

66-Revelation – 05-Transcript

well welcome back to Bible study and thanks for joining us on Thursday night rather than Wednesday night I apologize for this and actually for the next couple of weeks the schedule is going to bounce around a little bit let me just share with you my schedule for the next couple of weeks

next week I'm traveling I'm gonna do the Bible study on Sunday evening hopefully you can join us for that if not it'll be in the archive so you'll be able to catch up on Wednesday night you could watch it on Wednesday evening per their regular schedule the following week I'm traveling again I'm gonna do the Bible study God willing on Thursday evening then the next two weeks we'll be able to resume our Wednesday night schedule and then the following week I'll be traveling again I'm gonna do it on the Sunday evening as well and again if that's inconvenient for you you'll be able to watch it on the Wednesday evening just consult with the archives so again I really apologize for this bouncing around but I want to make sure we keep the momentum and I'd rather do it on a different day rather than cancel the Bible study and then we just we lose the momentum and I just find from week to week it's great if we can just keep the storyline going so let me just open with a quick word of Prayer and then we'll get into the study for this evening our loving Heavenly Father we just thank you so much Lord for your scriptures for your word which is true which is truth and just thank you God for all of the prophets we thank you for Jesus Christ we thank you for the faithful men through the years that have

continued to teach your word and hand it down from generation to generation and we just thank you God for our generation we know that if this is not the final generation we're very close and so father we pray for faithfulness we pray for courage we pray for vision and we just pray God for one another we ask for your blessing upon us and that we would deeply love you love Christ and love one another and we ask all of this father in the mighty name glorious name the majestic name of Jesus Christ our Lord so last week when we included I was in two minds about whether to continue in Revelation we got up to chapter five last week and then I was thinking do we go into chapter six and continue through the storyline in in sequential order or should we jump ahead to the end and kind of see how it all ends and and the glory and the vision and the hope that the end inspires and then come back and continue with that in mind and with prayer and in consultation with pastor Murray what I've decided to do brethren is to go ahead and jump to the end of the story so we're gonna go through chapter 21 this evening and God willing on Sunday we'll look at chapter 22 and then we'll come back and we'll do it in sequential order from chapter 6 through and then we'll actually go through chapters 21 and 22 again there's so much in these chapters we'll be able to bring out a bit more the second time around and you just follow the sequence so what we want to do here is make sure that we do have context for it's gonna get quite spicy between chapters 6 and 18 it's gonna get very spicy and if we don't have this vision if we don't have this big picture it could actually become discouraging for some so I want

to make sure that we do have the big picture we're gonna go to the end of the story here see what the apocalypse is really all about what is it that God wants John or wanted John to understand and see and by extension pass on to us that we would see very clearly and so we would be very very committed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ so let's so let's get right into our study and we'll go to Revelation I'm gonna jump ahead now and go to Revelation chapter 21 so he says here 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 so John sees something brand new everything that we know today the whole universe the heavens and the earth John says the whole thing is being replaced and and Moses began the scriptures with this single sentence in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth and and I'm convinced that Moses understood the big picture Moses understood what God had in mind when he created the heaven and the earth and he understood the central role of the earth of the earth in the entire cosmos in the entire universe Moses had a had a grasp of why the earth was was singled out and and again I said I mentioned this last time we were looking at the throne room of God that you know in scientists look at them the size of our universe the earth is know is nowhere near the center of the universe it's it's a speck in an obscure corner of this vast universe and yet they cannot find life anywhere in the universe except on planet Earth and what what they don't understand what God wants us to understand is a complete reconfiguration of heaven and earth is

gonna take place an earth indeed is going to be at the center of the universe and that's the vision that we have to have so so he creates this heaven this new heaven and new earth and and John was not the only prophet that understood that God was going to create a new heaven and a new earth look at what Isaiah wrote in Isaiah 65 verse 17 for behold I create new heavens and a new earth so Isaiah saw it Isaiah understood God revealed this to Isaiah that he's going to create a new heavens and a new earth and the former shall not be remembered so everything that we understand today the way the whole system works the whole universe the word what the Hubble telescope has gone out there and and uncovered for it uncovered for us it's all gonna be forgotten that that what's coming is so glorious that everything we know today will just pale into insignificance it will not be remembered it won't even come to mind what's coming is so glorious that everything we know today about the universe will just be forgotten and and we will never talk about it in Isaiah 66 and verse 22 again the Prophet repeats for as the new heavens and the new earth so Isaiah understood very clearly that that a whole new cosmology was coming with the earth of the center for as new heavens and a new earth which I will make shall remain before me so this universe that we have today the way it's configured it's going away everything on earth is going away but what's coming will remain forever and now listen to what the Prophet says or what God says through the Prophet for as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before me set the Lord so shall

