

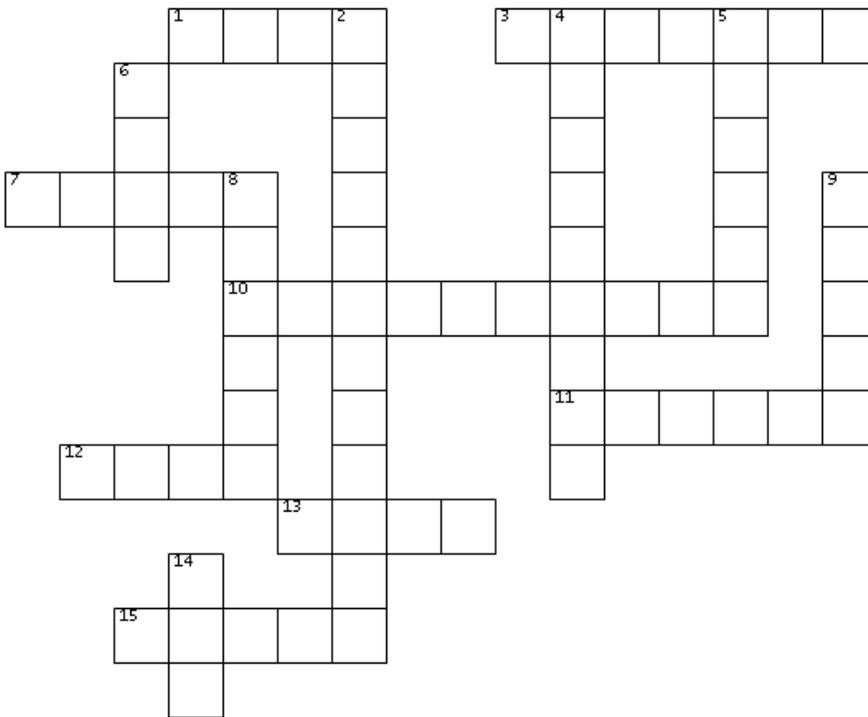
Revelation
Lesson 37
Revelation 21:1-14

Memory Verse – Revelation 22:20 – *“He which testifieth these _____ saith, Surely I come _____. Amen. _____ so, come, Lord _____.”*

Memory Verse for the Next Lesson – Revelation 22:21 – *“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”*

Passage to Read for the Next Lesson – Revelation 21:15-27

Review – Taken from Revelation 20



ACROSS

1. The number of rebels against the rule of Christ at the end of the Kingdom is described as the _____ of the sea.
3. The fifth dispensation; The 1000 year, worldwide rule of the Messiah on earth.
7. Those at the Great White Throne judgment are judged according to their _____.
10. The second dispensation; people were held accountable to God's laws written in their hearts.
11. The fourth dispensation; Jew and Gentile have equal access into the Body of Christ.
12. Revelation 20:11 says earth and heaven _____ away from the face of God.
13. Revelation 20:15 says the book of _____ determines the eternal destiny of the unsaved.
15. He is loosed from his prison at the end of the Kingdom.

DOWN

2. An administration of God in which some attribute of God and some characteristic of humanity is revealed.
4. The first dispensation; it involved two people in the Garden of Eden.
5. The Great White Throne judgment determines the _____ of punishment, not the destiny, of the unsaved.
6. The lake of _____ is the final destination of Satan.
8. The _____ death consists of eternal separation from God in the lake of fire.
9. Revelation 20:14 says _____ and hell are to be cast into the lake of fire.
14. The third dispensation; God gave Israel His written law.

Did you ever believe the saved spend eternity in heaven? Apparently not. These verses describe the eternal state as being in a city on earth. Although the new heavens and earth are not described in detail, the New Jerusalem certainly is. Chapters 21 and 22 reveal the eternal abode by describing what *will* be and what *will not* be there.

Revelation 21:1

The new heaven (not where God lives, but the atmosphere and space itself) and the new earth are drastically different from the ones we inhabit. The first heaven and earth disappeared in 20:11. Our eternal abode is not built on the foundations of this world – foundations that contain a record of death and judgment. Don't try to imagine our world without oceans; this will be totally different.

Revelation 21:2-6

What catches John's attention is not the geography of the new earth, but the city that descends to it. It's "prefabricated" by God in heaven; it's a "mobile home" in the sense that it moves into position complete and "everything's included." (Hebrews 11:10) The tabernacle of God within this great city represents the complete opposite of what was described as the fate of the unsaved in 20:15. While the unsaved are eternally separated from God, the saved have eternal access and fellowship with Him. (1 Cor. 13:12) (Exodus 25:8) The list of things excluded from this city is inspiring – no tears, no death, no sorrow, no crying, no pain. All things are new and stay new forever. If you are spiritually thirsty, come drink freely even now of the water of life.

Revelation 21:7-8

The eternal abode is not the same as the Kingdom, where saved and unsaved live side by side until the final rebellion. Sin is excluded from the New Jerusalem; and that's why tears, death, sorrow, crying, and pain are excluded.

Revelation 21:9-14

Now John is invited to look more closely at the New Jerusalem. Picture a huge brilliant cut diamond sparkling with its own light descending from above toward earth. This New Jerusalem has walls, gates, and foundations. Before Chapter 22 reveals the contents behind those walls, Chapter 21 gives a detailed description of the walls and foundations.

The walls contain twelve gates, three on each side. The gates are named after the twelve tribes of Israel. There is a Reuben Gate, a Simeon Gate, a Levi Gate, a Judah Gate, etc.

The foundations consist of twelve layers or steps (?). These are named after the Apostles. Thus Israel and the Church are both remembered and kept separate at the same time.