



Major Bible Themes

52 VITAL DOCTRINES OF THE SCRIPTURE
SIMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED

Lewis Sperry Chafer

REVISED BY

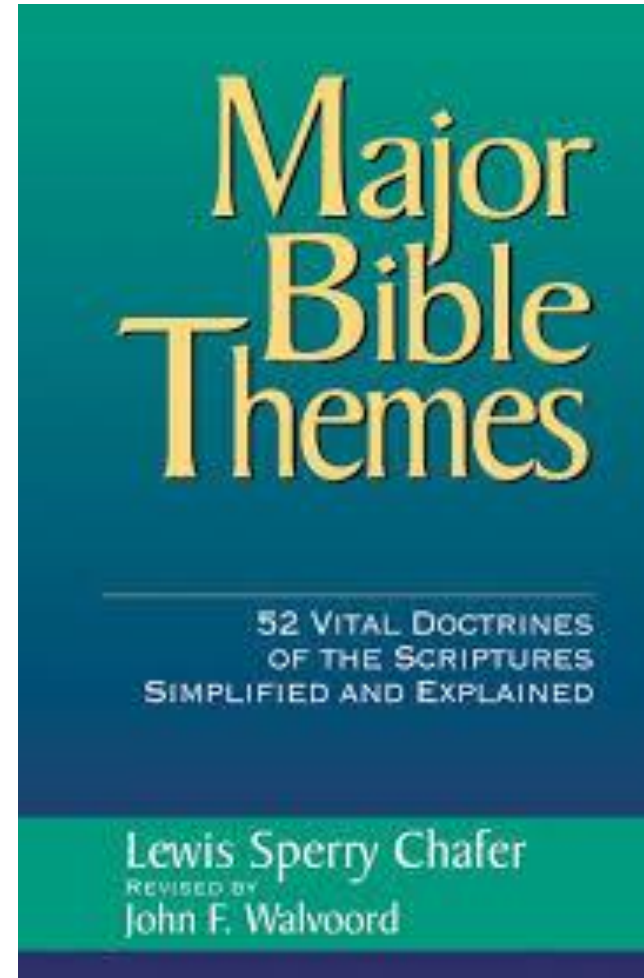
John F. Walvoord

Chapter Fifty Two :

The New Heavens and Earth

Step # One Chapter Fifty Two : The New Heavens and Earth

Find the Outline



Chapter Fifty Two : The New Heavens and Earth

A. The New Heaven and Earth

B. General description of the New Jerusalem

C. Vision of the New Jerusalem

Memorize it

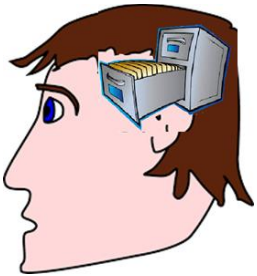


Chapter Fifty Two : The New Heavens and Earth

A. The New Heaven and Earth

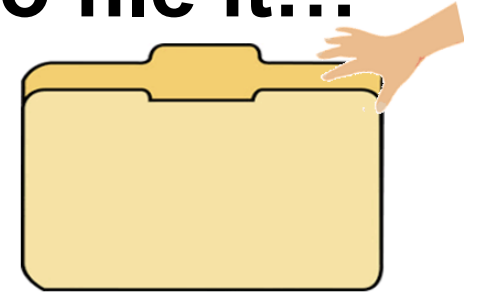
B. General description of the New Jerusalem

C. Vision of the New Jerusalem



Chapter Fifty Two : The New Heavens and Earth

To file it...



Write it Down



Underline Main Words...

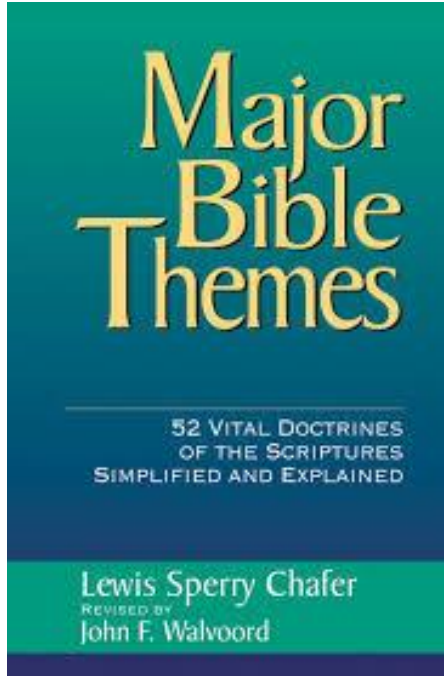


A. The New Heaven and Earth

B. General description of the New Jerusalem

C. Vision of the New Jerusalem

The next principle is to build a physical file cabinet



Mike Borland

What does the Bible teach about the New Heaven and Earth?