your seed and your name remain but God is the God of Israel and then and he will be known as the God of Israel forever and the name of Israel will remain forever and the seed of Israel will remain forever so you know in Matthew 24 Christ says do not be deceived and and he shares with us what's gonna happen to Jerusalem and what's gonna happen to the people of God and how all over the world the people of God are going to be hunted down and persecuted and almost destroyed to the point where no flesh would be saved but he's gonna step in and he's gonna stop it and he's gonna preserve the seed of Israel and then he's going to establish the seed of Israel and he's going to exalt the seed of Israel not just in this dispensation not just in the earth the way it is today but forever in the new heavens and the new earth and we have understand this and not be deceived so continuing now in chapter 21 verse 2 and I John I saw the holy city New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven as a bride adorned for her husband so this is something that God has been preparing for Christ the same way that we would see a young lady or being really excited about her wedding day and all of her family and attendants preparing her for this big big day this is what God has been doing he's been preparing the bride for her husband and when he presents her to her husband she is going to be pure she is going to be holy she's going to be without spot and wrinkle she is going to be complete she's going to be the perfect gift for her husband Jesus Christ so so John saw this vision of the New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned

for her husband
now revelation ends with this wedding ceremony and what we need to understand is that the Bible not only ends with a wedding ceremony it began with a wedding ceremony that here in Genesis 2 verse 22 when God caused this deep sleep to fall upon Adam after he had looked at all the animals and named all the animals and saw them all pairing up with each other and realized he was alone then God put him into a deep sleep took a bone out of him and from that rib he prepared a woman and he presented the woman to the man as her as his wife and it says here and the rib which the Lord God had taken from the man made he a woman and brought her unto the man and just the same way that God is now preparing this bride and bringing her unto the man unto Christ therefore in verse 24 shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be flesh so this marriage ceremony in Genesis the very beginning of the Bible is highly symbolic and right from the beginning when God created the heaven and the earth and then placed man upon the earth and then married the man to a woman

all of this was highly symbolic of God's plan and his intention to have mankind marry Jesus Christ and become one with Christ and so Adam and his wife were symbolic of the union that were finally seeing here in the apocalypsis aware this is all going the history of man where will it end up it will end up with all of the repentant mankind being presented to Christ to come in to come into a union a very deep union with Christ coming down from the Father as a gift as a bride adorned for her husband and we shall be one with Christ then he

says here in verse 23 he says in sorry
verse 3 of chapter 21 and I heard a
great voice out of heaven saying behold
behold pay attention to this look at
what is happening 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 so what we come to understand here
is that from the very beginning God has
always intended to dwell with man and
it's almost like there's this this
corridor it's almost like there's this
corridor between heaven and earth and it
begins and ends in Jerusalem and that
whenever God comes to earth he comes to
earth through this corridor and lands on
this holy spot of the earth and that's
most likely where Eden was and it's most
likely the land that God then promised
to Abraham and where he directed David
then
his his kingdom and and now in this new
Jerusalem's coming down to this very
same spot and it's where Jacob's Ladder
where Jacob had this vision and said
surely this is Bethel this is what God
is in this place that there's this
corridor between heaven and earth and
God is finally coming down and now
instead of going back and forth
now he's establishing his tabernacle
here on the earth with men so he
continues he says 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 and this was the intention
from the very beginning unfortunately
the first Adam really messed up but the
second Adam has come he's redeemed
mankind and now we can get back to what
Moses understood from the very beginning
while God intended when he and when he

created the heaven and the earth and put man on the earth and wanted to Tabernacle with men on the earth and here this whole idea of God being with his people and his people being with God and then this dwelling together it's been a throughout the scriptures in Leviticus 21 26 verse 11 Moses writes and I will set my Tabernacle among you and my soul shall not abhor you and I will walk among you and will be your God and you shall be my people this was always the intention that God would dwell with man in Ezekiel 37 verse 27 my tabernacle also shall be with them yes I will be their God and they shall be my people in Zechariah 8 verse 8 and I will bring them and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem this is God's intention he's gonna take his people and he's gonna put them in Jerusalem and they will dwell there and they shall be my people so even though they've been persecuted they've been captured and sold into slavery and exported all over the world

