**Revelation Chapter 21, the new heaven and the new earth**

**The Greek word that John uses for “new” is ‘koinos,’ which means “unused, unprecedented, unworn, and uncommon. Start with 2 Peter 3:10, “**But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”  **Read Isaiah 65:17, “**For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.”

1. **What is the Sheep and Goat Judgment in Matthew 25:31-46? Discuss.** But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. [**32**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-32.htm)“All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; [**33**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-33.htm)and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.    [**34**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-34.htm)“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. [**35**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-35.htm)‘For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me *something* to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; [**36**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-36.htm)naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ [**37**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-37.htm)“Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You *something* to drink? [**38**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-38.htm)‘and when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? [**39**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-39.htm)‘When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ [**40**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-40.htm)“The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, *even* the least *of them,* you did it to Me.’ [**41**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-41.htm)“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; [**42**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-42.htm)for I was hungry, and you gave Me *nothing* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; [**43**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-43.htm)I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ [**44**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-44.htm)“Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ [**45**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-45.htm)“Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ [**46**](http://biblehub.com/matthew/25-46.htm)“These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”
2. **Why 22 Chapters? How many letters are there in the Hebrew alphabet? 22**
3. **Other prophets predicted a new heaven and a new earth. Read Isaiah 65:17, 66:22, Matthew 24:35, and 2 Peter 3:10-13.**
4. **Read Isaiah 65:17. Where is the sea? No more sea; John has told us that the sea is a source of the dragon’s great counterfeit, the beast, Revelation 13:1…..and, because of that corruption, and the desolation of the seas in the judgments, it is no more. This earth is 71 % water, with 97 % of the water being salt water, which is 69% of all the earth’s surface is water, and so if the sea is done away with, there is 2.5 times more land mass.**
5. **Read 2 Peter 3:10-13. Describe the earth and heaven. What dwells in the new heaven and earth? Righteousness**
6. **Why does John identify himself in verse 2?**
7. **What does he see coming down out of heaven? New Jerusalem. Describe its descent.**
8. **In verse 4. Describe the former things referenced. Why tears? This is probably about lost opportunities.**
9. **In verse 5, who is speaking? Discuss “make all things new.”**
10. **Who is speaking in verses 5? What is commanded here? Write, these words are true and faithful; it is done. Compare with what Jesus said in John 19:30. It is finished.**
11. **In verse 6, the name “the alpha and the omega” is used. Define. See also Revelation 1:8, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, says the Lord, “who is and who was and who is to come, The Almighty.” 17-18, 22:13, and Isaiah 44:6, 48:12.**
12. **Verse 6, mentions the “fountain of the water of life.” Where else is this referenced? See John 4:14, 7:37-38, Isaiah44:3, Rev.22:1, 17, and 7:16-17, and discuss.**
13. **What will the consequence be for those who follow Jesus, according to verse 7?**
14. **In verse 8, list those that suffer the second death……..8 people. Fearful is mentioned first. 1. Fearful, 2. Unbelieving, 3. Abominable, 4. Murderers, 5. Whoremongers, 6. Sorcerers, 7. Idolaters, 8. Liars—8=new beginning.**
15. **Who is this seventh angel in verse 9? Where have we seen this being before? See Revelation 17:1.**
16. **What is the difference between the wife and her habitat? The city is where she is living.**
	1. **What is descending out of heaven? Could this picture be multi-dimensional?**
	2. **Read Ephesians 3:17-18 and think about the dimensions that Paul sees. Is this picture implying more than three dimensions?**
	3. **Compare Revelation 21:9, the lamb’s bride with Babylon, the whore, in Revelation 17:5—two opposing “women” portraits.**
	4. **Read Revelation 3:12—“I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God.”**
	5. **See the art work by Salvador Dali, “Corpus Christi.”** **What is descending out of heaven? Holy Jerusalem. It does not say that it comes to the earth. It could be hovering over the earth. This is not three-dimensional. Hyperspaces are more than three dimensions. Note the “Corpus Christi” picture by Salvador Dali--Could this picture be multi-dimensional? It is probably more than three dimensions.**
	6. **Read Ephesians 3:17-18 and think about the dimensions that Paul sees. Is this picture implying more than three dimensions? Four dimensions here…..Greek word for “time.”**
	7. **Compare Revelation 21:9, the lamb’s bride with Babylon, the whore, in Revelation 17:5—two opposing “women” portraits.**
17. **What is jasper? Crystal, ice, diamond-like, clear stone**
18. **In veers 10, where is John carried to? A great and high mountain. Compare this with the language in Revelation 17:3 and 18:21. John is taken a wilderness, where John saw Babylon destroyed.**
19. **Refer to verses 12-14. List the descriptors of the New Jerusalem.**
	1. **Wall?**
	2. **Twelve gates?**
	3. **Who was at each gate?**
	4. **What names were written?**
	5. **What was at each direction?**
	6. **The wall of the city?**
	7. **The foundations? What names on the wall? Compare this with Ephesians 2:20, where Christ Himself is the Chief Cornerstone. The size of the wall is 144 cubits, about 216 feet thick.**
20. **Describe the wall; verse 18.**
	1. **Describe the foundations of the New Jerusalem, verses 18-20. Compare the stones used to the breast plate of the high priest in Exodus 28:15-21, 31-34, 39:10-14; Had 12 gems.**
	2. **Compare with the stones of Satan before the fall? See Ezekiel 28:12-20. Robed similarly to the Jewish High Priest, with the exceptions: When a study is made of the full angel Lucifer called, The Dragon, Satan, the Devil and the old Serpent, it is apparent that this being was initially garbed as a priest of the heavenly temple of GOD. He was robed similarly to the Jewish High. There was one exception. The Jewish High Priest had a Breastplate of 12 Gems while Lucifer’s Breastplate was made with just 9 gems. He is missing the third row. Have only 9 gems. The jewel for Issachar is missing because Satan is not a burden bearer. Jesus is. The jewel for Gad is missing because Satan future punishment is assured. Jesus is the victor that was crucified. The jewel for Asher is missing because Satan will never produce royal seed. Jesus is King forever. Since the jewels are imbedded into Lucifer at his creation, this would mean that limitations were place into Lucifer before he fell. God by his determinate fore-knowledge placed limits on the enemy even before he fell**
		1. **Jasper, clear—Simeon**
		2. **Sapphire, blue—Reuben**
		3. **Chalcedony, greenish—Naphtali**
		4. **Emerald, green—Asher**
		5. **Sardonyx, red—Dan**
		6. **Sardius, fiery red,--Levi**
		7. **Chrysolyte, golden yellow—Zebulon**
		8. **Beryl, green—Judah**
		9. **Topaz, greenish yellow—Issachar**
		10. **Chrysoprasus, gold-green, Benjamin**
		11. **Jacinth, violet—Joseph**
		12. **Amethyst, purple—Gad**
	3. **Read Revelation 4:3, “And He who sat there (on the throne) was like a jasper and a sardius stone.”**
	4. **Speak about the church being “priests.” See Revelation 1:5-6, “**[**5**](http://biblehub.com/revelation/1-5.htm)And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, [**6**](http://biblehub.com/revelation/1-6.htm)And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. [**7**](http://biblehub.com/revelation/1-7.htm)Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindred’s of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”
21. **In verses 21-23, we see pearls, which are a Gentile stone. These were not kosher for the Jew….this is an incredible idiom for the “church,” the Gentiles. They grow in response to stimuli. Read Matthew 13:45-46, the parable of the “pearl of great price.” Discuss the use of pearls here. Circumference of the city 1500 miles long, wide and high….only one street. The Holy City will be the future home of the Church. The new earth will be the future home of Israel and all others who are saved after the rapture.**
22. **Why gold in verse 23?**
23. **Why is there no temple in verse 22? Read Matthew 12:6.**
24. **Discuss the lack of sunshine or the moon in verse 23? Could the light from this new city be illuminating the whole new earth? Support your analysis.**
25. **Why, in verses 24-25, do the kings of the earth bring their glory to the new city?**
26. **Are the gates ever closed? Why or why not?**
27. **Who is exempted from entering this city? Why would John, verses 26-27, mention this?**
28. **Why is the Lamb’s Book of Life re-mentioned here? What is John accomplishing with this reference?**

