

THE COMING KINGDOM



What Is the Kingdom and
How Is Kingdom Now Theology
Changing the Focus of the Church?

Andrew M. Woods

Foreword by Thomas Ice

The Coming Kingdom

Chapter 15



Dr. Andy Woods

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President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Kingdom Study Outline



1. What does the Bible Say About the Kingdom?
2. The Main Problem with Kingdom Now NT interpretations
3. Why do some believe that we are in the kingdom now?
4. Why does it matter?



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Eden | 6. Old Testament Prophets |
| 2. Abrahamic Covenant | 7. Post exile |
| 3. Mosaic Covenant | 8. Offer of the King / Kingdom |
| 4. Divided Kingdom | 9. Rejection of the Offer |
| 5. Times of the Gentiles | 10. Interim Age |



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

11. Kingdom Mysteries

12. Church

13. Israel's Discipline & Restoration

14. Re-offer of the King/Kingdom

15. Transfer of Kingdom Authority

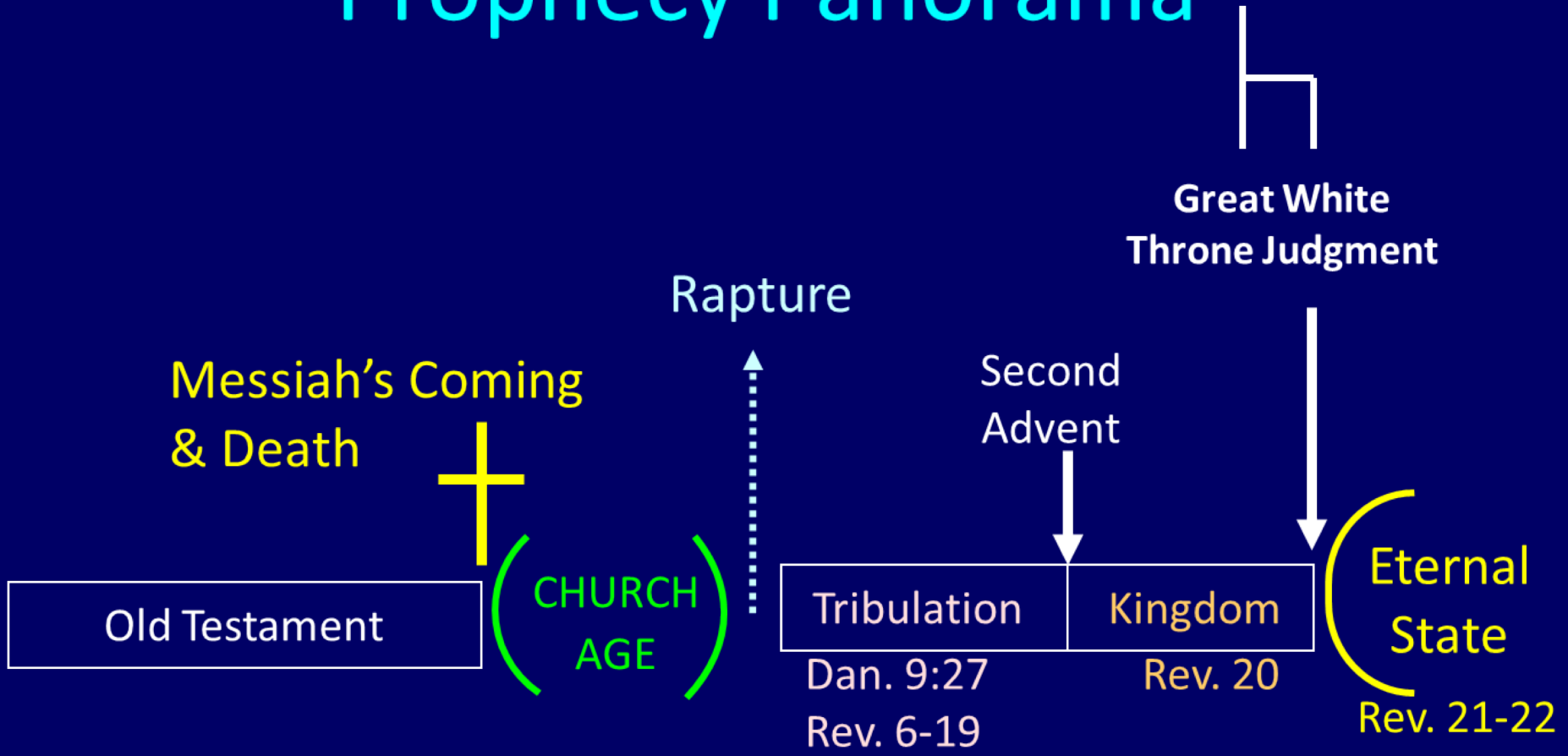
16. Kingdom Establishment

17. **Eternal State**

18. Testimony of Early Church History



Prophecy Panorama



The Eternal State

Rev. 21-22

1. After Theocratic Administrator Restoration

2. New Creation & Not Renovation

3. Eternal State's Literal Nature

4. Continuation of the Davidic Throne

5. Eternal State's Description



The Eternal State

Rev. 21-22

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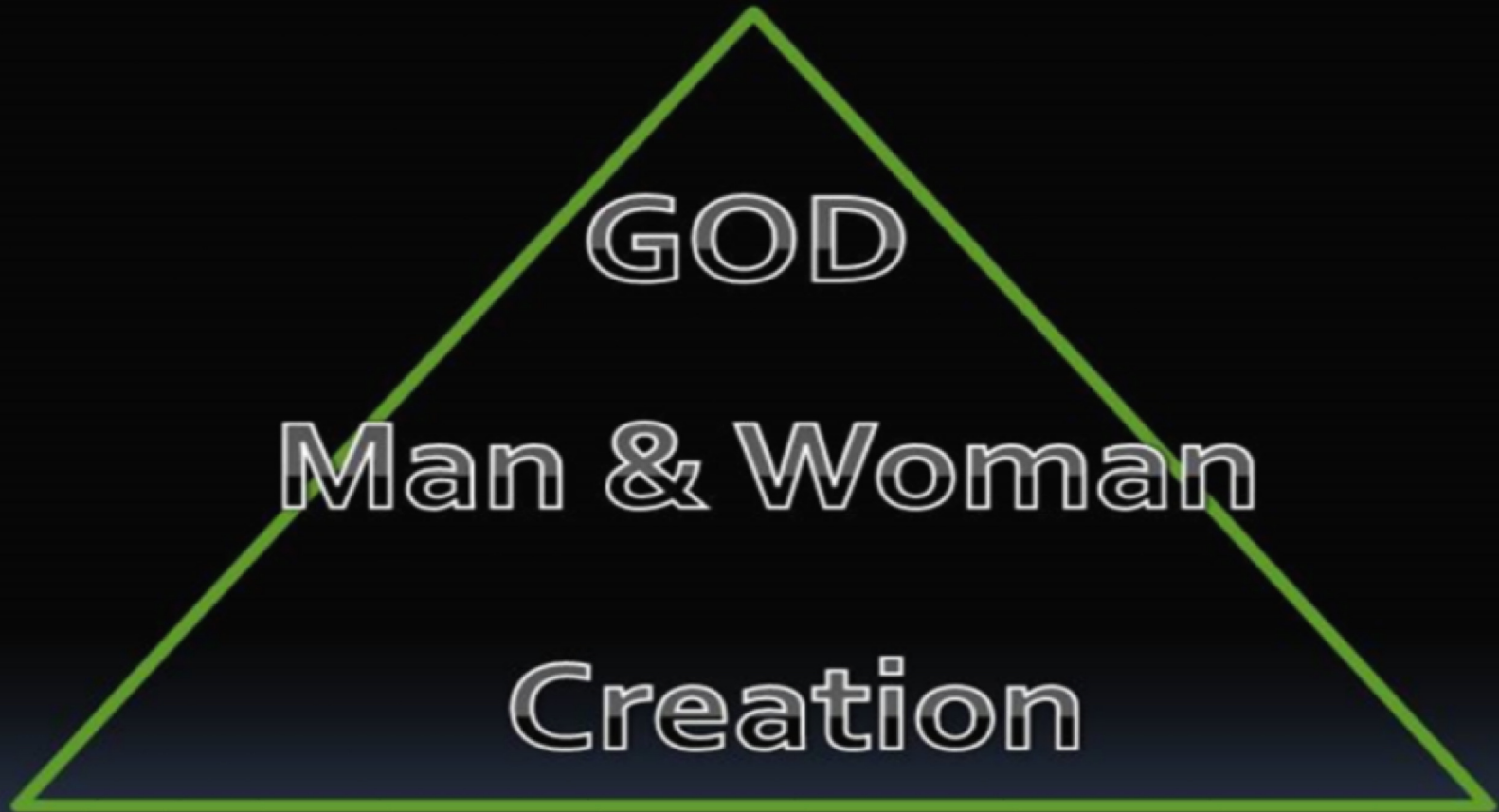
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Theocratic Administrator



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2. New Creation & Not Renovation

- A. Sin's contamination of the present world
- B. Peter's description (2 Peter 3:7, 10-11, 13)
- C. Topographical changes
- D. *apérchomai* (Rev. 21:1, 4)
- E. Analogy with the flood?



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3. The Eternal State's Literal Nature

1. "river"	(22:1)	8. "seventy-two yards"	(21:17)
2. "city," "Jerusalem"	(21:2)	9. "gold," "jasper," "glass," "wall"	(21:18)
3. "high"	(21:12)	10. "pearls"	(21:21)
4. "gates"	(21:12)	11. "street"	(21:21)
5. "tribes"	(21:12)	12. "tree of life"	(22:2)
6. "foundations," "apostles"	(21:14)	13. "fruit," "month," "nations," "leaves"	(22:2)
7. "square," "miles"	(21:16)		

The Eternal State

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2 Samuel 7:16

Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.”



Revelation 3:21

“He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”



Revelation 22:3

“There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him.”