God is the second Exodus is gonna happen and God was gonna gather his people and they're gonna dwell in the midst of Jerusalem and Jerusalem will be the headquarters of the whole earth of the whole universe and they shall be my people and I will be their God in truth and in righteousness so continuing now so we just see very clearly this has always been God's intent but now finally it is happening here at the end of the book and he says now in chapter 21 verse 4 and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes so between the first Adam and and the joyful union that he had with with Eve his wife unfortunately though in sideways and there's been nothing but sorrow nothing but

persecution and oppression and and the
opposite of God's intention and
certainly leading up to this end time
all of this sorrow is going to intensify
especially for God's people but God is
saying hold on be faithful to the end
don't worry I'm coming and I'm gonna
wipe away all tears from their eyes all
this sorrow is gonna come to an end and
there shall be no more death again we're
going into a period where human life is
going to be worth nothing and we're just
gonna see death in the millions and the
hundreds of millions in the billions
it's just going to be death everywhere
but there's coming a time when there'll
be no more death neither sorrow nor
crying neither shall there be any more
pain for the former things are passed
away all of this what we understand the
way the world works today it's coming to
an end and again John is not the
only prophet that saw this John is not
the only prophet that understood this
look again at Isaiah in chapter 25 verse
8 he will swallow up death in victory
death is coming to an end
death will be defeated death will be no
more he will swallow up death in victory
and the Lord God will wipe away tears
from off all faces
and the rebuke of his people shall he
take away from off all the earth
unfortunately when we go back through
revelation we're going to see that
there's going to be a great rebuke of
his people and and his people have
brought this upon themselves but he's
going to have mercy
according to his promise to Abraham he's
going to fulfill his promise he's gonna
fulfill the the the punishment that's
required of his people to get them to
repent but he's also going to fulfill

this promise to Abraham and therefore he's going to remove the rebuke from his people from off all the earth and the whole earth is going to honor Israel for the Lord has spoken it again in Isaiah chapter 35 and the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion even though they've been pushed out of Zion God is gonna see to it that they come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads and they shall obtain joy and gladness and sorrow and sighing shall flee away so says the Lord God Almighty again in Isaiah chapter 51 verse 11 therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return and come with singing unto Zion and everlasting joy shall be upon their head they shall obtain gladness and joy and sorrow and mourning shall flee away so same same thing that he said in chapter 35 in Chapter 65 and I will rejoice in Jerusalem and I'll join my people and the voice of weeping shall no more be heard in her nor the voice of crying so this is something that John saw very clearly that God is going to pronounce no more death no more sorrow no more crying there's just gonna be great joy and singing and everlasting joy and this is what Isaiah saw very very clearly continuing in Revelation chapter 21 and he that sat upon the throne said and now we're gonna actually hear the voice of God behold I make all things new everything everything's gonna be and he said unto me write for these words are true and faithful this is this is truth and he said unto me it is done I am Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end and so we understand Alpha and Omega are the first letter of the Greek alphabet and the last letter of the Greek alphabet so he's the beginning and

the end I will give unto him that is
athirst of the fountain of the water of
life freely now when he says he's the
Alpha and Omega the beginning in the end
again we have to go back into the Old
Testament to see who is this that's
saying he's the beginning in the end so
this is Christ speaking what does he
mean he's the beginning on the end in
Isaiah 41 verse 4 who has wrought and
done it calling the generations from the
beginning I the Lord the first and with
the last I am he so God makes it very
clear he's the first and the last
so Jesus Christ is God chapter 44 verse
6 thus says the lord the king of israel
and his redeemer the lord of hosts i am
the first and i am the last and beside
me there is no god chapter 48 verse 12
hearken unto me o Jacob and Israel my
called I am he I am the first I also am
the last so Christ is very clear about
who he is unfortunately his people are
not clear about who he is and so they're
gonna have to go through an intense
period of suffering and finally they're
going to look up and acknowledge that
Jesus Christ is the first and the last
he's the Alpha and Omega he is the Lord
God Almighty their Redeemer continuing
in Revelation 21 and verse 7 he that
overcomes shall inherit all things and I
will be his God and he shall be my son
and again it's very important that we
see this very clearly this is the
promise
to be overcomers and so as we go back
and we started going to go through
Revelation chapter 6
right up to 18 we're gonna see a lot of
turmoil we're gonna see all the beast
power getting the upper hand and what we
have to understand is we have been
called to be faithful witnesses and we