**Revelation Chapter 22, the wrap-up**

**\*\*The first five verses continue the theme of the previous chapter. The final sixteen verses have two main themes: 1. The Book of Revelation is a book of prophesy, and 2. The Second Coming of Jesus is imminent.**

1. **Note the “Bible’s Bookends,” Genesis 2-3 and Revelation 21-22. God’s history comes full circle, beginning with the Garden of Eden, and the tree of life, through the Millennium and the New Heaven and the New Earth, and the tree of life. See Joel 3:18.**
2. **How many times does God call Revelation a book or prophecy? 5 times, Revelation 1:3, 22:7, 10, 18, 19**
3. **In verse 1-6, discuss the river, the tree, the fruits, and the leaves.**
4. **Why is the curse mentioned in verse 3?**
5. **Where else do we see “The Tree of Life?” See also Revelation 2:7, 22:14, Genesis 2:9, 3:22, 24, 27, and Ezekiel31:9. Manna? See Revelation 1:17.**
6. **Verse 4 focuses on God’s face. Compare this with other scripture where humans are not allowed to see His face. See Exodus 33:20 and John 1:18.**
7. **With no night, verse 5, analyze the implications of sin, sleep, tiredness, etc. How does this differ from the old earth?**
8. **Verse 6, mentions “faithful and true.” Refer to Revelation 19:11, the rider on the white horse, and Revelation 1:5, Jesus the faithful witness.**