Chapter 52: New Heavens and Earth

Using Major Bible Themes write a study about the New Heaven and Earth

Understand The Outline



Chapter Fifty Two : The New Heavens and Earth

A. The **New** Heaven and Earth

Following the judgment of the great white throne and the destruction of the first heaven and the first earth, John writes, "I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away." The new heaven is not described at all, and all that is stated about the new earth is, "There was no more sea". The strange silence of Scripture on the appearance of both the new earth and the new heaven is nowhere explained. Instead our attention is directed immediately to the holy city of the new Jerusalem.

Understand The Outline



B. General description of the New Jerusalem

John records what he saw in these words: I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. The immediate problem that faces all interpreters is the meaning of what John saw. If one accepts the plain statement, John saw a holy city described as New

Jerusalem in contrast with the old earthly Jerusalem which had been destroyed when the earth was destroyed. The city is described as coming "from God out of heaven." It is most significant that the city is not said to be created, and it apparently was in existence during the preceding period of the millennial kingdom, possibly as a satellite city above the earth; as such, it may be the millennial home of the resurrected and translated saints.

Understand The Outline



It is quite clear from descriptions of the millennial earth that no city like the New Jerusalem was on earth itself. Some believe Christ was referring to the New Jerusalem when He declared in John 14:3, "I go and prepare a place for you." Here in Revelation the New Jerusalem is seen coming out of heaven, apparently destined to rest upon the new earth.

John further describes the city "as a bride adorned for her husband." Some have understood this is to be a reference to the church as a bride. However, as later revelation brings out, the New Jerusalem includes all the saints of all ages, and it is, therefore, preferable to consider this merely a descriptive phrase rather than a typical reference. The New Jerusalem is lovely, just as the bride adorned for her husband is lovely. Accordingly, while the city is a literal city, it is as lovely as the loveliness of a bride.

Understand The Outline



Although comparatively few passages in the Bible deal with the subject of the new heaven and the new earth, the truth is not introduced for the first time in Revelation. In Isaiah 65:17 God declared, "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." This verse occurs in a context of the millennial earth, and some feel it is referring to renewed Jerusalem in the millennium. However, it may be preferable to consider it as a reference to the New Jerusalem which will be on the new earth as seen in the background, while the renewed Jerusalem in the Millennium is seen in the foreground, as in Isaiah 65:18.

Understand The Outline



Another reference is in Isaiah 66:22, where it states, "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain." While the earthly Jerusalem is destroyed at the end of the Millennium, the New Jerusalem will remain forever just as the seed of Israel will remain forever.

In Throughout Scripture, it may be concluded that the new heaven and the new earth are considered the ultimate goal of history and the final resting place of the saints.

Understand The Outline



Having introduced the new heaven and the new earth and the New Jerusalem, John proceeds to describe their major characteristics in Revelation 21:3-8.

- 1) There God will dwell with men and will "be their God."
- 2) Sorrow and death and pain will be abolished
- 3) "For the former things are passed away"
- 4) "Behold, I make all things new."
- 5) "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son"

Understand The Outline



C. Vision of the New Jerusalem

In the description which follows, in Revelation 21, the New Jerusalem is declared to have:

- 1) "the glory of God"
- 2) light "like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal"
- 3) surrounded by a great wall over 200 feet high,
- 4) the city is brilliant with light "like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal"

Understand The Outline



5) twelve gates in the wall attended by twelve angels.

6) On the gates are the names of the twelve tribes of Israel

7)The city is square in shape and faces north, south, east and west

8)The wall rests upon twelve foundations which bear the names of the twelve apostles garnished with beautiful stones

9)The city is measured and found to be 12,000 furlongs or approximately 1,500 miles square, and it is equally high.

(This has raised the question as to whether the city is in the form of a cube or a pyramid. It probably is preferable to consider it a pyramid, as this explains how the river can flow down its sides as pictured in Revelation 22:1-2.)