must overcome not only the evil in the world but we have to overcome the evil in ourselves we have to overcome the evil hearts that we have inherited through human nature and we have to use the Holy Spirit to be pure there's no point in us preaching to others there's no point in us warning the world and giving them the witness of the good news of the coming kingdom but we ourselves are allowing ourselves to be corrupt and we're allowing our congregations to be corrupt or allowing leaven to creep into the congregation's and take over the congregations and yet we think that's okay it's not okay we have to be overcomers we have to operate at a very very high standard so while the world is corrupting itself an evil man or waxing worse and worse God is actually doing a work and he's preparing the people and he's cleansing this bride and the whole world is going to be astonished when Jesus Christ returns and there's a people ready to receive him and serve him and rule with him this is the focus that we have to have and overcoming is central to what we do and so to all the churches when we were back in Revelation chapter two and three every epistle that Jesus Christ personally wrote to these congregations he ended every epistle with a with an appeal to hear what the Spirit says to the churches and a promise of what he would give to the overcomers so here we see in Chapter seven he has an ear to him that overcomes will eat up the tree of life which is in the middle of the paradise of God in verse 11 of chapter 2 we will not be hurt by the second death in Chapter 17 of chapter and verse 17 of chapter 2 we'll eat of the hidden manna we'll have a white stone with a new name

written on it
in chapter 2 verse 26 if we keep his
works to the end and overcome we'll be
given power over the nations in verse 5
of chapter 3
we'll be clothed in white raiment and
our name will not be blotted out of the
book of life in verse 12 of chapter 3
we'll have a new name we'll have the
name of God written upon us and the name
of the city of his God which is the New
Jerusalem if we overcome and will will
have his new name because we'll be his
bride so we'll have his new name written
upon us and then finally in verse 21 of
chapter 3 well we will sit in his throne
even as he is overcoming his sat in his
father's throne so all of these promises
of over to the overcomer
we see fulfilled here at the end of the
book now we need to excuse me we need to
look at this very carefully now on the
one hand we see the promise to the
overcomer so we have to be overcomers
and then we see something else but the
fearful the fearful and the unbelieving
and the abominable and murderers and
whoremongers and sorcerers and idolaters
and all Liars shall have their part in
the lake which burns with fire and
brimstone which is the second death and
this is why it's so important for us to
be part of this first resurrection
because the second death has no power
over us and we'll we'll be there helping
human beings to avoid the second death
but the second death will have no power
over us but I find this verse
fascinating and I think it's very good
for us to kind of jump ahead here that
we're gonna be reading some very fearful
things that are going to be coming to
pass and coming upon this earth and some
very fearful people are going to be

taking over and running the earth and yet God expects us not to be fearful and when we look at the people that are thrown in the lake of fire I personally find it fascinating that God begins not with the abominable not with murderers not with whoremongers sorcerers idolaters and Liars he begins with the fearful and unbelieving and you know what this says to me is that weakness is evil think about that evil is evil but weakness is evil because weakness cannot withstand evil weakness allows evil to take over and so God is looking for people who are not weak but all of us are weak all of us are fearful this is the human condition this is why Satan has had his way with mankind for millennia because we're all weak and we're all fearful and he's been able to manipulate mankind because of our weakness and our fear now the Holy Spirit is not a spirit of power this spirit of fear it's a spirit of power it's a spirit of a sound mind it's a spirit of love and so the only it's kind of you know I don't to say it's uh it's not easy I don't want to say it's easy but it's simple it's very simple allow God's Spirit to come in us allow God's Spirit to grow within us and live by the spirit and then we will be believing people we will be fearless people we will be loving people and so God will do this through us if we nurture and and and develop the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit within us to God's glory and so this category of fearful and unbelieving unfortunately as I read this this is speaking of people who understood the Word of God who believed the Word of God who believed God but they didn't have the fortitude the spiritual fortitude to face evil to