**\*\*\*This is the turning point in this final chapter where John shifts from comparing the original creation to the new creation to final promises and warnings!**

1. **List what things are not in “the new Jerusalem.” No-- sea, death, mourning, crying, pain, Temple, need of the sun and moon, night, unclean thing, cur**
2. **In Verse 7, define “quickly.” Happens in rapid succession.**
3. **Discuss the the beatitude in verse 7.**
4. **Why does John mention that Revelation is prophecy? Refer to Rev. 21;7**
5. **The angel in verse 8 does not want to be worshiped. Looking at verse 9, list the three descriptors of the personage? Who do you think it is? A fellow servant, of thy brethren the prophets, of them which keep the sayings of this book. See also Revelation 19:10. “**And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See you do it not: I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”
6. **Contrast the “seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book,” verse 10, with the instructions given to Daniel in Daniel 12:4.**
7. **Why does the language of verse 11 seem like strange advice? What they will be, they’ll be. You can’t seem to change those that are “hell bent” on defying God. This is a final nod to the earth-dwellers who would never change.**
8. **Does verse 12 imply rewards in the afterlife? Justify your answer. Refer also to 2 John 1:8, “**[Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/2-John-1-8/)”
9. **The names “Alpha and Omega,” verse 13, are used elsewhere in Revelation. See also Revelation 1:8, 11, 21:6. Why these terms?**
10. **Discuss the Tree of Life, verses 14-15. Refer also to Genesis 2:8-17, Genesis 3:22-27, Revelation 22:1-2, Revelation 2:7, Proverbs 11:30, 13:12. Compare the implication of Genesis, where man is kept from the tree of life, to this passage where man has the right to the tree of life.**
11. **Verse 14 holds the last beatitude of Revelation. List all seven.**
	1. **Revelation 1:3**
	2. **Revelation 14:13**
	3. **Revelation 16:15**
	4. **Revelation 19:9**
	5. **Revelation 20:6**
	6. **Revelation 22:7**
	7. **Revelation 22:14**
12. **List the seven “I am’s” in Revelation.**
	1. **Revelation 1:8, “I am the Alpha and the Omega….”**
	2. **Revelation 1:11, “I am the Alpha and the Omega,”**
	3. **Revelation 1:17, “I am the First and the Last…”**
	4. **Revelation 1:18, “I am He who lives, and was dead and behold, I am alive for evermore.”**
	5. **Revelation 21:6, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.”**
	6. **Revelation 22:13, “I am the Alpha and the Omega….”**
	7. **Revelation 22:16, “I am the Root and the Offspring of David….”**
13. **Who is identified as “kept outside the city?” Make a list. Dogs, sorcerers, whoremongers, murderers, and idolaters, liars. Six….man’s number. Dogs are scavengers, unclean, Paul’s label for Judaizers. Why these particular sinners?**
14. **What are the seven glories of the Redeemed?**
	1. **No curse**
	2. **Throne of God and the Lamb**
	3. **His servants shall serve Him**
	4. **Eternal vision: His face**
	5. **His name is on their foreheads**
	6. **Eternal day; no night**
	7. **Eternal Reign**
15. **Verse 16 identifies Jesus as the author. Review the essences of the entire letter of Revelation to the churches. Review Revelation 2-3.**
16. **Where else in the scripture do we see the terms used in verse 16, “root and offspring of David?” Revelation 5:3-5, Isaiah 53:1-2, Romans 11:16-17, 2 Samuel 7:1-29, Jeremiah 23:5.**
17. **Discuss “Bright and Morning Star.” Compare to Isaiah 14:12, where Satan is referred to as a “morning star.” This is not the first comparison to Jesus vs. Satan; see in Revelation 5:5 where Jesus is described as the “Lion of the tribe of Judah,” a direct contrast to I Peter 5:8, where Satan is portrayed as a “roaring lion.” Also read John 9:5, where Jesus is the ‘light of the world.’**
18. **Note in verse 17 where the bride is. She is with Jesus**
19. **List the characters in verse 17 who say, “Come.**” **1. The Spirit and the bride, 2. Him that heareth, 3. Him that is a thirst**. **What is the invitation, “Come,” referring to? To take the water of life.**
20. **Is the “water of life” different from “the tree of life?**” **See John 19:34. Note the water that flowed from Him at Calvary.**
21. **Re-state the ominous warnings in verse 18-19. Why are the warnings underscored here?**
22. **How do we know that Revelation is a book of prophecy? See Revelation 1:3, 22:7, 22:10, 22:18, and 22:19. John says so!!**
23. **Verses 20-21 invoke grace to us? Why? Read Hebrews 4:16, John 1:15-17.**
24. **Re-state the ending that John states**
25. **Correlate John’s ending, in verses 21-22, with I Corinthians 15:1-4, declaring the gospel. Define.**
	1. **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures**
	2. **That He was buried**
	3. **That He rose again the third day according to the scriptures**
26. **The scarlet thread of redemption throughout history runs from Genesis to Revelation. See Rev. 22:20.**
	1. **From the seed of the woman, Genesis 3:15**
	2. **The call of Abraham, Genesis 12:1-3**
	3. **The Tribe of Judah, Genesis 49**
	4. **The Dynasty of David, 2 Samuel 7**
	5. **The Virgin Birth in Bethlehem, Isaiah 7**
	6. **A tree in another garden….crucifixion, John 15:13, Acts 4:12, John 3:36**
27. **Read and refer to Phil 2:10--.every knee shall bow and every tongue confess.**