Understand The Outline



- 10) All the materials of the city are translucent and permit light to pass through without hindrance.
- 11) The gates of the city are declared to be large, single pearls,
- 12) The street of the city is transparent, pure gold (v. 21).
- 13) The city has no temple because God dwells in it (v. 22)
- 14) has no need of sunlight or the moon or the stars, for the glory of God and the Lamb provides the light (v. 23).
- 15) The saved among the Gentiles ("the nations") walk in the light of the city and enter freely by the gates, which are not shut because "there shall be no night there" (v. 25).

Understand The Outline



16) The inhabitants of the city, according to this description, include the saints of all ages and an innumerable company of angels

17) "a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Rev. 22:1).

18) The tree of life bearing twelve kinds of fruit is described as being in the middle of the street of the city and on each side of the river and providing for the healing or the health of the nations (Rev. 22:2). If this is a description of the eternal state, the question has been raised why healing is necessary. The difficulty is resolved if the translation is accepted, "for the health of the nations." It may be that the fruit of the tree of life in addition to the water of life is the explanation of the endless existence of the bodies the saints will have in eternity.

Understand The Outline



19) "There shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him" (v. 3).

Although God has revealed to some extent to His people what "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither [what] have entered into the heart of man" (1 Cor. 2:9), there is undoubtedly much more that God will reveal to man in eternity. The half has not been told, and our great God will delight to the endless reaches of eternity to manifest his love and grace to those who have received Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

Step # Two

Read the Section and look up the passages



Chapter Fifty Two : The New Heavens and Earth

A. The **New** Heaven and Earth

Read Revelation 21:1-2

B. **General description** of the New Jerusalem

Some believe Christ was referring to the New Jerusalem in John 14

John 14:3 *"I go and pre pare a place for you."*

Isaiah referred to the New Heavens and Earth

Isaiah 65:17 God declared, *"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind."*

Isa 65:18 *But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.*

Isaiah 66:22 states, *"For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain."*

2 Peter 3:13 characterized as the place "*wherein dwelleth righteousness.*"

Read Revelation 21:3-8

C. **Vision** of the New Jerusalem

Read Revelation 21:9-27

Read Revelation 22:1-5

1 Cor. 2:9 "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither [what] have entered into the heart of man"

Step # Three

Memorize one Passage per section

Learn general and specific later.

- Highlight key words
- Understand difficult words and the meaning



Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



Step # Four Take the Test at the end of the chapter

Chapter Fifty Two : The New Heavens and Earth

1. What is revealed concerning the new heaven and the new earth?

Following the judgment of the great white throne and the destruction of the first heaven and the first earth, John writes, "I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away." The new heaven is not described at all, and all that is stated about the new earth is, "There was no more sea". The strange silence of Scripture on the appearance of both the new earth and the new heaven is nowhere explained. Instead our attention is directed immediately to the holy city of the new Jerusalem.

2. Why is the New Jerusalem described as a bride adorned for her husband?

To indicate the splendor of the City. Its construction is of jewels and gold like a bride.

3. What is the significance of the fact that the New Jerusalem is not said to be created at that time?

It is already in existence. **John 14:3** *"I go and prepare a place for you."*

4. How does this cast some light on the possibility that the New Jerusalem may be the home of resurrected and translated saints during the Millennium?

It apparently was in existence during the preceding period of the millennial kingdom, possibly as a satellite city above the earth; as such, it may be the millennial home of the resurrected and translated saints.

5. What do Isaiah 65: 17 and 66: 22 reveal concerning the new heavens and the new earth?

In Isaiah 65:17 God declared, "For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." This verse occurs in a context of the millennial earth, and some feel it is referring to renewed Jerusalem in the millennium. However, it may be preferable to consider it as a reference to the New Jerusalem which will be on the new earth as seen in the background, while the renewed Jerusalem in the Millennium is seen in the foreground, as in Isaiah 65:18.

Another reference is in Isaiah 66:22, where it states, "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain." While the earthly Jerusalem is destroyed at the end of the Millennium, the New Jerusalem will remain forever just as the seed of Israel will remain forever.

6. How does 2 Peter 3:13 characterize the new heavens and the new earth?

2 Peter 3:13 characterized as the place "*wherein dwelleth righteousness.*"

7. What are some of the principal characteristics of the new heaven and the new earth spiritually as revealed in Revelation 21:3-8?