stare down evil and say Jesus Christ is king
instead they buckled and then they collapsed and this is what Christ talked about in Luke when we were in Luke and we looked at chapter 8 and they talked about a sower went forth to sow and he sows his seed but it falls on different kind types of ground and here in verse 13 of chapter 8 they on the rock are they which when they hear they receive the word with joy but these have no root they don't have root which for a wild belief and in time of temptation or in time of trouble in time of trial they fall away and revelation from chapter 6 through the chapter 18 is all about trial it's all about temptation it's all about tribulation and Matthew 24 Christ tells us that in the end time the love of many will wax cold many will betray one another how does this happen we're not working from the Holy Spirit we're not functioning from the Holy Spirit the center of our universe is not Jesus Christ
it's ourselves and so many become offended why do they become offended they become offended because they believe they are important and their feelings matter and they're not upholding Christ if we uphold Christ nothing offends us except anything that offends Christ but if any if there's any harm that comes to us personally we're okay with that because you know what we deserve nothing except the death penalty so every day is a gift every relationship is a gift everything everything we give thanks because we deserve nothing and so if we get what we deserve we're like Shadrach Meshach and Abednego we're not careful to answer you in this matter okay because we know our

God can save us but if he chooses not to that's okay too we understand he has other purposes that are beyond our personal feelings and so we're good with God because he's a good God and we have to think this way brethren because the prophecy is against us how does how does the love of many whacks called what happens what happens where people who believe in God who trust God who love Christ what happens to them that their love switches off and it turns cold and we become bitter and betray one another what happens well we have to get through this time of trial we have to get through this time of temptation believing God trust in God loving one another fervently and and not fearing evil men evil men are gonna wax worse and worse even so let it be we what can we do what we can do is bear witness that Jesus Christ is the son of God and he is coming to establish the kingdom of God and nothing anybody says or does or whatever they do nothing can change this and so we declare the truth of God so this is very very important verse that the fearful and unbelieving are singled out first they're thrown in the lake of fire first and then all of these evil people so weakness is evil and we must rely on the Spirit of God so that we are strong and we are mighty in the Lord and we are not weak Lumos face evil head-on don't back down this is not a time to back down this is not a time to go off in a corner and put your head down and hope you don't get noticed you will get notice it's like the warning that went to Esther you know who knows if you're here for such a time as this but if you don't stand up if you don't step up and play your part that's okay you'll be sidelined you'll be found out

you'll be captured and slaughtered but God will raise up somebody else so this is where we are today brethren are we going to stand up for God or does he need to raise up somebody else because the roles are all set that here's here's the stage here are the roles what role do you want to play you want to be an extra you want to be a bystander or do you want to take up a significant role for God because the roles are all set is just who's gonna play what role let us be those who say I'll be a faithful witness Lord count on me I'll be a faithful witness and so we stir up the spirit within us and we do God's will fearlessly lovingly hopefully with vision that we see here of what what the endtime holds continuing in verse 9 of chapter 21 and there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues and so we'll see that as we go through the book of Revelation but here the same angel now comes to him and talked with me saying come here I will show you the bride the Lamb's wife so we're gonna see now the Lamb's wife who's been ready who's about to be presented to the Lamb he calls John he says come I'm gonna show you the bride's wife now this same angel when we go back in revelation 17 verse 3 he showed John another woman so he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured Beast full of names of blasphemy having seven heads and ten horns and the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls so she's been adorned having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication

so there's two women that the angel presents to John the first one is this harlot who is adorned with all kinds of precious stones and pearls but she's a harlot and she's full of blasphemy and full of rage and full of murder and deception so this is one woman and then he says the same thing he says you know come and see and he shows her shows him this other woman who is pure who is holy who is adorned by God himself for Christ and so this is the woman that lasts this is the woman that will live forever the other woman is going to be thrown into the lake of fire and so all human beings have to decide which woman are we going to be a part of are we going to be a part of the filthy harlot or are we going to be a part of the pure bride it's one or the other there's no in-between all of mankind has to decide which woman are they apart of are there going to be a part of the harlot who is one with the devil or are they going to be a part of the bride the pure bride who is going to be one with Christ there's nothing else one or the other continuing verse 10 of chapter 21 and he carried me away in the spirit to a great high mountain so again the same language that we saw in verse 3 of 17 so he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness so here in verse 10 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 and and this is not new so John is seeing this but this is something that Ezekiel saw as well in chapter 40 of Ezekiel verse 2 in the visions of God brought he me into the Land of Israel and set me upon a very high mountain by which was the frame of