**And here are the promises:**

[**1 Corinthians 2:9**](http://biblehub.com/1_corinthians/2-9.htm)**, “However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived" -- the things God has prepared for those who love him—“**[**2 Corinthians 5:17**](http://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/5-17.htm)**, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”**

**Philippians 3:20, “For our citizenship is in heaven; from which also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ:”**

**Revelation 5:10, “You have made us kings and priest to our God; and we shall reign on earth.”**

**Revelation 1:3, “Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.”**



**To SUM IT UP--**The author of Revelation mentioned his name, John, four times throughout the book ([Revelation 1:1](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%201.1), [4](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%201.4), [9](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%201.9); [22:8](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%2022.8)). Christians throughout history have given almost unanimous affirmation to the identity of the book’s author as John the apostle, who had been exiled to the island of Patmos by the authorities for preaching the gospel in Asia.

The book of Revelation provides the clearest biblical portrait of the events of the tribulation, dealing with the specifics of that terrible time (chapters 4–18). The tribulation will be a time of judgment, a time when those left on the earth after the rapture will suffer deeply for their nonbelief. John pictured this judgment as a series of twenty-one events—inaugurated by the breaking of seven seals, the blowing of seven trumpets, and the pouring out of seven bowls. This grand judgment on the sinfulness of humanity shows the seriousness with which God views sin—payment will be exacted from those not covered by the blood of Jesus Christ.

While Revelation offers **many details on the tribulation**—even if they are often couched in the mystery of symbolic language—**it is the final four chapters that dictate the overall message of the book.**[**Revelation 19–22**](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%2019%E2%80%9322)**portrays Christ’s future triumph over the forces of evil and His re-creation of the world for the redeemed.** Ultimately, the book—and the world—end in a final victory for truth and goodness and beauty.

 since the fall in [Genesis 3](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Genesis%203), and verse after verse has recorded our problem in painstaking detail. The brilliance of Revelation is that it provides a final answer to this problem, a hope that Jesus will once and for all heal the wounds wrought by sin ([Revelation 19](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%2019)), reign for a thousand years on earth ([Revelation 20](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%2020)), and then re-create the world into a place that represents God’s original design ([Revelation 21–22](http://biblia.com/bible/nlt/Revelation%2021%E2%80%9322)). The Bible’s narrative is a simple one: **creation, fall, re-creation.** Without the completion of the redeeming work of Jesus recorded in Revelation, we wouldn’t have the end of the story, leaving our hope for the future in serious doubt.

The Tree of Life a **striking bookend for the entire Bible, which begins in Paradise and ends in Paradise.** More than judgment on the evildoers, **Revelation is a book about hope for the faithful in Christ.**

**God’s rule in the New Jerusalem is not enforced by a rod or by punishment, but rather by the flow of life, the Holy Spirit.**

**The story that came to “pen” on the desolate island of Patmos, scribed by the aged, weathered, beloved John, ends in a glimpse of a triumphant King and God in the midst of a new heaven and new earth, surrounded by US, immortals, servants of the Most High God, and wife of a King. Take hope! The trumpet, shout, and voice will SOON give audience to the big white war horse and the King of all Kings in full residence……and, as you listen to John’s last words, find courage--“Amen! Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”**