

THE CUBED CITY

THE ETERNAL HOME OF THE REDEEMED is the New Jerusalem, which will come down from heaven and be established here in earth. God Himself will dwell in an immediate sense here with us, thus making earth the center of the universe. The city and the newly created earth will be a place of glorious relational bliss. The real glory of that future reality will consist of our ever-deepening friendship with God and our friendships with one another.

12,000 x 12,000 = 144,000

The people of God are symbolically designated in **Revelation 7 and 14** by the number 144,000, twelve thousand from each of the twelve tribes of Israel. Then we are told in **Revelation 21** that the city of the redeemed, the New Jerusalem, has twelve gates with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel and twelve foundations bearing the names of the twelve apostles. The message is obvious: the whole corporate body of the saved of all ages, both Old Testament and New Testament saints, are represented by the number 144,000. All who enter the city will pass through one of the gates and over one of the foundations. Revelation seems to also indicate that the number 144,000 represents the end-time portion of God's people who complete the number of the saved of all ages and thus bring salvation history to a climactic conclusion (**Revelation 6:11; 15:2**). In **Revelation 21:14-18** John sees an angel measure the city, and he tells John that its length, breadth and height are the same, forming a cube. There is only one other cube in the Bible. **1 Kings 6:20** tells us that inner room of the temple, called the Holy of Holies, "was twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and twenty cubits high," forming a cubed room. The message is that the New Jerusalem will be the place where God will forever dwell in intimate fellowship with His people. The city is the ultimate reality to which the Holy of Holies pointed.

More Than We Can Imagine

1 Corinthians 2:9-10—⁹Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. ¹⁰ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

Glorified Bodies

Philippians 3:20-21—²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body.

1 Corinthians 15:51-53—⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Fellowship With One Another And With God

Matthew 8:11—I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

Revelation 2:17—To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.

Revelation 3:20-21—²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. ²¹ To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

Heirs of All Things

Hebrew 1:2—... [Jesus is the] heir of all things.

Revelation 21:7—He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Romans 8:16-17—The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.

Eternal Pleasures

Psalms 16:11—You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Psalms 27:4—One *thing* I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple.

Face To Face

Job 19:25-27—²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth. ²⁶ And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, ²⁷ whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Psalms 17:15—As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.

Revelation 22:4—They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

No More Tears

Revelation 21:1-5—Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.” And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.”

“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9

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All Scripture References are from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.