a city on the south and he brought me there and behold there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of brass with a line of flax in his hand and a measuring Reed and he stood in the gate and the man said to me said unto me son of man behold with your eyes and hear with your ears and set your heart upon all that I will show you for to the intent that I might show them unto you are you brought here declare all that you see to the house of Israel so the same way that God brought John in in the spirit to see all these things so that he could declare it to us the Israel of God he did the same thing earlier with Ezekiel that he brought Ezekiel out in on this mountain so that Ezekiel could see these things and declare them to Israel so again the Bible has this integrity it has this unity it's not like you know the New Testament goes off in a brand new direction no the New Testament is completely rooted in the Old Testament and all the prophets are seeing and saying the exact same thing so he goes on to say that he must declare them to the house of Israel continuing and behold a wall on the outside of the house roundabout and in the man's hand a measuring Reed of six cubits long by the cubit and a hand breadth so he measured the breadth of the building one Reed and the height one Reed and the gates of the city shall be after the names of the tribes of Israel three gates northward one gate of Reuben one gate of Judah one gate of Levi this is this is the vision that he has of this new city coming down and at the east side four thousand and five hundred and three gates one gate for Joseph one gate for Benjamin one gate of Dan and at the south side four thousand and five

hundred measures same measure and three gates one gate for Simeon one gate for is achar one gate for Zebulon at the west side 4,500 and with their three gates one gate of GAD one gate of Asher one gate of Naphtali it was round about 18,000 measures and the name of the city from that day shall be the or it is there so the Lord will Tabernacle with men and he will be in his throne will be in this new city and so the name of that city from that day shall be the Lord is there so that was the vision that was given to Ezekiel we continue now in the vision that is given to John and having the glory of God and her light was like unto a stone most precious even like a Jasper stone clear as crystal 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 and the wall of the city had twelve foundations and in them the names of the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb of God so here we see the gates have the each gate has a name of the tribe of Israel and each gate has a name of one of the Apostles of the Lamb and so this is why earlier when we were in the throne room revelation twenty four and five and we saw the twenty-four elders and I said you know my best guess here is that twelve of the elders are the patriarchs the heads of the tribes and twelve are the apostles and I think that that's supported here as we see each gate has a name of one of the patriarchs and each gate has a name of one of the Apostles so that's where the rationale for that conjecture comes from now look

at Isaiah again his his vision this is a similar vision to John what John is seeing is rooted in what the Old Testament prophet saw this glory of Jerusalem this glory that is going to come from from God for Jerusalem in Isaiah 52 verse 1 awake awake put on your strength this is after all the slaughter in now Jerusalem don't be discouraged don't be dismayed awake awake put on your strength Ozai on put on your beautiful garments Oh Jerusalem because you are a bride adorned for your husband the holy city for henceforth there shall no more come into you the uncircumcised and the unclean so that means that the uncircumcised and the unclean are going to take over Jerusalem we're going to see the abomination of desolation set up in Jerusalem we're going to see perhaps palaces set up in Jerusalem but we're also going to see slaughter and destruction in Jerusalem as a result of the Gentiles taking over Jerusalem but Isaiah could see anciently what John is seeing now what we're seeing through John that Jerusalem has been chosen by God and all of this is going to be forgotten and God is going to establish a new Jerusalem so that we forget all of the sorrow all of the pain all of the torture that took place all of the war that took place in Jerusalem it won't be remembered it won't even be mentioned instead there's gonna be this great glory of God in Jerusalem in in chapter 54 the the prophet writes oh you afflicted tossed with tempest and not comforted so this is matches what we see in Matthew 24 behold I will lay your stones with fair colours and lay your foundations with sapphires and I will

make your windows of a gutter gates and your gates of carbuncles and all your borders of pleasant stones so God is going to establish and he's going to build this foundation of Jerusalem personally himself God is going to do this continuing then in Revelation 21 and verse 15 and he that talked with me same again similar vision to what we saw in Ezekiel what Ezekiel saw this measuring of the city and he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city and the gates thereof and the wall thereof and the city lies Foursquare and the length is as large as the breath and he measured the city with the reed twelve thousand furlongs the length and the breadth and the height of it are equal and he measured the wall thereof a hundred and forty and four cubits according to the measure of a man that is of the angel and the building of the wall of it was of Jasper and the city was pure gold like unto clear glass so all of the it's a very precisely measured City it's very very specific and it takes up a very exact amount of real estate and Abraham himself you know says that he was looking for a city that that whose foundations were built by God well this is it so he goes on to say that he measured the wall thereof 104 and for one hundred and forty and four cubits according to the measure of a man that is of the angel and the building of the wall of it was of Jasper and the city was pure gold like unto Clare glass 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 the the third a chalcedony the fourth an emerald the fifth sardonyx the sixth