1) There God will dwell with men and will "be their God."

2) Sorrow and death and pain will be abolished

3) "For the former things are passed away"

4) "Behold, I make all things new."

5) "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son"

8. What is the general picture of the New Jerusalem as John sees it in Revelation 21: 11?

1) "the glory of God"

2) light "like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal"

9. Describe the shape, wall, and gates of the New Jerusalem as seen by John.

1) surrounded by a great wall over 200 feet high,

2) twelve gates in the wall attended by twelve angels.

3) On the gates are the names of the twelve tribes of Israel

4) The city is square in shape and faces north, south, east and west

5) The wall rests upon twelve foundations which bear the names of the twelve apostles garnished with beautiful stones

6) The city is measured and found to be 12,000 furlongs or approximately 1,500 miles square, and it is equally high.

10. What evidence is there that Israel and the angels will be in the New Jerusalem?

The inhabitants of the city, according to this description, include the saints of all ages. Not only Israel and the Gentiles are mentioned, but also the twelve apostles who represent the church. This is in keeping with the description of Hebrews 12:22-24, which itemizes those in the New Jerusalem as including "an innumerable company of angels," "the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven," "God the Judge of all," "the spirits of just men made perfect," and "Jesus the mediator of the new covenant." From this it may be concluded that the church will be in the New Jerusalem, as well as "the spirits of just men made perfect" - referring to all the saints not included in the church, both Jews and Gentiles - and the angels, and Jesus as the Mediator of the new covenant.

11. What are the length, width, and height of the city?

The city is measured and found to be 12,000 furlongs or approximately 1,500 miles square, and it is equally high.

12. What possible explanation can be made of the shape of the city?

The city could be in the form of a cube or a pyramid. It probably is preferable to consider it a pyramid, as this explains how the river can flow down its sides as pictured in Revelation 22:1-2.)

13. What characterizes all the materials of the city, and how does this relate to its brilliance?

Every material is translucent and reflects light

14. Describe the breathtaking beauty of the precious stones of the foundation of the city.

The wall rests upon twelve foundations which bear the names of the twelve apostles garnished with beautiful stones

15. What is the significance of the names of the twelve apostles being on the foundation of the city?

Twelve apostles represent the church.

16. Why does the city have no temple and not need the light of the sun or the moon or the stars?

The Glory of God lights it

17. Are saved Gentiles also in the city?

The Gentile Nations will live outside but have access to the city and bring their glory unto it and are healed by the leaves of the tree of life

18. What evidence can be offered that all the saints of all the ages will be in the New Jerusalem?

The inhabitants of the city, according to this description, include the saints of all ages. Hebrews 12:22-24, which itemizes those in the New Jerusalem as including "an innumerable company of angels," "the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven," "God the Judge of all," "the spirits of just men made perfect," and "Jesus the mediator of the new covenant." From this it may be concluded that the church will be in the New Jerusalem, as well as "the spirits of just men made perfect" - referring to all the saints not included in the church, both Jews and Gentiles.

19. What does Hebrews 12:22-24 contribute to the identification of the inhabitants of the New Jerusalem?

Hebrews 12:22-24, which itemizes those in the New Jerusalem

20. How do the water of life and the tree of life possibly relate to the endless existence of the bodies of the saints in the New Jerusalem?

I believe that the leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations who are the millennial saints who are brought into the New Earth in a state similar to Adam and Eve and need the healing leaves and water for eternal life

21. What will the saints do in the New Jerusalem?

Serve and Worship Him

22. How do you account for the fact that apart from these closing chapters of the Book of Revelation there is little revelation of the eternal state in the Bible?

It is clear that the Bible is primarily intended to provide light for our present path. At the same time, a sufficient glimpse is given of the glory that is to come, to beckon us on in our life of faith. Undoubtedly there is much more to be revealed than the brief glimpses we have here in these concluding chapters of the Book of Revelation.

23. In the light of this Scripture, why is it so important to be sure one has been saved by faith in Christ?

Not every person will be found in heaven; that glory and bliss is for the redeemed. Redemption is absolutely dependent on a personal acceptance of the Redeemer. Such acceptance is a transaction most simple and yet so vital and conclusive that the trusting soul will be assured above all else that he is depending only on Christ for salvation.