Victory Everlasting Gospel Church

Sabbath June 10, 2017

**“Revelation Chapter 21”**

A Power Point Presentation

Let us pray …

The title of today’s sermon is Revelation Chapter 21. As we are nearing the conclusion of our prophecy series we will be looking at its 27 verses as well as associates scriptures we have found elsewhere in the Bible.

In verse 1 John wrote, **“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.”**

1 Corinthians 2:9 tells us this about this new earth, **“Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”** It will be beauty indescribable. We will see life forms we have never seen

In the 14th chapter of John, verses 1-3, we read the comforting promise made by Jesus, of His return to earth to receive His elect. **“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”** He has made the promise that He will come back for His faithful followers. But brethren, I want to concentrate on His promise to prepare a place for us.

Hebrews 11:16 reads, **"But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."**

Worldwide this present earth has become a land of dirty polluted rivers and foul smelling waterways,

India has some of the dirtiest and polluted river water. Some people even bathe in it.

Today, in almost all cities of the world, there are a concentration of violence and crime …and flashing lights and sirens and insecurity.

Fear of becoming victims of crime and terrorism causes worry to the populous.

Smokestacks belching out smoke and mingling with fossil fuel emissions, pose serious health hazards.

China is a serious offender in this area of concern.

Cities filled with gambling halls and all sorts of vice. What is it about this world that the billions who are willing to make this world there all in all?

A city reflects those who build it. This is the tallest building in the world. It is in Dubai in the Arab emirates and is more than twice as high as the Empire State Building. The cities of this world are designed and built by unconverted men who make monuments to their own glory.

The Bible tells us God has prepared a City! The God of heaven offers us an everlasting solution. And the Eternal City is not made by man, it is made by God. He is the designer and so we will be influenced by His environment. And God has a name for this new city.

Revelation 3:12 assures us, **"Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name."** Revelation 3:12

Back to Revelation Chapter 21 verse 2, **“And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”**

It will have been 1,000 years from the second coming of Jesus and the first resurrection of the redeemed, until the second resurrection of the lost. John was permitted to see that moment in eternity when the holy city New Jerusalem with all its inhabitants, descends to the earth.

Revelation 21:3 **“And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people,** **and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.”**

Revelation 21:4 **“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”** Many who have endured emotional pain or the physical pain of disease and other afflictions may find it hard to imagine a youthful, pain free existence throughout eternity.

Isaiah 35:5 **“Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.”**

Isaiah 35:6 **“Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.”**

Isaiah 40:31 **“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and]they shall walk, and not faint.”**

Isaiah 33:24 **“And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.”** Think of it. We'll never again hear the expression, "I am sick." or "I'm not feeling well." Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we never had another pain in the head again? The new earth means no more dying of AIDS or cancer. No more hospitals or expensive drugs to take. No more medical bills. Every physical problem will be remedied.

And there will be no ferocious flesh eating animals, rather they will be gentle and docile.

Isaiah 11:6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

Isaiah 65:25 **“The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,** **and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock**: **and dust shall be the serpent's meat.** **they shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.”**

Revelation 21:5 **“And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.”** What God has written is true, and it is by faith, that we can believe and receive every promise!

 **“And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.”** Revelation 21:6

Revelation 21:7 **“He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.”** What is the key word in this verse? ----- Of course, it is overcometh. Where else do we see overcoming stressed?

In the messages to the 7 churches we see the following:

#1. Church of Ephesus – AD31-AD100 – Rev. 2:7 **“…To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, …”**

#2. Church of Smyrna - AD100-AD323 - Rev. 2:11 **“… He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.”**

#3. Church of Pergamos - AD323-AD538 - Rev. 2:17 **“… To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, …”**

#4. Church of Thyatira - AD538-AD1798 - Rev. 2:26 **“And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, …”**

#5. Church of Sardis – AD1798-AD1833 - Rev. 3:5 **“… He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment;”**

#6. Church of Philadelphia - AD1833-AD1844 - Rev. 3:5 **“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, …”**

#7. Church of Laodicea - AD1844-Present - Rev. 3:21 **“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, …”** How important do you think it is to be an overcomer?

To overcome is not an option. Those who chose to sin until Jesus comes will have been overcome by the enemy of souls, but it will have been their own choice. If we are to walk those golden streets, we must by God’s mercy, power and grace, overcome sin and every un-Christ-like characteristic.

We won't be able to follow Him there unless we are first willing to follow Him here —right now. Sin is the one thing that can keep us out of heaven.