sardius the seventh chrysolite the
eighth beryl the ninth the topaz the
tenth a crystal process the eleventh a
jacinth the twelfth and amethyst and the
twelve gates were twelve pearls every
several gate was of one pearl and the
street of the city was pure gold
as it were transparent glass and I saw
no temple very for the Lord God Almighty
and the lamb are the temple of it and
and you know again these folks who
believe in Trinitarian doctrine
there's no Trinity here there's no
Trinity mentioned here there's only two
beings there is God the Father and the
lamb and and certainly the Holy Spirit
is in his people as his his power that
he does his will through us with it but
the Holy Spirit is not a person the Holy
Spirit does not sit on the throne
and here we see God the Father on a
throne and Jesus Christ the lamb on a
throne and so he says and I saw no
temple therein for the Lord God Almighty
and the lamb are the temple of it and
the city had no need of the Sun neither
of the moon to shine in it there's just
no need for that for the glory of God
did lighten it and the lamb is the light
thereof so we when we look at the Sun
it's just so bright when it's in his
full strength we can't even look at it
directly we have to have sunglasses or
we have to shade our eyes but this
glorious light that the Sun gives is
nothing compared to the glory of the
Father and the lamb when they are here
on earth in this beautiful city they
they are going to be the light and the
kings of the earth do bring their glory
and honor into it and the gates of it
shall not be shut at all by day for
there shall be no night there and they
shall bring the glory and honor of the

nation's into it and there shall in no
wise enter into it anything that defiles
neither whatsoever worketh abomination
or makes a lie but they which are
written in the Lamb's Book of Life and
so this is why we have to be overcomers
we have to purify ourselves to prepare
to meet Jesus Christ and we all have our
problems we all have each cycle
chuckle issues from childhood we will
have issues we all have our experiences
we have far skeletons in the closet
God knows all of that and he is able to
wash all of that away he is able to
purify us with his word with His Holy
Spirit and so we just have to have this
confidence in God this confidence in the
Lamb's sacrifice and in his love for us
and so this is reality but all of these
liars all of these murderers all of
these mongers none of them can fit
in the new creation and so let them do
their thing if they want to follow the
devil let them do it let them have this
world because a new world is coming and
this is what we have to see so clearly
this is this vision of this new world it
needs to empower us every single day
this is what we see and this is why we
will just do God's will we've counted
the cost we have found the pearl of
great price and we are willing to give
up everything to obtain this pearl of
great price this this is the reality
that's coming this is the forever
reality that we the reality that we face
today much of it is an illusion and it's
all temporary it's all passing away but
this what's coming is forever so there
shall in no wise it's impossible that to
enter into it anything that defiles
neither whatsoever worketh abomination
or makes a lie but they which are
written in the Lamb's Book of Life and

again we'll just finish here with what Ezekiel saw because these it's not like John is kind of bringing up some new theology God has a plan from the very beginning and all the prophets have seen and have said the same thing as well end now with Ezekiel in chapter 44 verse 9 he says thus says the Lord God no stranger uncircumcised in heart nor uncircumcised in flesh shall enter into my sanctuary of any stranger that is among the children of Israel God is the God of Israel the 12 gates are named for each of the tribes of Israel the only way into the city is to come in through one of the tribes of Israel and God will be known as the God of Israel forever and that means that Israel as Israel is being purified to be presented to Christ as his wife all nations Christ has come to redeem all nations so every tongue every ethnic group every nation is invited to come into Israel to come into the pure Bride of Christ and so this is our job to preach this good news to bear witness of this good news to the whole earth and to make disciples of every nation of every tongue of every ethnic group because this future is for everyone who desires to be pure what a great God we serve glory be to Jesus Christ

looking forward hopefully you can join us on Sunday evening live if not you'll be in the archive and you can catch up as we do

god-willing Revelation chapter 22 on Sunday evening good night god bless what a God we serve Jesus Christ is Lord he's king he's savior and he is our husband god bless