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5. Eternal State's Description



- A. Different than the Millennial Kingdom
- B. Significance of the Eternal State
- C. Things absent from the Eternal State
- D. Things present in the Eternal State
- E. Life in the Eternal State
- F. Admission into the Eternal State

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Millennium Rev.20

Eternal State Rev.21-22

Sin restrained

Sin removed

Curse restrained

Curse removed

Death

No death

Mortals / resurrected

Resurrected only

Destinies undecided

Destinies sealed

Renovation

Recreation

Temporary

Eternal

Transitional

Non-transitional

Millennium and Eternal State

	Rev 20:1-10	Rev 21–22
Time	20:4	22:5
Luminaries	Isa 30:26	21:23; 22:5
Temple	Ezek 40–48	21:22
Death	Isa 65:20	21:4
Satanic activity	20:7	20:10
Rebellion	20:8-9	21:27

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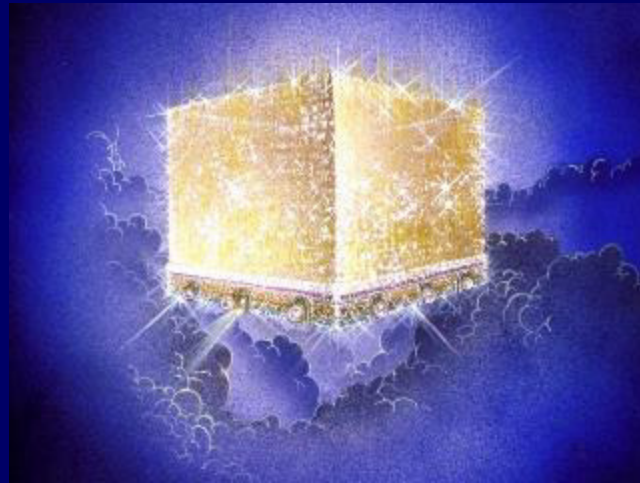
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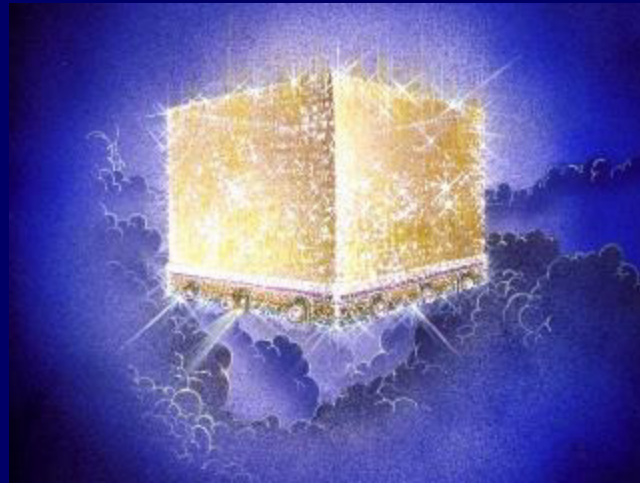
B. What Is Its Theological Significance?

1. A reminder that evil is finite
2. Not a dispensation
3. Greater than the millennial kingdom



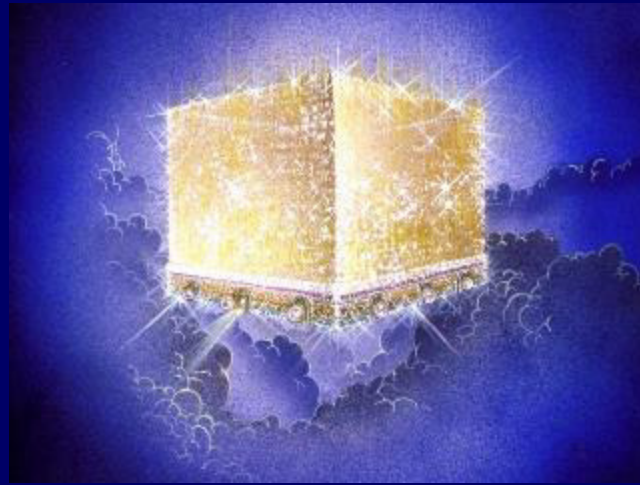
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Eden = Probationary Environment

Eden (Genesis 1-2)

Eternal State (Rev 21-22)

Division: light/darkness 1:4

No night 21:25

Division: land/sea 1:10

No sea 21:1

Sun & moon 1:16

No sun & moon 21:23

Garden 2:8-9

City (21:2)

River flowing out of Eden 2:10

River flowing from throne 22:1

Gold in the land 2:12

Gold in the city 21:21

Tree of life in the middle of garden 2:9

Tree of life throughout city 22:2

Bdellium and onyx stone 2:12

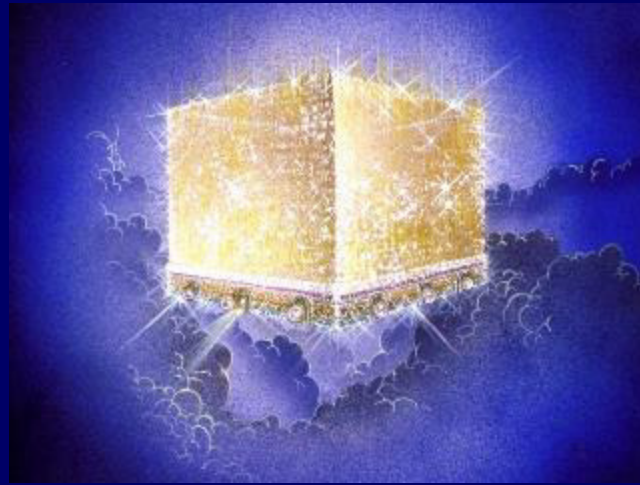
All manner of stones 21:19

God walking in the garden 3:8

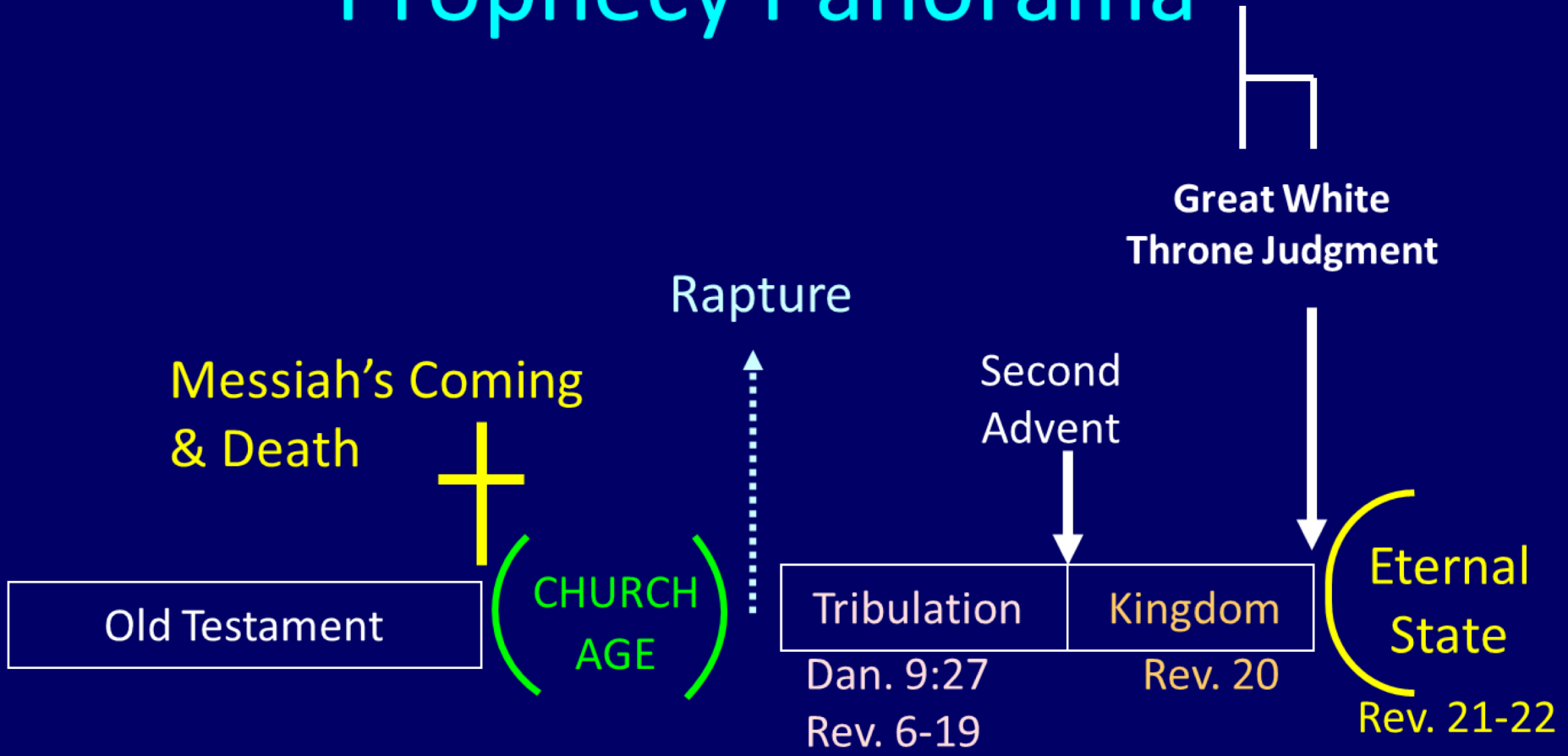
God dwelling with His people 21:3

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Prophecy Panorama



OT PROPHETS DESCRIBE THE KINGDOM

1. Established by God (Dan. 2:44)
2. Eternal (Dan. 7:27)
3. Christ's direct rule (Zech. 9:9-10)
4. Earthly (Zech. 14:9)
5. Land promises realized (Gen. 15:18-21)
6. Israel's preeminence (Isa. 49:22-23)
7. Millennial Temple (Ezek. 40–46)



