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The New Jerusalem:
The City God is Preparing.

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IN THIS EDITION

Issue 4
August 2026

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"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth..." (Isaiah 65:17)

Later he describes Jerusalem becoming a place of everlasting rejoicing (Isaiah 66). The prophet Ezekiel closes his book with an entirely renewed city whose name will be: "The LORD Is There." (Ezekiel 48:35)

Although Ezekiel's vision differs from John's, both point toward God's ultimate dwelling among His people. Jesus also spoke of our future home. "In My Father's house are many dwelling places... I go to prepare a place for you." (John 14:2)

The writer of Hebrews reminds believers that Abraham was looking beyond earthly cities: "He was looking for the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God." (Hebrews 11:10)

Finally, Revelation 21 and 22 reveal that glorious city in remarkable detail.

EDITORIAL

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TESTIFY MAGAZINE (TELLING PEOPLE'S STORIES - AFFIRMING GOD IS ALIVE!)

DANELLE V D LINDE

The New Jerusalem: The City God is preparing.

The New Jerusalem: The City God Is Preparing

Faith Over Fear Ministries Investigates

By Danellé van der Linde

"And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them...' – Revelation 21:3

Few subjects stir the imagination quite like the Bible's description of the New Jerusalem. Is it symbolic? Is it a literal city? Where will it be? Who will live there? And what can believers look forward to?

The Bible provides far more detail about our eternal home than many Christians realize. While some aspects remain a mystery until Christ returns, Scripture paints a breathtaking picture of the city where God Himself will dwell with His redeemed people forever.

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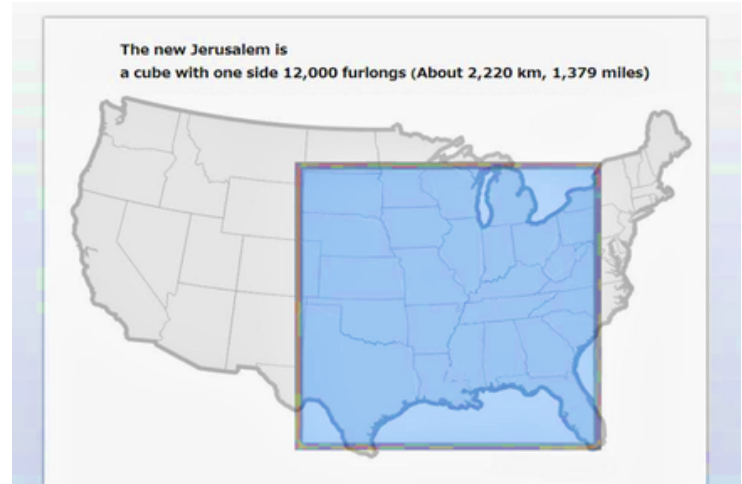
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A City Unlike Anything on Earth

John watched as the New Jerusalem descended from heaven "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."



The measurements are astonishing.

The angel measured the city as 12,000 stadia in length, width and height.

Using today's measurements, this equals approximately:

2,220 km long

2,220 km wide

2,220 km high

Unlike any earthly city, the New Jerusalem is a perfect cube.

This immediately reminds Bible students of the Most Holy Place in Solomon's Temple, which was also a perfect cube (1 Kings 6:20). It appears that God is expanding the symbolism of the Holy of Holies to an entire city where all His redeemed people may live in His presence.

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How Big Is That Really?

It is difficult to imagine a city over 2,200 kilometres high.

Its ground area alone would cover nearly 5 million square kilometres.

That is approximately:

Half the size of the United States.

Larger than India.

More than twenty times the size of the United Kingdom.

Nearly the size of Western Europe.

If placed over the modern United States, the city would stretch roughly from Denver, Colorado, to Columbus, Ohio, and from the Gulf Coast almost to the Canadian border.

Of course, the Bible places the city on the new earth, not present-day America. This comparison simply helps us visualize its enormous size.

Could Everyone Fit?

This question often fascinates readers.

The Bible never tells us how many people will inhabit the New Jerusalem.

However, the dimensions allow some interesting calculations.

The ground level alone could comfortably house around 50 billion people using the population density of a modern city.

If the city's incredible height contains many habitable levels—as many Christians have wondered—the capacity would increase into the trillions, far exceeding the estimated number of humans who have ever lived.

Modern population researchers estimate approximately 120 billion people have lived throughout history.

Whether one follows that estimate or a shorter biblical timeline, one truth remains clear:

God's city is more than large enough for everyone He redeems.

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Twelve Everywhere

One of the most striking features of Revelation is the repeated appearance of the number twelve.

The city has:

Twelve gates.

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Twelve angels.

Twelve foundations.

Twelve kinds of precious stones.

Twelve pearls.

Twelve kinds of fruit.

The names of the twelve tribes of Israel.

The names of the twelve apostles.

Throughout Scripture, twelve often represents God's complete people.

The city beautifully unites believing Israel and the Church under one eternal King.



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There Is No Temple, No Sun, a River and the Tree of Life

This surprises many readers.

