

Revelation 21-22: The New Jerusalem

20: The Millennial Reign of Christ and the White Throne Judgment

Premillennialism/Chiliasm: the belief in a literal 1,000 year reign of Christ (J Martyr, Irenaeus, Tretullian)

Amillennialism: Belief that the reign in Rev. 20 is symbolic and describes the 'Church Age' between the Advent and Return of Christ (Augustine et al)

20.1-3: Before the Millennium

The Dragon/Satan bound and thrown into the abyss for 1,000 years

20.4-6: During the Millennium

Saints will reign with Christ for 1000 years, fulfilling promise of 2.26-27 that they receive authority (also 3.21)

First Resurrection: Saints resurrected after the Millennial reign of Christ

Second Death: Godly Judgment (John 5.25-30); Rev. 20.14; 1 Thess. 3.13-18; Matthew 10.28

20.7-10: After the Millennium: The Dragon/Devil cast into the Lake of Fire for Eternity

20.11-15: Great White Throne Judgment

4.2; 5.7; Matthew 10.32-33; 3.12; 24.51; Mark 8.38; 9.43-48; Ezekiel 1.26-28; Daniel 7.9-10

Believers judged 'according to their works': Matt. 16.27; Romans 14.12; 1 Cor. 3.12-15; 2 Cor. 5.10; 1 Peter 1.17

'Death and Hades thrown into the Lake' – Death as we know it will cease to exist; 1 Cor. 15.54-55; Isa. 25.8

21.1-8: The New Jerusalem Descends

Descending from heaven – a heavenly city on earth (3.12; Isaiah 65.17-20; Galat. 4.26; Phil. 3.20; Hebr. 11.10)

Literal or Figurative? A new place or a new relationship?

3-5: Comfortable words – God 'dwelling' with the saints (7.15; 12.12; 13.6; 15.5; Numb. 10.11; 17.7)

Alpha and Omega (1.8)

'Living Water' – John 4.7-15: the Woman at the Well; 7.17; imagery in Isaiah 55.1

Sheep and goats: Matthew 25.31-46

The Lake of Fire for the Wicked – Rom. 1.29-31; Ephes. 4.25-32; Col. 3.5-8; 1 Tim. 1.9-10

This list drawn from 9.20-21; 17.4-5; 2.2; 3.9; 'cowards': Hebrews 6.4-6; 10.26-31; James 5.19-20; 2 Peter 2.20

21.9-27: The New Jerusalem on Earth

Rev. 17.1-3: 'It is over'; Ezekiel 40-48 – a vision of the new temple

21.11-21: Magnificent Jerusalem – a building or a people?

Jasper walls radiate the glory of God

12 gates – from Ezekiel 48.30-35

12 Foundations – large stones chosen for their beauty and strength (1 Kings 5.17)

Twelve tribes, twelve apostles – a symbol/archetypes for the Church

Ephesians 2.20: the church is ‘built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets’

21.15-21: Measurements and Materials

Ezekiel 40-41 – a man ‘whose appearance was like bronze’ measured the new temple

12,000 stadia – the City is an enormous cube measuring 1500 miles in each direction!

- The length of the Roman Empire from Joppa (Spain) to the Euphrates

144 cubits – 12x12 – perhaps symbolizing the whole people of God

Gold ‘like clear glass’ – akin to the throne room seen in 4.6

21.22-27: Life in the City of God

The New Holy of Holies - YHWH resides in the NJ among the Saints (21.3; 21.16)

Isaiah 60.19: ‘The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory’

Revelation 22

1-5 The Final Eden (Ezekiel 47.12; Isaiah 35.6-9)

Eden = the ‘Garden of delight’ ‘Paradise’ – LXX (Genesis 2-3)

‘Living water’ – John 4.10-14; 7.37-39; here the water flows from the Throne – from YHWH

The Tree of Life – 12 kinds of fruit, ‘yielding fruit every month’; leaves for ‘healing of the nations’

No curse – Genesis 3.16-19; Zechariah 14.11

Worshipping YHWH in the heavenly Jerusalem

The *Hagioi* Reigning with Christ – Matthew 19.28; Romans 5.17

They ‘will see YHWH’s face’ – Exodus 22.30; John 1.18

Exodus 28.36-38: Aaron wore a gold plate on his forehead inscribed with the words ‘Holy to the LORD’

22.6-21: Epilogue