OT PROPHETS DESCRIBE THE KINGDOM

8. Millennial David (Jer. 30:9)
9. Righteousness (Isa. 9:6-7)
10. Curse curtailed (Isa. 65:20, 22)
11. Peace (Isa. 2:4)
12. Prosperity (Amos 9:13-14; Isa 65:22)
13. Topographical changes (Ezek. 47:1-12)
14. Immediate answers to prayer (Isa. 65:24)



5. Eternal State's Description



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Absent from the Eternal State

- 1) No Satan (Rev 20:10)
- 2) No sea (Rev 21:1)
- 3) No death, crying, or pain (Rev 21:4)
- 4) No Sun (Rev 22:5)
- 5) No Moon (Rev 21:23)
- 6) No temple (Rev. 21:22)
- 7) No night (Rev 21:25)
- 8) No evil (Rev 21:27)
- 9) No curse (Rev 22:3)



Satan's Progressive Defeat

1. Initial eviction from heaven (Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17)
2. Eden (Gen 3:15)
3. Pre-diluvian world (1 Pet 3:19-20)
4. Cross (John 12:31; 16:11; Col 2:15; Heb 2:14; 1 John 3:8)
5. Mid point of the Tribulation (Rev 12:9)
6. Beginning of millennium (Rev 20:2-3)
7. End of millennium (Rev 20:10)



Revelation 21:4

“and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”



Revelation 21:4

“and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”



Revelation 21:8

“But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”



Revelation 21:8

“But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part *will be* in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”



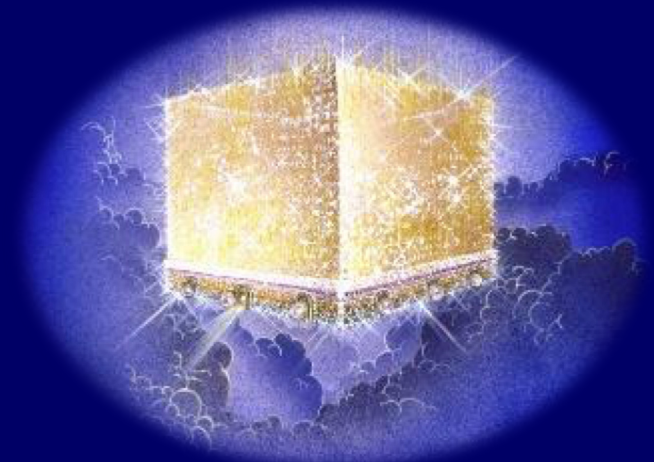
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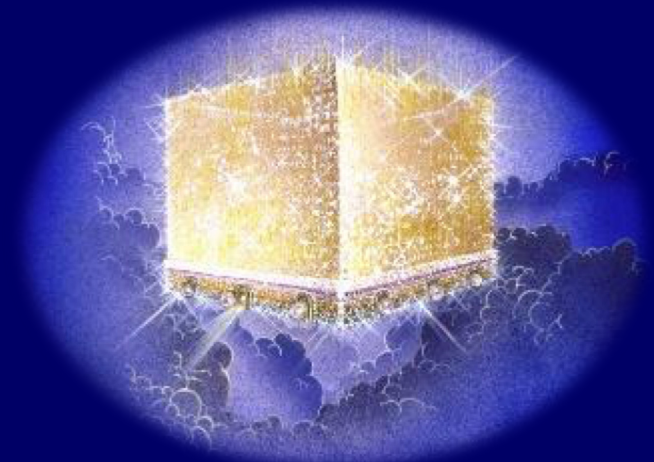
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1. God's presence (Rev. 21:23)
2. God's glory (Rev. 21:23)
3. God's holiness (Rev. 21:27)
4. God's people (Heb. 12:22-23)
5. God's city (Rev. 21:2)



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Hebrews 12:22-23

²² “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of *the* righteous made perfect.”



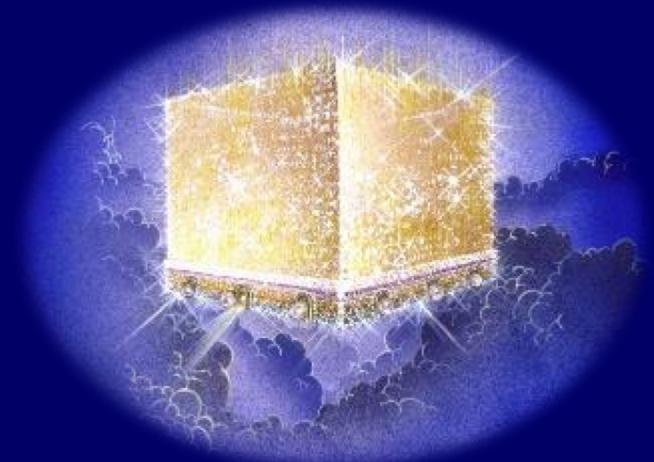
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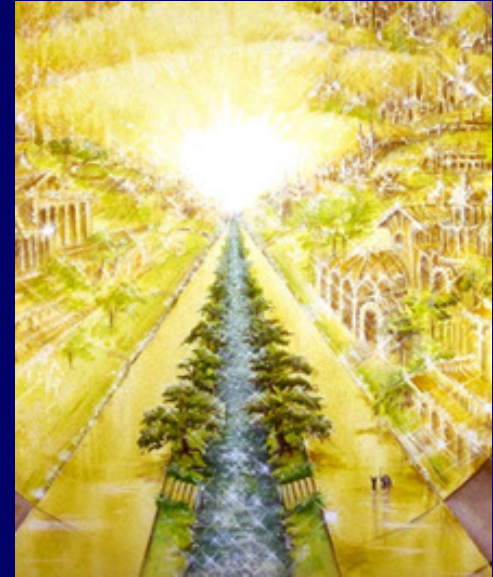
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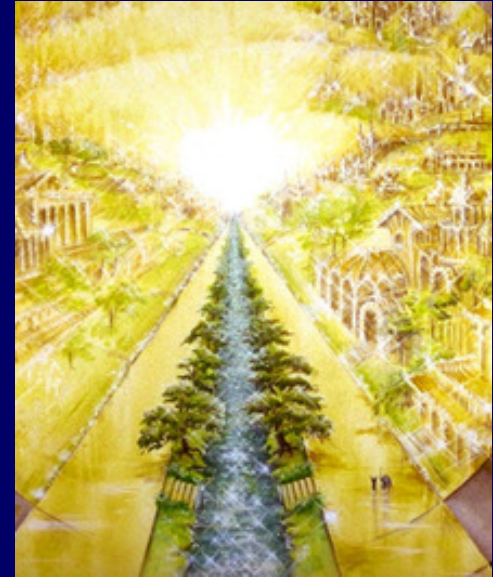
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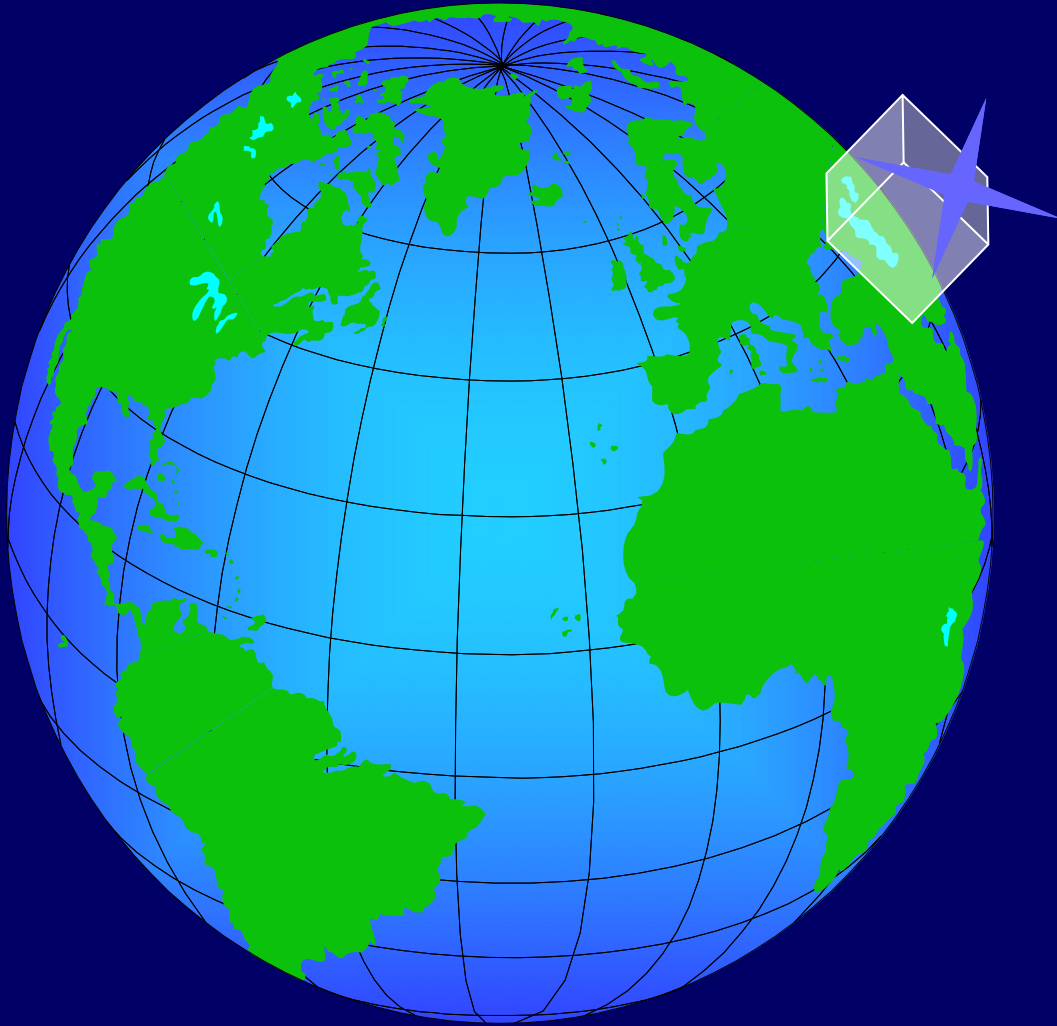


