

What will the resurrected Earth  
be like? Part 2

What is the New Jerusalem?

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1. The Bible describes Heaven as both a:

A. Country

“Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one.”  
Heb 11:16

B. City

“I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of  
heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her  
husband.” Rev 21:2

15 times in Rev 21 and 22 the Bible refers to the place God and His  
people will live together as the New Jerusalem.

When you think of the word “city”, what good things come to your  
mind?

Ever been to Washington, DC?

Buildings, streets, residences, people, government, visitors, activity,  
cultural events, music, arts, education, religion, history, parks, open  
spaces, gardens, entertainment, and athletics. If the capital city of  
the New Earth doesn't have these defining characteristics of a city,  
it would seem misleading for Scripture to repeatedly call it a city.

2. A look at its dimensions:

“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 12,000 stadia in  
length, and as wide and high as it is long.” Rev 21:16

1,400 miles long, wide and high

Canada to Mexico and from the W. Coast to the Appalachian  
Mountains on the East Coast. Roughly the size of the USA.

The ground level will contain nearly 2 million sq miles  
40 times larger than England, 15,000 times bigger than London. 10  
times the size of France.

Now we need to consider the 1,400 miles in height.

When standing on the ground, it is as if we took a ball and cut it in  
½. But when flying in an airplane or scuba diving in the ocean we  
are surrounded completely surrounded by space and an entirely  
different dimension.

The 1,400 miles of height brings into question, will there be  
entirely new dimensions for us in Heaven? And the answer would  
have to be yes.

Examples of dimensions:

1. I could tell you about my dog. That would be one  
dimensional
2. I could show you a picture of my dog. That would add a  
second dimension.
3. I could bring my dog here and let you see, touch, hear, and  
smell, her. That would be a third dimension
4. But what if I could have you go inside of her brain and see  
what she is thinking, feeling, desiring.

The height of Heaven adds a dimension that it difficult for us to  
understand so let me put it in a way that makes sense to us 3  
dimensional thinkers.

If there were floors or stories in the NJ that were 12 feet high, the  
city would have over 600,000 stories. If this were the case, billions  
of people could occupy the NJ, with many sq miles for each person.

The 3 dimensions of length, width and height might also be suggestive of the 3 persons of the Trinity. God Himself will live in this city, and it is His presence that will be its greatest feature.

### 3. A look at its Gates

“It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west.” Rev 21:12-13

In biblical times, city gates and its walls were its primary defense against its enemies.

“On no day will its gates ever be shut...” Rev 21:25

Why can the city gates remain open?

1. An angel standing guard at each gate
2. There will be no enemies
3. Citizens from outside the gates will regularly travel in and out of them.

“...the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it... The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it.” Rev 21:24-26

Each gate is made of a single pearl

“The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl.” Rev 21:21

Think of pearl for a moment and the significance of how it was formed.

A single grain of sand irritating an oyster. Sin so irritated God that He was willing to suffer in order to turn it into something beautiful.



Imagine the people leaving on a task or mission, some going on an adventure, others coming in to a banquet or going to visit friends and loved ones.

Don't like big cities?

I live in a suburb. A city of 100,000 people. Next to a large city of 1,000,000+. I would consider myself a city dweller. But I do not have several square miles in every direction.

In the NJ if you want a big city, you got it.

In the NJ if you want some room to yourself, you got it.

Plus, you will come and go out of the NJ to your other dwellings.

The NJ will have all the advantages we associate with earthly cities but none of the disadvantages. The city will be filled with: natural wonders, magnificent architecture, thriving culture but with none of the disadvantages:

Crime, pollution, congestion, sirens, traffic fatalities, garbage, taxes, homelessness, thieves, drugs, prostitution, or porn.

The whole universe will be God's house – and the NJ will be His living room. God will delight to share with us the glories of His capital city – and ours.