



Glory of Heaven – Part 2

Introduction:

This week Chance continues a new series titled: "**Glory of Heaven**" with **Week 2 - The Basics of Heaven**. In this series we will be looking at what Scripture says about Heaven. Heaven is a very real place, and everyone is wired to want Heaven & wants to get there, but what is it?

What do you know about Heaven, what is it like? Where can you get additional information about Heaven? Today we continue by looking at some of the basics of Heaven from the book of Revelation. Have you ever been somewhere that blew your mind? That's what's described in the book of Revelation.

Questions:

1. What is the Book of Revelation? Who wrote it & where was it written? What was this book written for, what is the purpose of the book? How is it both a warning and a message of hope at the same time?
2. What is the holy city? Why is it something that every Jew/Christians should be excited to see? What made the image that John saw so exceptional and filled with glory, splendor & beauty? **Revelation 21:10-11**
3. Why are the walls & gates of the city unusual? How are the gates guarded? What about the gates indicates that they are welcoming? What's the importance of the twelve tribes' names on the gates & the twelve apostles' names on the wall? What's special about the number twelve? **Revelation 21:12-14**
4. Why do you think the angel who talked with John measured the city, what was he proving to John? What did he measure the city with, why was it made of gold? Is

it hard to imagine how large the city is? What were all the measurements a multiple of? **Revelation 21:15-17**

5. What is the city constructed of? What does the material used to build the city tell you about God? What is unusual about the foundation of the city? What does the construction tell you about the permanence & strength of the city? **Revelation 21:18-20**
6. How unusual are the gates of the city? Why is the material of the gates important? What is special about the street leading into & through the gates and the city? **Revelation 21:21**
7. Is it surprising that there is no temple in the city, wouldn't John have expected one to be at the center of the city? Why would there be no need for a temple? Where does the city get its light? Why are the gates always open? **Revelation 21:22-27**

Key Takeaway: Keep perspective - the things we value most in this world serve only as the mortar, roads, and basic parts of heaven. Place your values on the values of heaven -RELATIONSHIPS, What step can you take this week to value people over possessions?

Summary:

- Revelation is Jewish Apocalyptic Literature, written by John, the beloved disciple, on the Island of Patmos, This is a message of WARNING and HOPE
- The Holy City, shining with the glory of God, like jasper clear as crystal (pure & clean); the focus is glory, beauty & splendor
- The city has 12 gates with the names of the 12 tribes of Israel as well as the 12 apostles who were martyred, everything is purposeful
- Measuring the city with a gold measuring rod, 1,400 miles (12,000 stadia) square with walls 216 feet (144 cubits) thick, multiples of 12; the city has boundaries & tremendous strength, room for all of God's redeemed people
- Walls made of jasper and a city of pure (clean/transformed) gold, built on a foundation of precious stones (12); the wealth of God
- 12 gates each made from a single pearl, the main street of pure gold
- No temple was needed because heaven is filled with the presence of God (Father & Son), the gates are always open & there is no night, nothing evil is ever present