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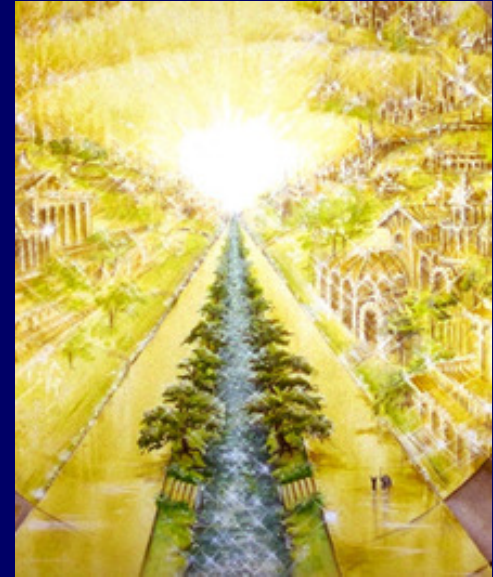


Jerusalem Descending



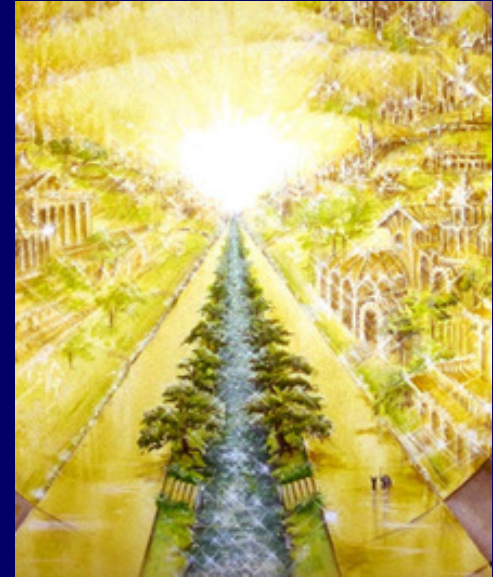
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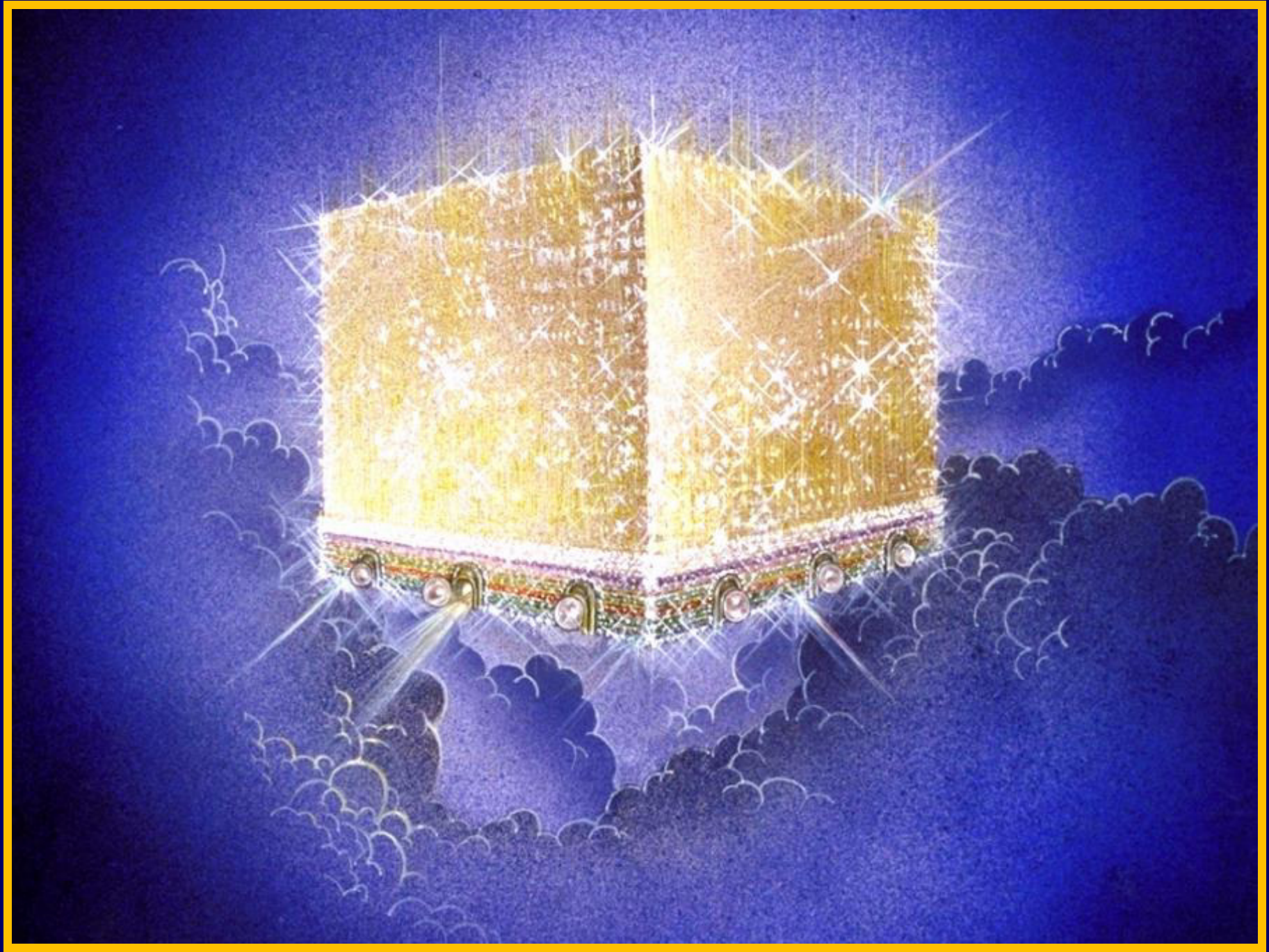
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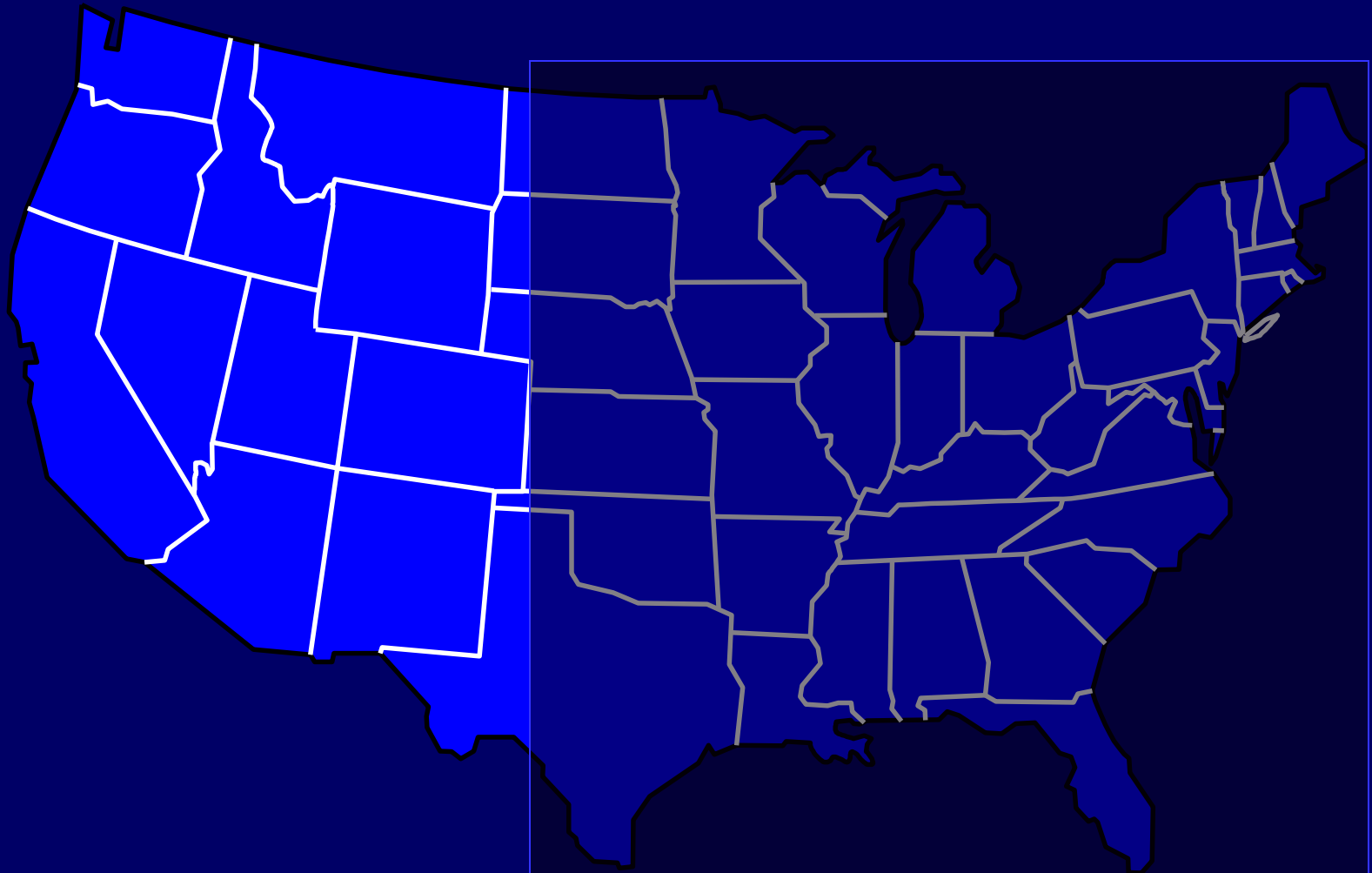
Revelation 21

¹⁶ The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be [*1500 miles*] in length, and as wide and high as it is long. ¹⁷ He measured its wall and it was 144 cubits thick, by man's measurement, which the angel was using.