John writes: "I saw no temple in it."

Why?

Because God Himself is the temple. No believer will need a special building to enter God's presence. His glory fills the entire city.

No Sun... Yet Full of Light. Another remarkable detail is that the city has no need for the sun or moon.

God's glory provides its light. Imagine a world without darkness, electricity, fear, night or shadows.

Jesus Himself becomes the everlasting Light.

Flowing from God's throne is the River of Life. On either side grows the Tree of Life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit and producing fruit every month. Its leaves are "for the healing of the nations." Whatever this healing fully means, one thing is certain: Everything broken by sin will finally be restored.

WHAT WILL LIFE BE LIKE?

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes..." – Revelation 21

✦ No death ✦ No mourning ✦ No pain ✦ No sickness ✦ No tears ✦ No curse

Believers will: • Serve God • Reign with Christ • See His face • Bear His name

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The greatest treasure of heaven is not streets of gold...It is living forever in the glorious presence of God Himself.

Who May Enter?

The Bible is very clear. Not everyone enters the New Jerusalem.

Revelation 21:27 says:"Nothing unclean will ever enter it... but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

Entrance is not earned by good works. It comes only through faith in Jesus Christ, who paid for our sins by His death and resurrection. Those who reject Christ separate themselves from the eternal city God has prepared.

What Does God Expect From Believers Today?

Knowing that such a future awaits us should transform how we live now. Peter asks:"What manner of persons ought you to be?"

Believers are called to:

Live holy lives.

Keep their eyes on eternity.

Remain faithful during suffering.

Love Christ more than this present world.

Share the Gospel while there is still time.

The New Jerusalem is not merely a future destination.It is a present motivation.

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A Final Thought

The New Jerusalem reminds us that Christianity is not simply about escaping hell. It is about coming home. God's plan has always been to dwell among His people.

From the Garden of Eden...

To the Tabernacle...

To the Temple...

To Christ dwelling among us...

The story reaches its glorious climax in the New Jerusalem.

One day, every believer will hear those wonderful words:

"Behold, the dwelling place of God is with men."

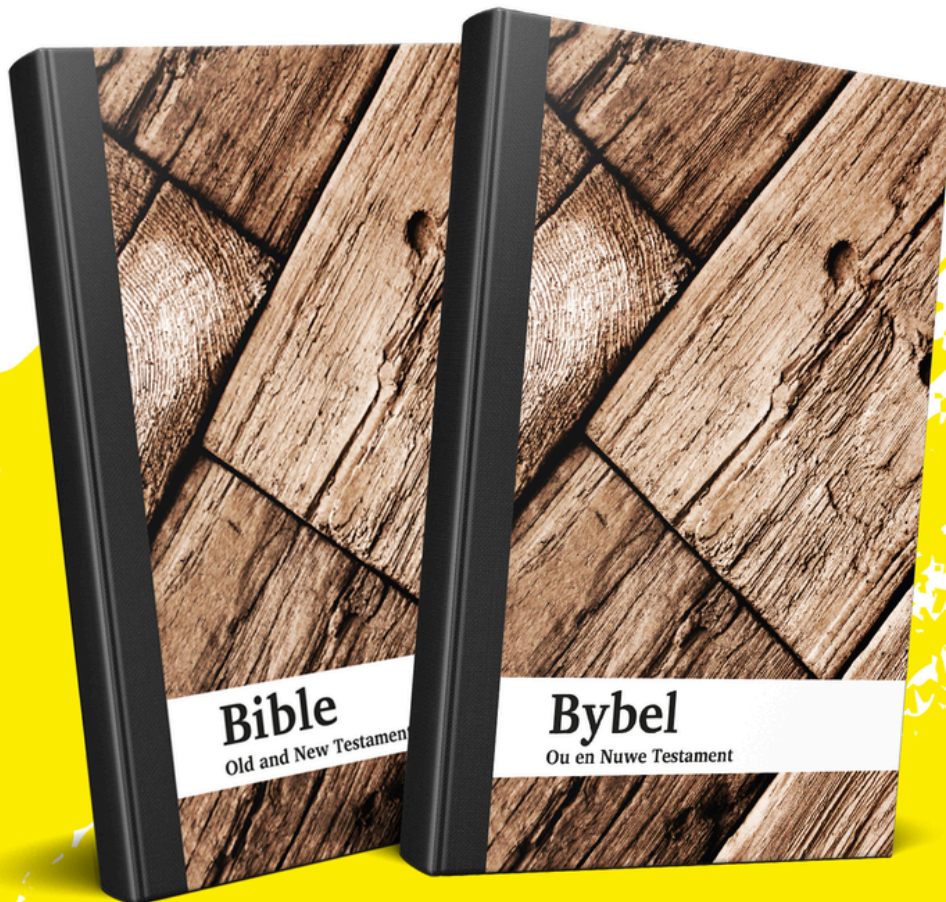
What a day that will be. Until then, may we live as citizens of a kingdom that is still to come, faithfully following our King while eagerly awaiting the city "whose builder and maker is God."

