v. 3)
- Faithfulness is not just doctrinal — it's devotional loyalty



## **Bride of the World**

Loves the world's values

Spiritually unfaithful

Seeks popularity, comfort,  
success

Identified with Babylon

Ends in judgment



## **Bride of Christ**

Loves the Word of God

Pure and set apart

Seeks holiness, truth, intimacy  
with Jesus

Dwells in the New Jerusalem

Ends in eternal glory with Christ



# “Those Who Dwell on the Earth”

Revelation 3:10

Revelation 6:10

Revelation 11:10

Revelation 8:13

Revelation 13:8

Revelation 13:14

Revelation 17:8

Guess what 7 verses.

The contrast in Revelation is made clear.

The tale of two cities

The tale of two Christs

The tale of two brides

# The Gates and Foundation

- The foundations and gates of the New Jerusalem in Revelation 21 are deeply symbolic and intentionally designed by God to declare why and how people are able to dwell with Christ in that eternal city.

## The Gates: The 12 Tribes of Israel

- Represent the Old Covenant and the people of promise (Romans 9:4–5).
- Through Israel, we received:
  - The Law
  - The Messiah
  - The promises and prophetic history leading to salvation

**Jesus came through Israel** (John 4:22 — “Salvation is of the Jews”)

The gates are how we enter — but we don’t enter through works of the Law, rather through the promise fulfilled in Christ.

# The Foundations: The 12 Apostles of the Lamb

- Represent the New Covenant and the foundation of the Church.
- The apostles preached:
  - The gospel of grace
  - The resurrected Christ
  - The invitation **to** both Jew and Gentile to become one in Christ

Ephesians 2:20:

*“[You are] built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone...”*

The foundations are what we stand on — the truth of Christ, delivered by His apostles.

- The gates show that salvation comes through God's chosen people —
- The foundations show that salvation stands on the finished work of Christ, declared through the apostles.

**Jasper**

God's glory, holiness, and eternal value

You were saved to reflect His glory (2 Cor. 3:18)

**Crystal-clear**

Purity, transparency, full access to God

In Christ, there's no more hiding, no more shame

# The Gates

It Reflects the Tribal Camp Around the Tabernacle (Numbers 2)

- In the wilderness, the 12 tribes of Israel camped in four directions around the tabernacle:
  - 3 tribes to the east, 3 to the west, 3 to the north, and 3 to the south.
- The gates in Revelation mirror this — placing God's presence at the center.

This shows that God's plan has always been to dwell with His people, with order and access from every direction.

The angels are not there to guard but to witness.

Also notice the first gate mentioned is the east gate.

The one God placed angels in to protect the garden of Eden.

# Time to Measure.

*"The city is laid out as a square... the construction of its wall was of jasper..."*

- The size: 1,500 miles in all directions — emphasizes vastness and perfection.
- The beauty: Jasper, gold, pearls — true riches that do not perish.
- God values what the world tramples — purity, holiness, glory.

# It's not just about dimensions — it's about declaration, confirmation, and assurance.

## To Show the Perfection of God's Design

- The city is a perfect cube — length, width, and height all equal (Rev. 21:16).
- This reflects the Most Holy Place in the tabernacle/temple, which was also a cube (1 Kings 6:20).
- Measuring confirms: nothing is off — it is perfectly built for God's glory and our eternal dwelling. God is a God of order, not chaos (1 Cor. 14:33).

The New Jerusalem is precise, intentional, and complete.

# Measuring something signifies ownership and reality.

- Ezekiel 40–48: The measuring of the temple shows it is real, though yet to come.
  - Zechariah 2:1–2: Jerusalem is measured because God will dwell there and protect it.
  - Revelation 11:1–2: The temple is measured, symbolizing what belongs to God vs. what will be trampled.

Measuring the New Jerusalem shows:

This isn't a metaphor or fantasy — it's a literal, promised reality.

# Verses 22–27 — God’s Presence and Final Purity

- No temple needed — full access to God’s presence. Relationship, not religion.
- No sun or moon — God’s glory illuminates. (Isaiah 60:19-20)
- No sin, darkness, or lies — total purity and truth.

# We Belong to a Real Place — the New Jerusalem

The New Jerusalem is:

- Described as coming from heaven (Rev. 21:2)
- Called the dwelling of God with His people (Rev. 21:3)
- The eternal capital of God's Kingdom

So, to be a citizen of heaven means:

You are a registered, legal resident of the New Jerusalem — even before it comes down to earth.

Even though we're not *living there yet*, our names are already written in its records:

Hebrews 12:22–23:

*“You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem... to the church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven...”*

So if you're in Christ:

- You're already a citizen of that city
- You're just waiting for your eternal address to be activated when the city comes down (Rev. 21:2)
- It Changes How We Live Now
- Citizenship defines:
- Loyalty — who we obey
- Identity — who we are
- Destiny — where we're headed
- Paul contrasts it with those who "mind earthly things" (Phil. 3:19).  
As citizens of heaven:
- We live for God's glory, not the world's praise.
- We live by kingdom values, not culture's trends.
- We await a Savior, not a politician or a movement.

- You're not trying to earn your way into heaven — you already belong there.

Now live like it — loyal to Christ, longing for His return, and laying up treasure in His city.