The New Jerusalem



Paul Lee Tan

Cited in, *The Interpretation of Prophecy*
(Winona Lake, IN: BMH, 1974), 285-86.

- ◆ Swete: “Such dimensions defy imagination and are permissible only in the language of symbolism.”
- ◆ Barnes: “Of course, this must preclude all idea of there being such a city literally in Palestine...this cannot be understood literally; and **the very idea of a literal fulfillment of this shows the absurdity of that method of interpretation...this cannot be taken literally**; and an attempt to explain all of this literally would show that that method of interpreting the Apocalypse is impracticable.”

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3. **Grant**: “no clearer proof...that all is figurative. Such a height is simply out of harmony with the constitution of our world.”
4. **Boettner**: “Neither the shape nor the dimensions of the city can be taken with mathematical exactness, as if it were a gigantic apartment house.”



David L. Cooper

The World's Greatest Library Graphically Illustrated (Los Angeles: Biblical Research Society, 1970), 11.

“When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicate clearly otherwise.”

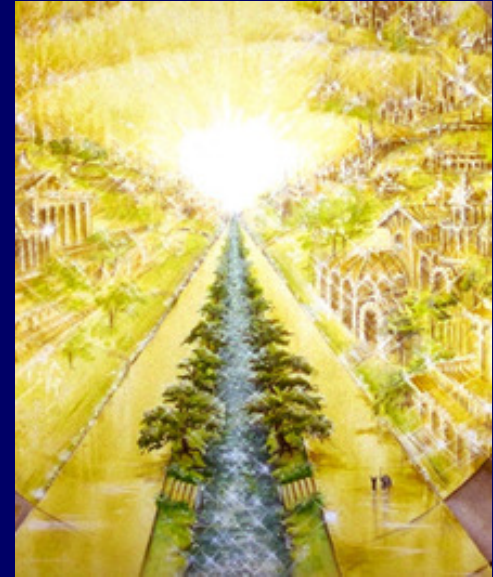
“When the plain sense
makes good sense seek
no other sense lest you
wind up with nonsense.”



“He (or she) who spiritualizes
tells spiritual lies.”

5. God's City

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- d) Its wall (Rev 21:12, 16-17)
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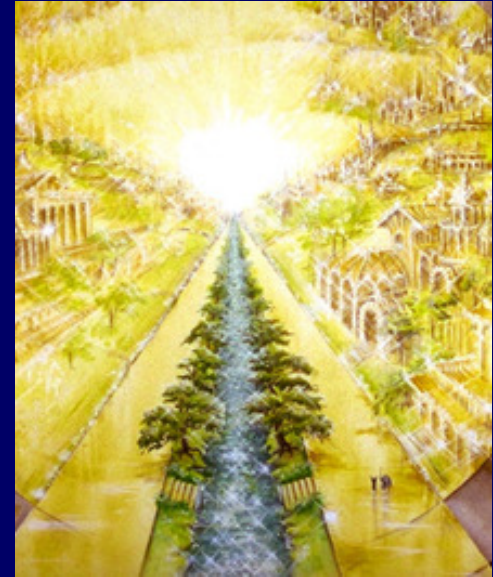
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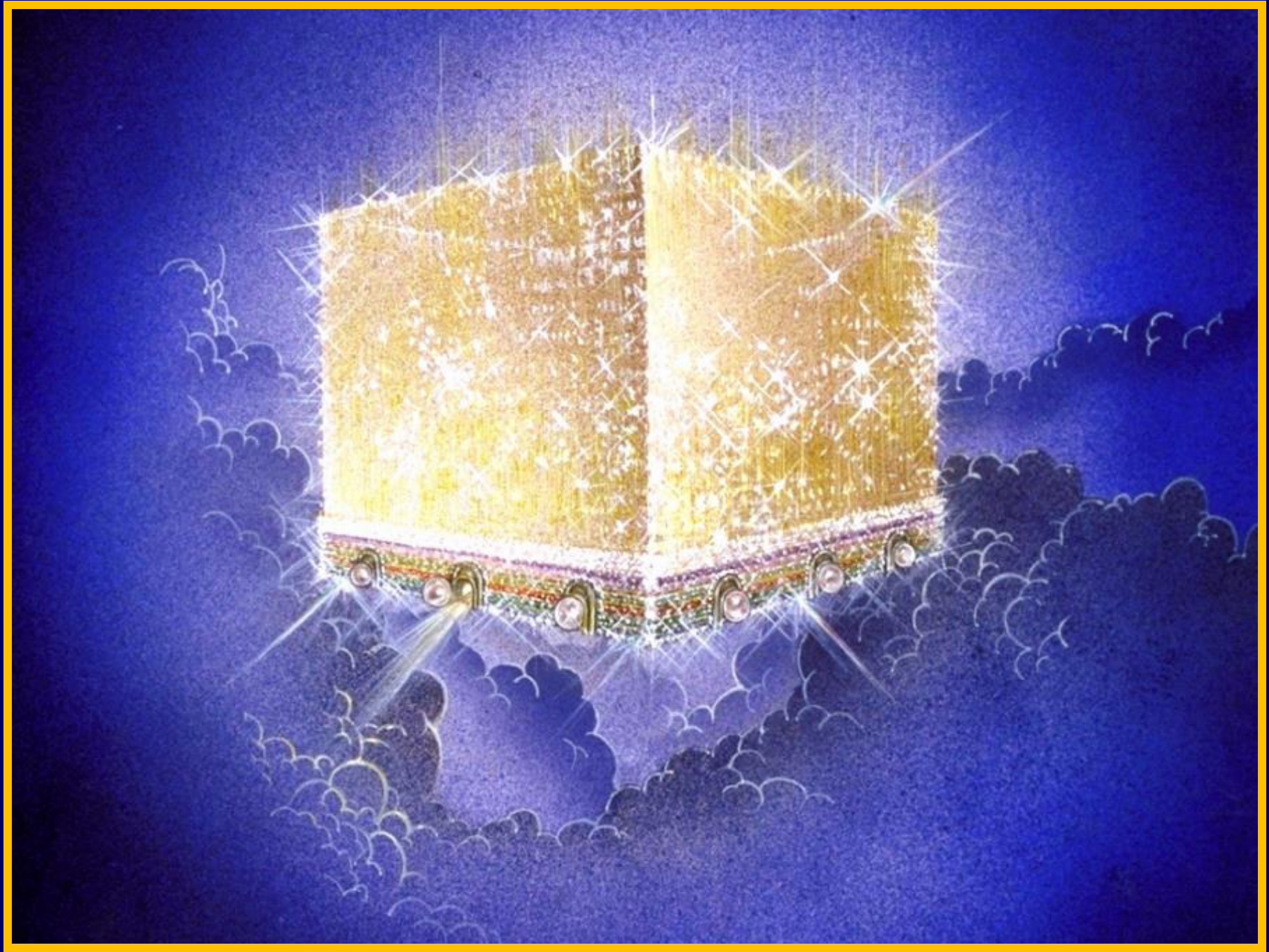


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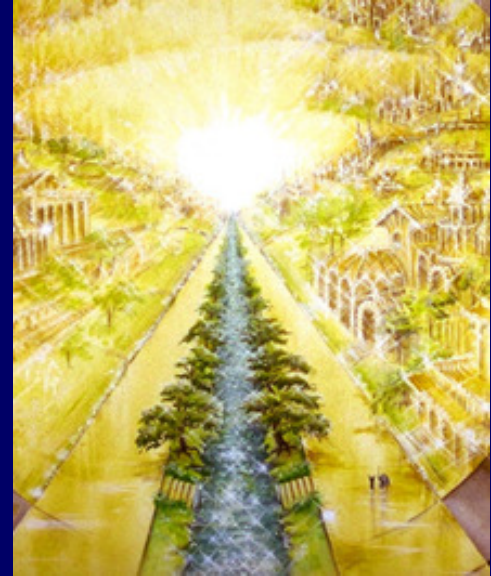






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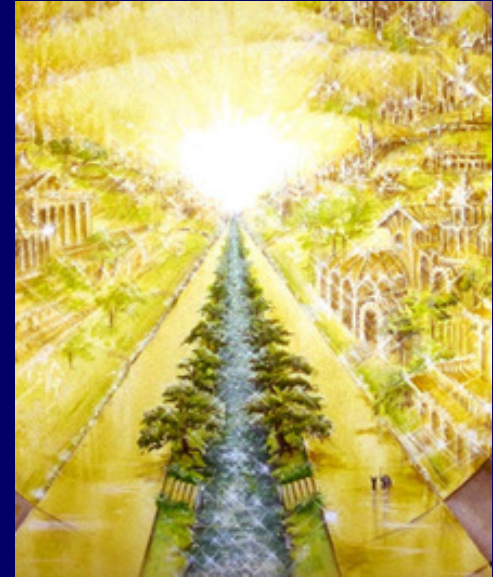
Ephesians 2:20

“having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the *corner stone*.”



