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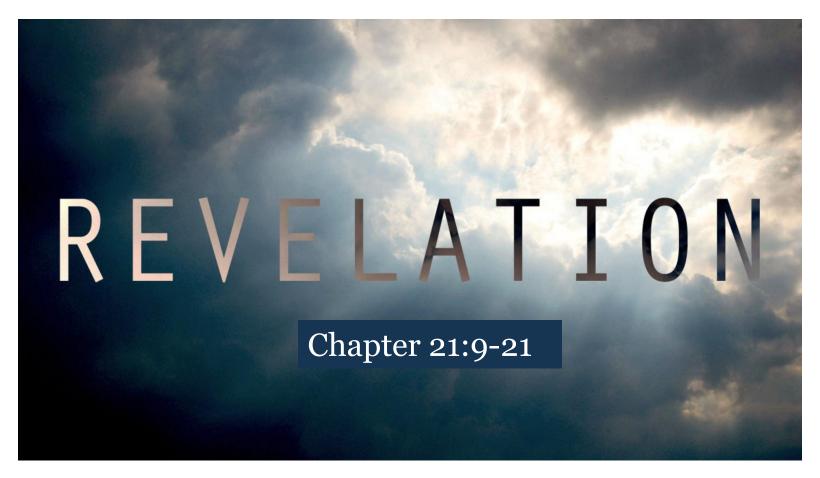
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"Heaven's Capitol City"

Intro: At this point in the vision of John we are in the eternal realm.

As we look at the New Jerusalem we are reminded of a promise from the Lord in Jn. 14:1-3.

The New Jerusalem was a destination looked for by many OT writers. Isa. 65:17-20; Heb. 11:8-10, 12:18,22, 13:14.

Jerusalem is the center of the earth both biblically and spiritually. Ez. 5:5.

In this vision of John we see that Jerusalem is also the glory center of heaven.

I. Its General Appearance

A. Its Status as the Bride of the Lamb

It was one of the judgment angels that showed John this vision of Jerusalem.

This angel showed a contrast between the harlot, the unfaithful, apostate church, Rev. 17, and the faithful, pure wife of the Lamb. Rev. 2:10.

I. Its General Appearance

A. Its Status as the Bride of the Lamb

Jerusalem is called the Bride due to the character of its inhabitants, namely the church.

The image of a bride carries with it the intimate relationship God desires to have with the redeemed.

B. It Has the Glory of God Within

Often, the manifestation of God's glory is in light.

It was perfectly manifested in Jesus Christ.

II. Its Exterior Design

It was a massive cube, 1,500 miles long, wide and deep.

The wall was 216 feet, probably wide.

This shows that it is not ethereal, but has very specific dimensions.

II. Its Exterior Design

The names of the 12 tribes is a celebration of the unique covenant God has with Israel.

The names of the 12 Apostles shows the special, covenant relationship He has with the church.

The gates of Pearl reminds us we enter heaven through suffering by a wounded Redeemer.