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus." (Revelation 22:20)



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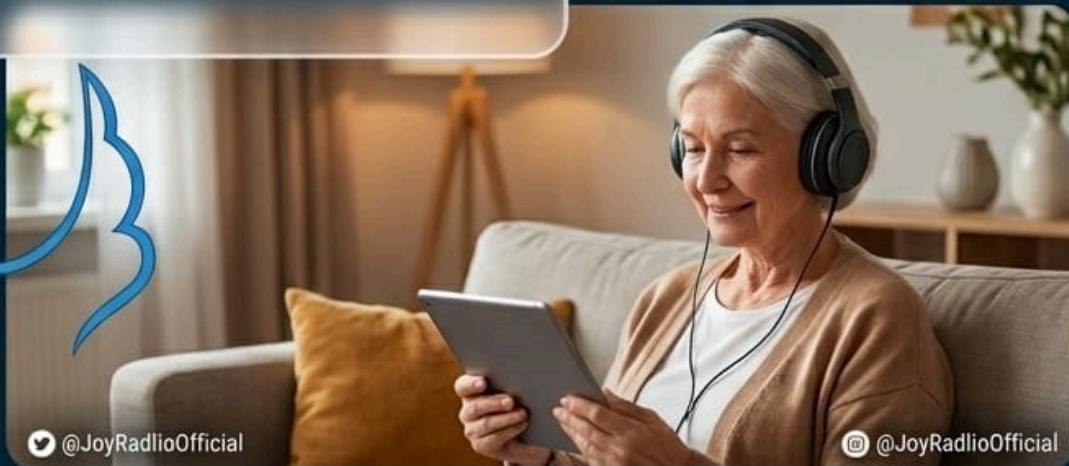
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Romans 3:23 ESV

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

The abovementioned verse is an extremely well used verse and many people know it and can even quote it off by heart, but the significance of it is the reality that every single person needs to contemplate.

If you have not accepted Jesus as your Personal Saviour yet or are thin king about it, you have to start here. The reality of your sin problem cancels and disqualifies you from the very presence of God and this bars you from eternal Life. Your choices are simple here, either an eternity with God or an Eternity without God. I would think that the logical answer would be an Eternity with God. Why? Well let's look at this:

2 Thessalonians 1:9

"They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might"

NASB

This is the reality of a choice that omits Jesus as your Personal Saviour -

= Everlasting Punishment

= Destruction

= Shut Out

= No Godly Presence

= And no Glory at all

This is not something to take lightly and by the way this is not scaring you into making a false decision, God is love, thus we as His followers are love, this means if I say I have the love of God, it is my duty to tell you the truth and point you into the right direction.

So in looking at the sin problem and the reality of this, what is the answer then? Let's look at this:

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

NASB

What a wonderful solution to an immense problem, God has made a way and in making the way He has also made it very clear that this is the only answer to the problem. You have to accept Jesus His Son in order to obtain Eternal Life and ward off all the destruction and other bad things spoken about in the previous Bible verse.

It also makes it very clear that this can only be done through JESUS CHRIST His Son, there is no other way to salvation or Eternal life other than through Jesus, NONE!

Let's look at this too:

John 1:12-13

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

NASB

Wow! Just look at this, not only do we get Eternal Life but we become Children of God. The impact of this is massive as it speaks to the fact that we now belong to the family of God and receive the benefits of being part of a family, and not just any family but a royal family (1 Peter 2 vs 9).

So in looking and understanding all of this, How do you accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour?

Romans 10 vs 9-10

"that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."

NASB

Let me just make one point very clear before we look at the above verses, your salvation cannot be obtained by good works, you cannot go to Heaven or be part of God's family because you are a good person, or you do good deeds, No! The Bible makes it clear, if you want to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour then it gets done on the basis of two things. These two things are critical because it will also help you on your work with the Lord and attain righteousness and a life pleasing to God.

Firstly, you have to confess with your mouth that Jesus is your Lord, this is very important because by your confession God will know and people in the world will know. This is significant because one does not hide a light under a bowl. Everyone must see and hear that you are a child of God.

BELIEF

And secondly you must believe in your heart, with your whole being and understanding that Jesus was raised from the dead and is alive and is your only Saviour.

So if you have read all of this and the Holy Spirit is directing you to accept Jesus as your Personal Saviour please pray the prayer on the next page, God loves you so much.



ACCEPTING JESUS IS EVERYTHING!

PRAYER FOR SALVATION

Dear Lord Jesus,

I understand that I am a sinner and in need of desperate saving, The Bible tells me clearly that the only answer is for me to confess with my mouth and believe in my heart. I am now confessing with my mouth that I am accepting You as my Personal Saviour and believing in my heart that you are alive and well and dwelling within me. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the fellowship of other Believers and allow me please to follow in your footsteps. Amen!

Wow! Congratulations if you have just prayed this prayer, and know that you are now part of the family of the Kingdom of God. Please tell someone about your decision, pray all the time and read and study your Bible. Find a Holy Ghost, Bible preaching church and join.

Please let us know if you have made this decision and allow us to point you in the right direction.

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