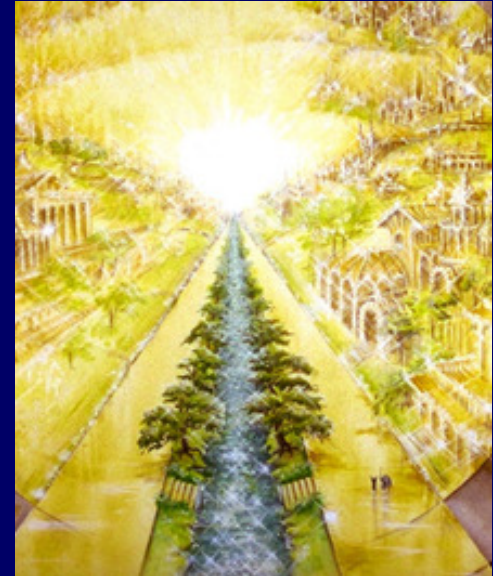
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- h) Its character (Rev. 21:2)
- i) Its glory (Rev. 21:11)
- j) Its colors (Rev 21:18-21)
- k) Its street (Rev 21:21)
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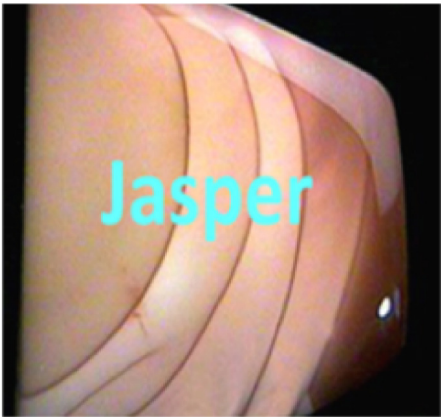


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Jasper



Sapphire



Chalcedony



Emerald



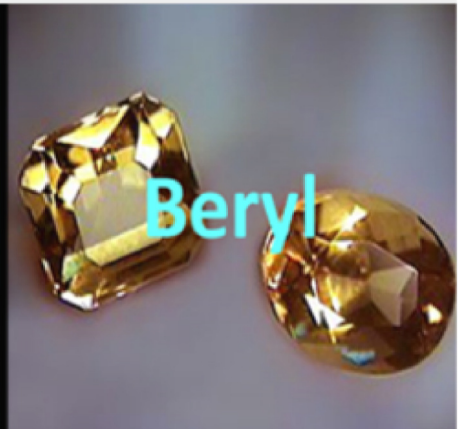
Sardonyx



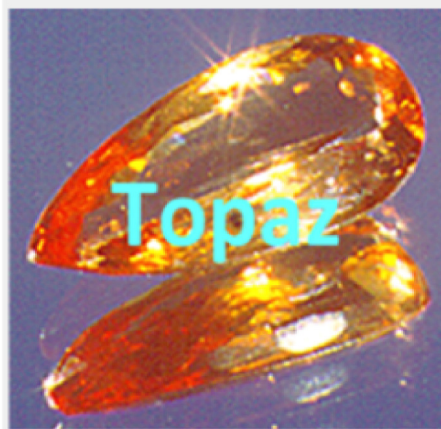
Carnelian



Chrysolite



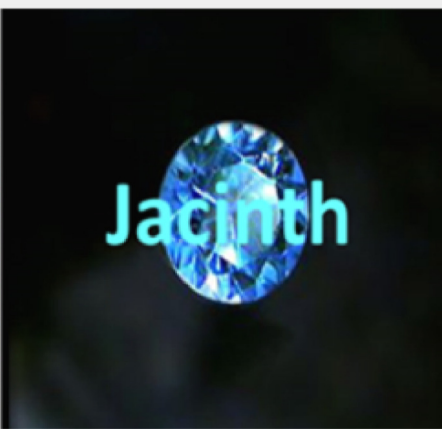
Beryl



Topaz



Chrysoprase



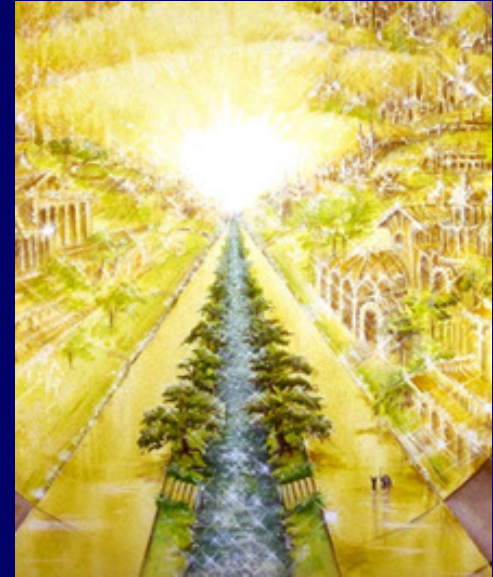
Jacinth

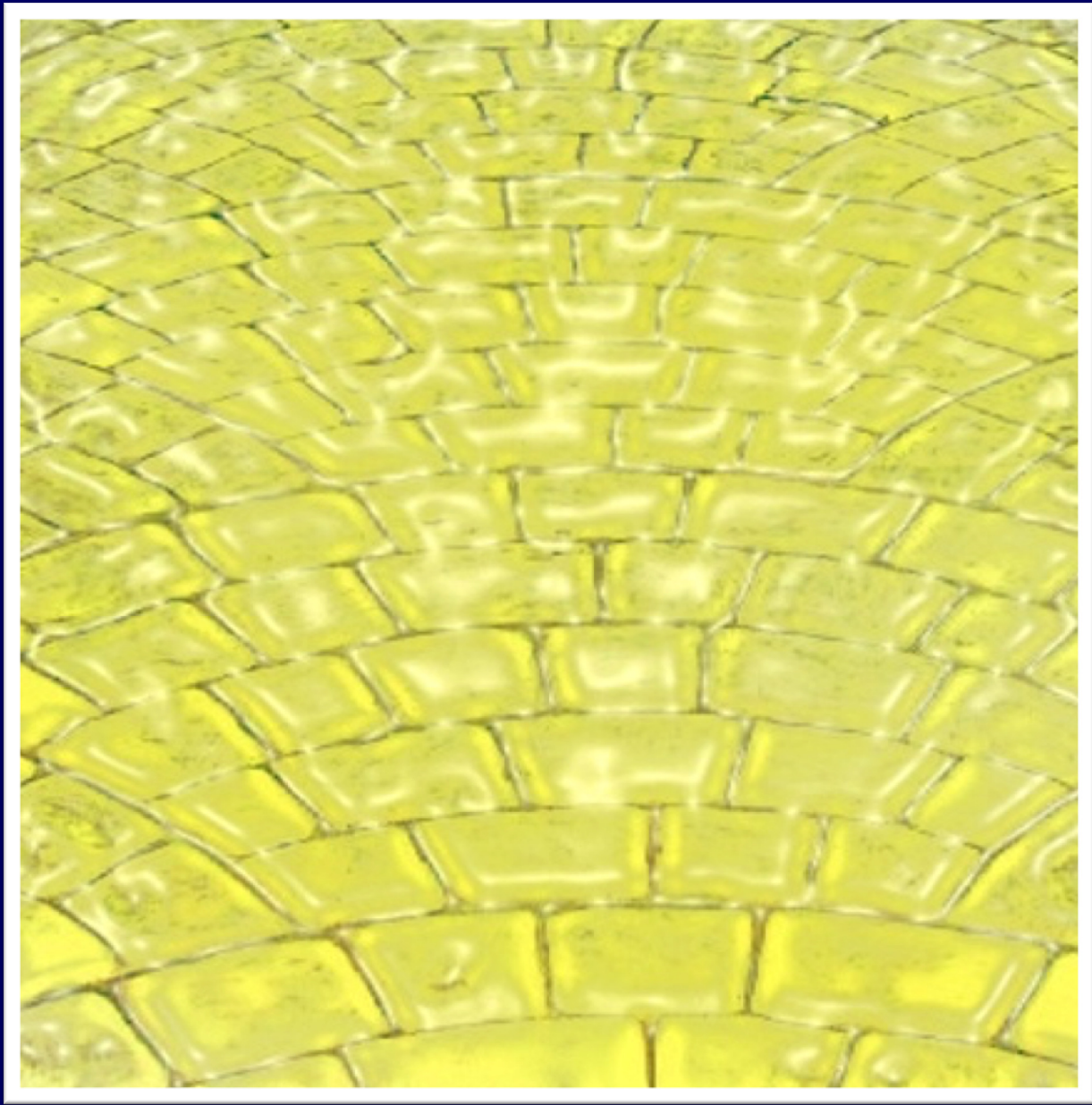


Amethyst

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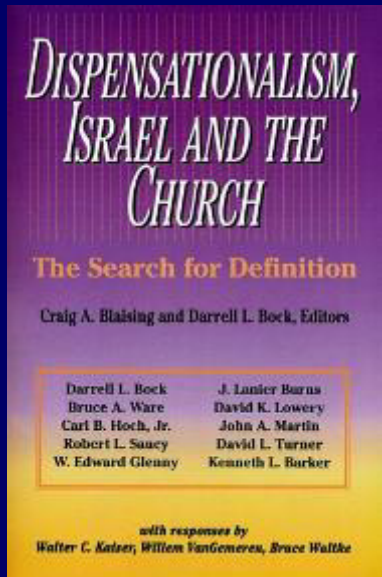






David L. Turner

“The New Jerusalem in Revelation 21:1-22:5; Consummation of a Biblical Continuum,” *Dispensationalism, Israel, and the Church*, ed., Craig A. Blaising and Darrell L. Bock (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992), 277.



“Perhaps the absence of oysters large enough to produce such pearls and the absence of sufficient gold to pave such a city (viewed literally 1380 miles squared and high) is viewed as sufficient reason not to take these images as fully literal!...the preceding discussion serves to warn against a ‘hyper-literal’ approach to apocalyptic imagery....”