Revelation 21:8 **“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters,** **and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”**

I want to zero in on these two words, **all liars**. Any distortion of truth is a lie. This applies not only to lay people, but especially pastors, evangelists, conference presidents, right up to the General Conference president, has distorted truth in any least particular, it is dangerous because every idle word will be judged and all liars will be destroyed in the second death. Heaven would only be an unrealized desire.

It’s a choice. God does not want one of us to be lost and have to suffer the consequences of the second death. Either Jesus will have died your second death on the cross and Satan will ultimately pay for your sins, or you will pay for them and die the second death.

How much does this life offer us that we, wish to let our stubborn selfish pride hold on to the characteristics of the arch rebel and the things of this world? This planet will be sterilized and sin will be removed once and for all from the entire universe. Every one of us needs to choose to be like Christ and remove Egypt from our life. Moving on,

We want heaven to be our home. What does the Bible say that the New Jerusalem City of God will be like?

Revelation 21:9 **“And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.”**

Revelation 21:10, 11 **“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;**

Revelation 21:12, 13 **“And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.”**

Revelation 21:14, 15 **“And the wall of the city had twelve foundations and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof.”**

What is the measurement of the city? Rev. 21:16, 17. **"And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth; and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.”** NOTE - The measure around it, as the words length and breadth imply, and as was the early custom of measuring cities, was 12,000 furlongs, equal to 1,500 miles, or 375 miles on each of the four sides, making a perfect square.

Just How Big is New Jerusalem? You can take the sum total of the square miles of all the following states: Connecticut, Hawaii, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maryland, West Virginia, and South Carolina and Maine; and place it all inside the New Jerusalem and still have plenty of room remaining. Here’s the proof:

Just how big is the New Jerusalem? 375 x 375 = 140,625 square miles.

Connecticut – 4,845 square miles land area and Hawaii – 6,423 square miles land area;

New Jersey – 7,417 square miles land area and New Hampshire – 8,968 square miles land area;

Massachusetts – 7,840 square miles land area and Vermont – 9,250 square miles land area;

Maryland – 9,774 square miles land area and West Virginia – 24,078 square miles land area;

South Carolina - 30,149 square miles land area and Maine - 30,862 square miles land area;

Then add in the Five boroughs of New York City which = 915 sq. miles and the TOTAL of everything in this list is 140,481 square miles of land area, which is 144 square miles less than the land area inside New Jerusalem.

Just How Big is New Jerusalem City? The New Jerusalem city is so gigantic it is estimated that 40 billion people could live there comfortably, each with a good sized living area and that’s on the first floor. There is lots of room in our Father's house!!

What was the height of the wall? Revelation 21:17 **"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel.”** NOTE. - 144 cubits =216 feet high.

What is the wall and the city made of? Revelation 21:18 **“And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.”**

What are the twelve foundations of the city? Revelation 21:19, 20, **"And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolyte; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.”**

What are the twelve gates made of? "**And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl; …"**  Revelation 21:21. The gates are of pearl because the “Pearl of great Price” is the only way we can enter into the kingdom of God.

Of what are the streets made of? **“… and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass."** Revelation 21:21. People in this world lay down their lives for a little bit of gold and yet the saints of God will walk on it! What should that tell us about our priorities? Notice the streets are of gold, the gates are of pearl, the foundations are of beautiful minerals. As we examine the building materials for the eternal city, nothing that is built into the city ever deteriorates and nothing ever dies.

What about a temple for worship? **“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it."** Revelation 21:22

**"And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.”** Revelation 21:23 (Notice it did not say there is no sun or moon) It said the city had no need of the sun or moon. There is a sun and moon because the Bible says they'll be for times and seasons. The reason there is no need for the sun in the city is because God Himself is in that glorious city and the glory of the eternal Father will far outshine the object which He has created.

Revelation 21:24 **“And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.”**

**"And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there."** Revelation 21:25 Think about this. The mansions of that glorious city will be made of translucent minerals. The light of God coming from the middle of the city will ricochet and will hit every wall, the streets of gold are transparent and God’s glory will reflect all the colors of the twelve foundations. We can’t begin to imagine the beauty of it all. Security will never be a problem.

Revelation 21:26 **“And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.”**

Revelation 21:27 **“And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.”**

What did Jesus say is the formula for success, not only in this life, but in the next as well?

1 John 1:7 **“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”** What is the first thing we should seek?

Matthew 6:33 **“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”**

Now brothers and sisters, here is something we can't miss. If we want to follow the Lamb there in heaven then we **must** first follow the Lamb here now.

Let us pray…