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Nothing Impure Will Enter the New Jerusalem

21: 22-27

Nothing impure will enter the New Jerusalem. DIG: Why is there no Temple in the New Jerusalem? Why will nothing impure, shameful or deceitful be allowed to enter the Holy City?

REFLECT: With all the filth in the world, can you imagine living forever with nothing impure to deal with?

With all the great structures and spectacular sights of **the New Jerusalem**, there does seem to be one surprising omission. In the old Jerusalem one great building had dominated both the landscape and the social life of **the City**. Set high on Mount Zion was the beautiful **Temple of God**. The people brought their sacrifices and offerings. But most important of all, it was where **the Lord** met **His** people.

But during the Eternal State (**to see link click [Fq](#) - The Eternal State**), **ADONAI** will dwell with **His** people in **the New Jerusalem!** **The Lamb of God**, who is the sacrifice for sins, will reign there on **His** throne. At that time, every believer will be a priest in service to **the King of kings**. There will no longer be any need for a physical structure, and you could look for all eternity and not find such a building. Nevertheless, there is a **Temple** there.⁴⁹⁹

John did not see a Temple in the City. In addition to the absence of the sea, the absence of the **Temple** is another difference between the Millennial Kingdom and the Eternal State. Since all the purposes of the earthly **Temple** will have been completed, no physical structure will be built **in the Holy City**. Even **the New Jerusalem**, before its descent to the earth, had a **Temple (11:19)** and an **altar (8:3-5)**, but both of these will be removed for all time once their purpose is served. There will be no need for a physical structure **because ADONAI, God of heaven's angelic armies (CJB)** will be **its Temple**, as will be **the Lamb (21:22)**. There will be no need for anyone to go anywhere to worship **the LORD**. Life will be worship and worship will be life. Believers will constantly be in **His** presence **(21:3)**. There will never be a moment when they will not be in perfect, holy communion with **God**.⁵⁰⁰

*Dear Heavenly **Father**, How wonderful **You** are! It is such a joy to think of **You** and how*

loving and holy **You** are. **You** are always perfect and could not get any better. **You** are always the Best! **You** rescued us from sin, giving us the perfect **righteousness of Yeshua (Second Corinthians 5:21)**. It cost **You** so much and we want to give back love to **You** by our righteous. We are not doing these to earn salvation, for no one can be good enough to enter your perfect heaven, but we desire to show our genuine love for **You** by our actions. **In all this [new birth into a living hope] you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith - of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire - may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed (First Peter 1:4c-7)**. We love to live for **You**, even when it costs us pain. These trials will be over so soon and heaven is eternal! **I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us (Romans 8:18)**. We humbly bow in worship of **You**, loving **You** always! In the holy name of **Yeshua** and the power of **His** resurrection. Amen



The City does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. Since ADONAI is light and in Him there is no darkness at all (First John 1:5), it would be improper for the New Jerusalem to fall under the **darkness** of night. In **the LORD's** intrinsic nature **He lives in unapproachable light**, which **no one has seen or can see (First Timothy 6:16)**, at least in a natural body before the first resurrection **(20:5-6)**. Just as **the Sh'khinah glory of the LORD** filled ancient **Temple (First Kings 8:10-11)**, and then filled the Millennial **Temple (Haggai 2:7-9; Ezeki'el 44:4)**, so will **His Sh'khinah glory** illuminate the New Jerusalem. **For the Sh'khinah glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp** for the Eternal State **(21:23)**.

Neither **the sun nor the moon** will ever be destroyed because **ADONAI** has promised that

they will endure **forever and ever (Psalm 148:3 and 6; Dani’el 12:3)**. Nevertheless, **their light** will not be needed anymore to illuminate **the New Jerusalem**, for **the Sh’khinah glory** will be **its** light. **The sun and the moon**, however, will continue to function as **they** always have, serving as lights by day and by night for the other parts of the world.

Isaiah prophesied that the **walls** of this magnificent **City** will be called **Salvation**, and **its** gates will be called **Praise**. **The inspired prophet** wrote: **The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for ADONAI will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. Your sun will never set again, and your moon will wane no more; The LORD will be your everlasting light, and the days of your sorrow will end. Then will all your people be righteous and they will possess the Land forever. They are the shoot I have planted, the work of My hands, for the display of My splendor. The least of you will become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation. I AM ADONAI and in its time I will do this swiftly (Is 60:19-22)**.

The Gentile nations will walk by its light, as well as those who served as **kings of the earth** in the old order. The Gentiles **will** go to **the New Jerusalem** to give **it glory and honor (21:24 and 26)**. The mention of **the nations**, or Gentiles, shows that the distinction between Jews and Gentiles will continue for all eternity. But in the Eternal State, there will be no functional difference between them as there was in the Messianic Kingdom (see **Fi - The Government of the Messianic Kingdom**). In the Eternal Order, believers will consist of peoples **from every nation and tribe and people and tongue (7:9)**, **but** will not lose their national identity. **John’s** message is consistent with the statements of the prophets: **And many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of Jacob” (Isaiah 2:3) . . .** This supports the universality of the knowledge of **God** as promised in **Jeremiah’s** announcement of the New Covenant (**Jer 31:31-33**).⁵⁰¹

On no day will its gates ever be shut throughout eternity, **for there will be no night there (21:25)**. Unlike earthly cities, whose walls and gates were needed for protection, the **Holy City** has no enemies. All people are welcome. Like **Yeshua** said **Himself: I AM the gate; whoever enters through Me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture (John 10:9)**. The fact that the **gates of the New Jerusalem will never be shut** is a picture of complete security.

When **ADONAI** created Adam and Eve **He** placed them in **His** perfect creation, the Garden of Eden. Then **He** allowed Satan to enter the Garden and tempt them. The result was that

sin entered the world. **But the LORD** will never allow this to happen again. The righteous will live in **the Eternal City, but nothing** unrighteous **will ever** be allowed to **enter it**. **The New Jerusalem** will be completely kosher! **Nothing unclean will ever enter it** (see the commentary on **Leviticus Bk - Ritually Clean and Unclean Animals**), **nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful (21:27a)**. It will not be possible for the purity of **the City** to ever be defiled by some unclean thought or impure motive. All believers will have long since been **conformed to the likeness of Christ (Romans 8:29)** and purified themselves **just as He is pure (First John 3:3)**. However, all those who practiced wickedness will have been imprisoned long ago in the lake of fire, hidden somewhere in the corner of the universe, never to be heard from again.

Those who enter **the City** are not the wicked and defiant, but those believers whose names have been **written in the Lamb's book of life (21:27b)**, saved **before the creation of the world (Ephesians 1:4)**. All who enter **the New Jerusalem** are the objects of **God's** grace, otherwise they would be excluded. It will be a perfect environment in contrast to the centuries of human sin and misery. Believers will enjoy this perfect life throughout all eternity to come.⁵⁰²