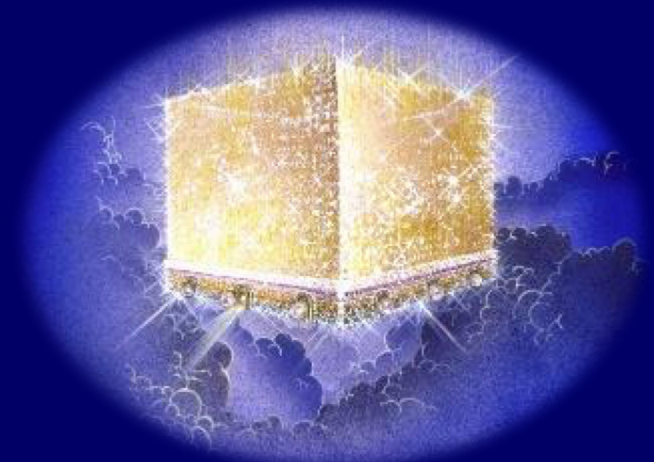
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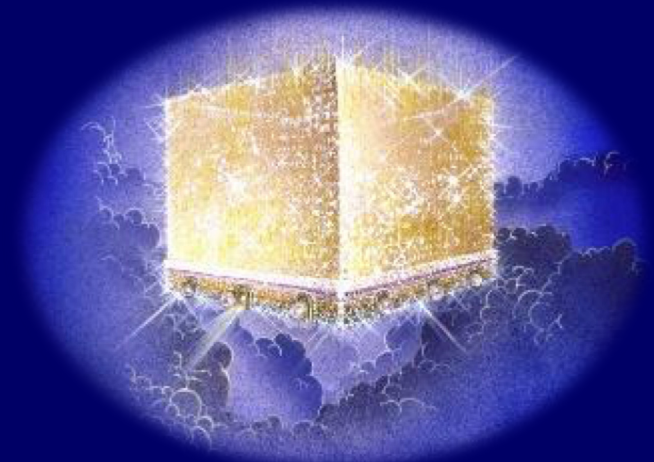
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- 1) Fellowship (Rev. 21:3)
- 2) Service (Rev. 22:3)
- 3) Fulfillment (Rev. 22:17)
- 4) Satisfaction (Rev. 7:16-17)
- 5) Rest (Rev. 14:13)
- 6) Knowledge (1 Cor. 13:12)



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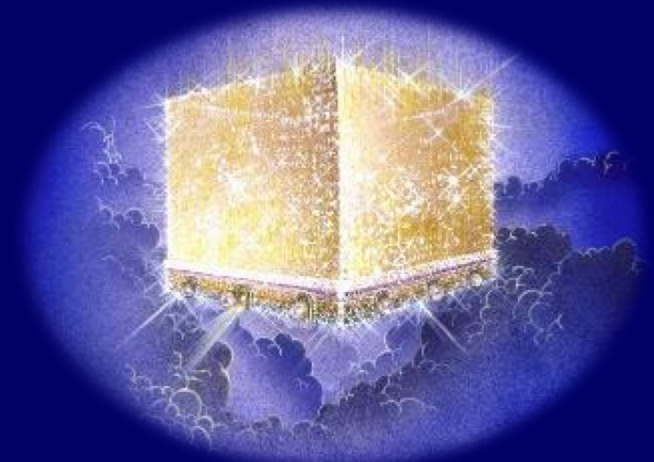


Creativity



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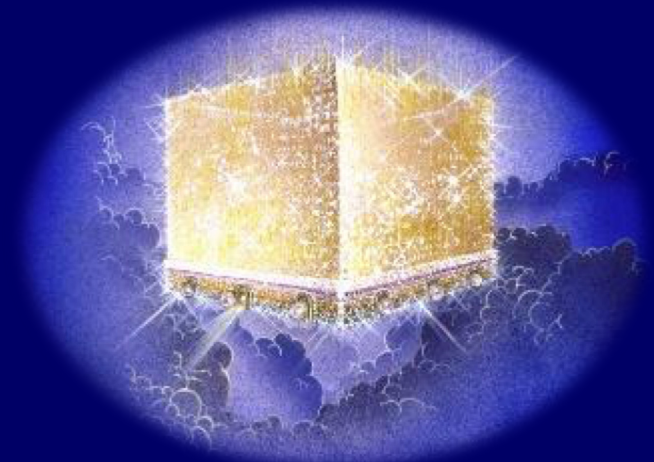


Joy



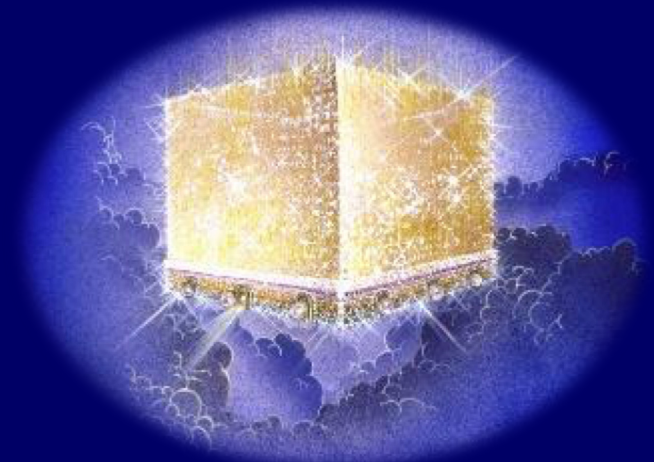
E. What Will Life Be Like In It?

- 1) Fellowship (Rev. 21:3)
- 2) Service (Rev. 22:3)
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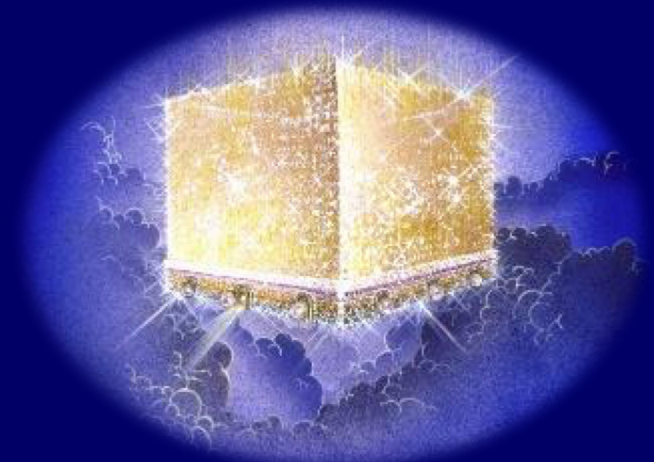


Peaceful



E. What Will Life Be Like In It?

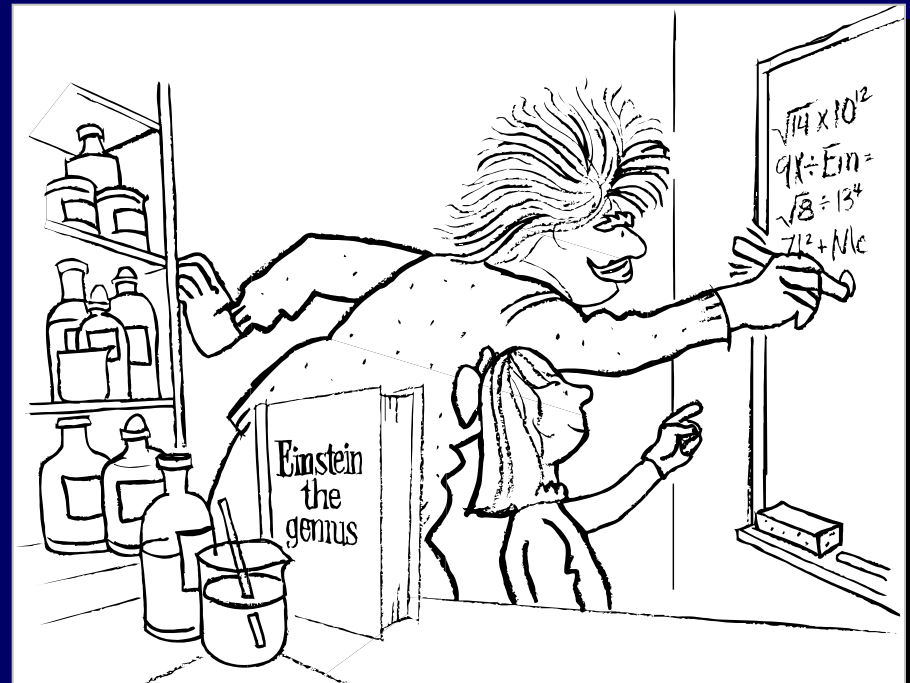
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Heaven

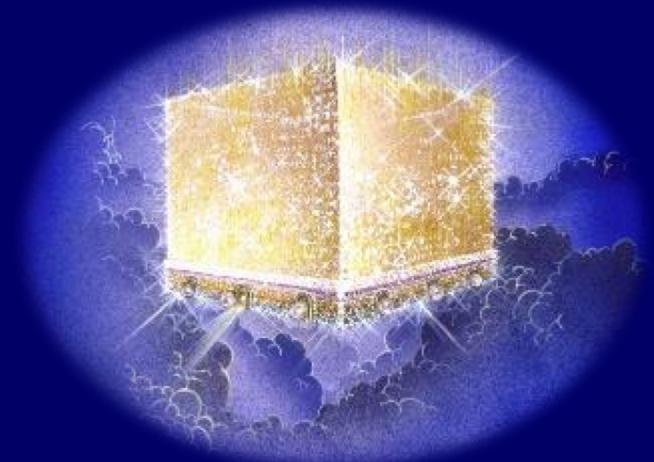
Q: Will we know everything there?

$$E=MC^2$$



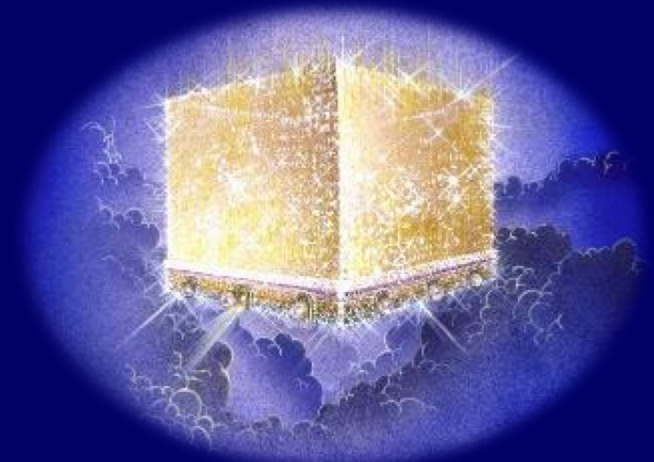
E. What Will Life Be Like In It?

- 7) Ruling and reigning (Rev. 22:5)
- 8) Worship (Rev. 7:11-12)
- 9) In a glorified body (1 Cor. 15:42-44)
- 10) No consequences of sin (Rev. 22:2)
- 11) Eternal (Rev. 22:2, 5)

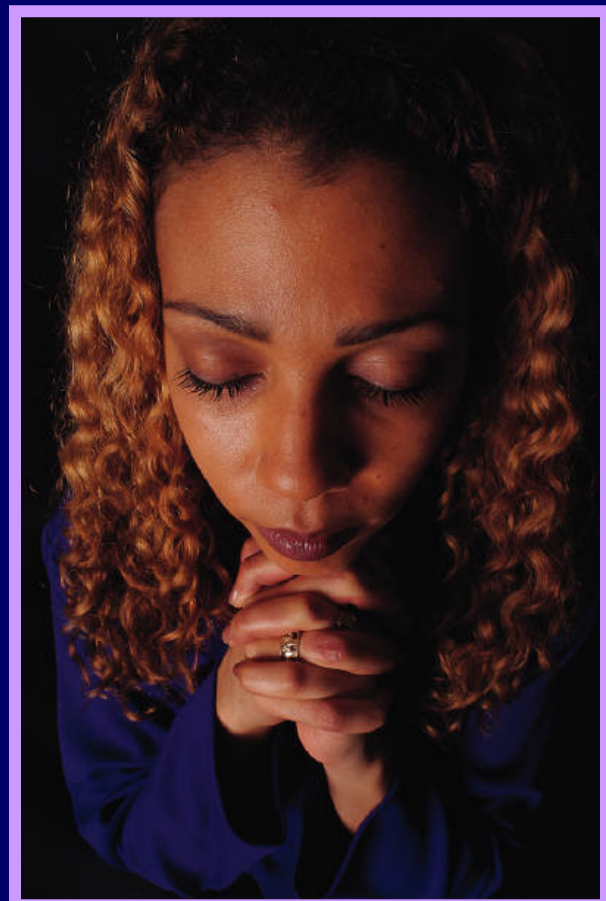
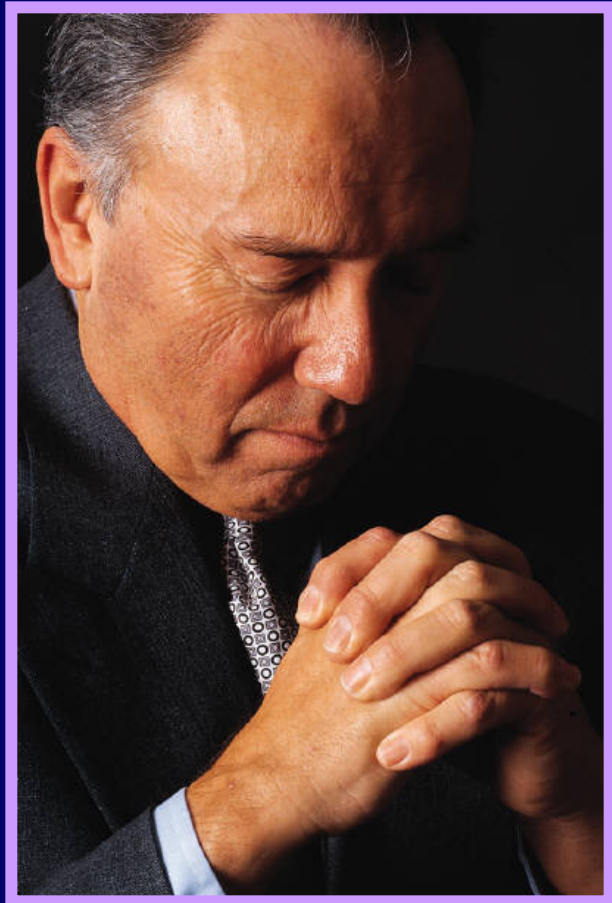


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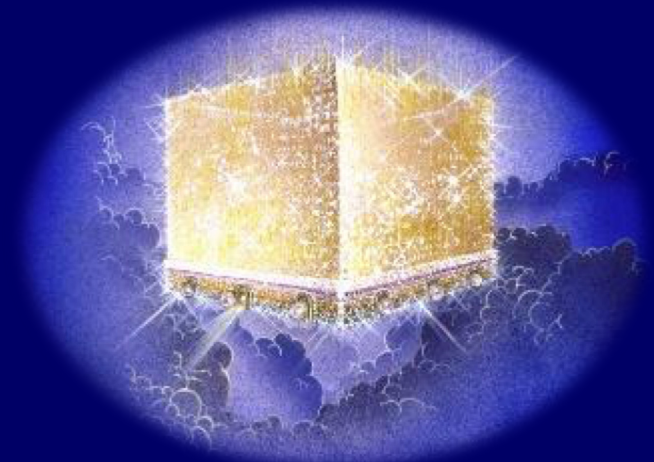


Worship



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Heaven

Q: Will we have bodies in Heaven?



or



Differences Between the Earthly and Heavenly Bodies (15:42-44)

Earthly Body

Heavenly Body

Weak

Powerful

Perishable

Imperishable

Lowly

Glorious

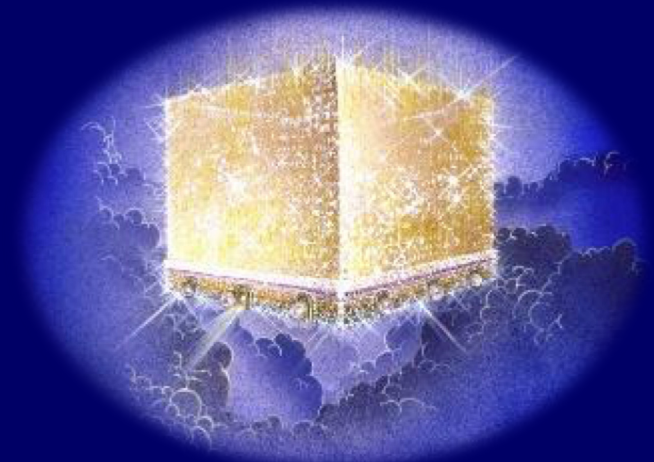
Natural

Spiritual



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God's Doctrine of Nations

Since Babel

Deut. 32:8; Acts 17:26

Millennium

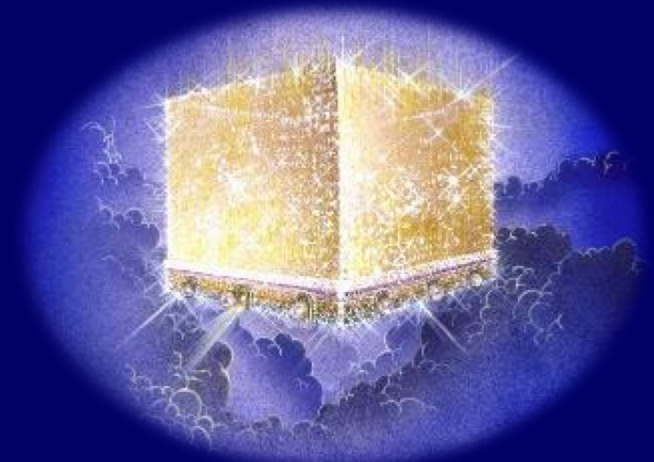
Isaiah 2:4; 66:18; Zech. 14:16-18
Rev. 12:5; 20:3

Eternal State

Rev. 21:24, 26

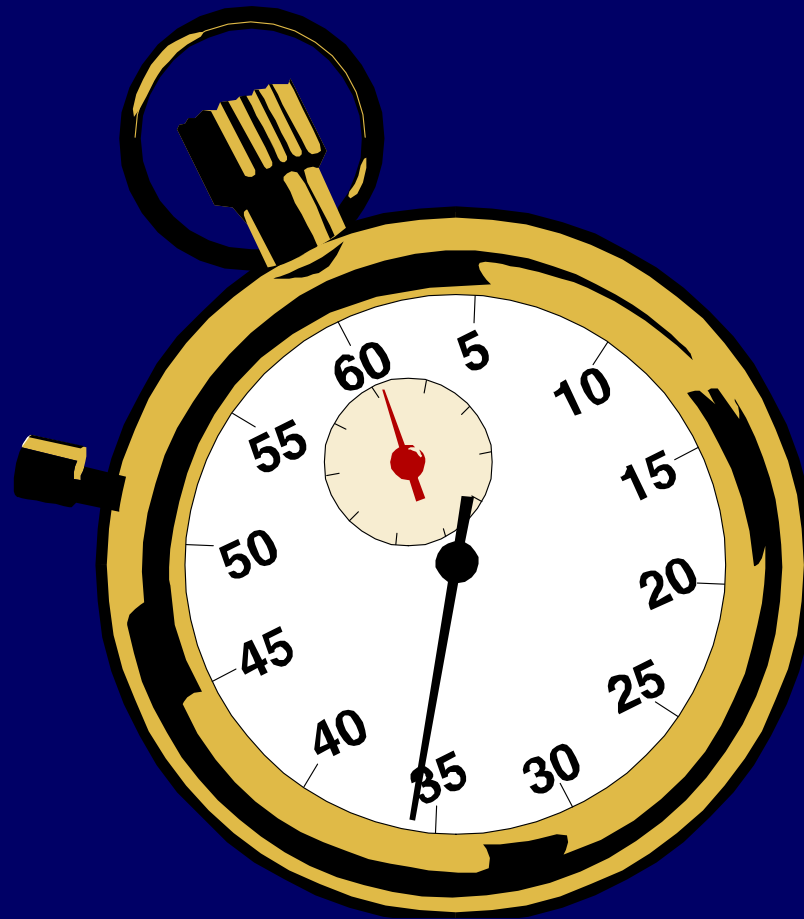
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Heaven

Q: Will there be time in Heaven?



5. Eternal State's Description



- A. Different than the Millennial Kingdom
- B. Significance of the Eternal State
- C. Things absent from the Eternal State
- D. Things present in the Eternal State
- E. Life in the Eternal State
- F. Admission into the Eternal State

Philippians 3:9

“and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith.”



Conclusion

The Eternal State

1. After Theocratic Administrator Restoration

2. New Creation & Not Renovation

3. Eternal State's Literal Nature

4. Continuation of the Davidic Throne

5. Eternal State's Description

