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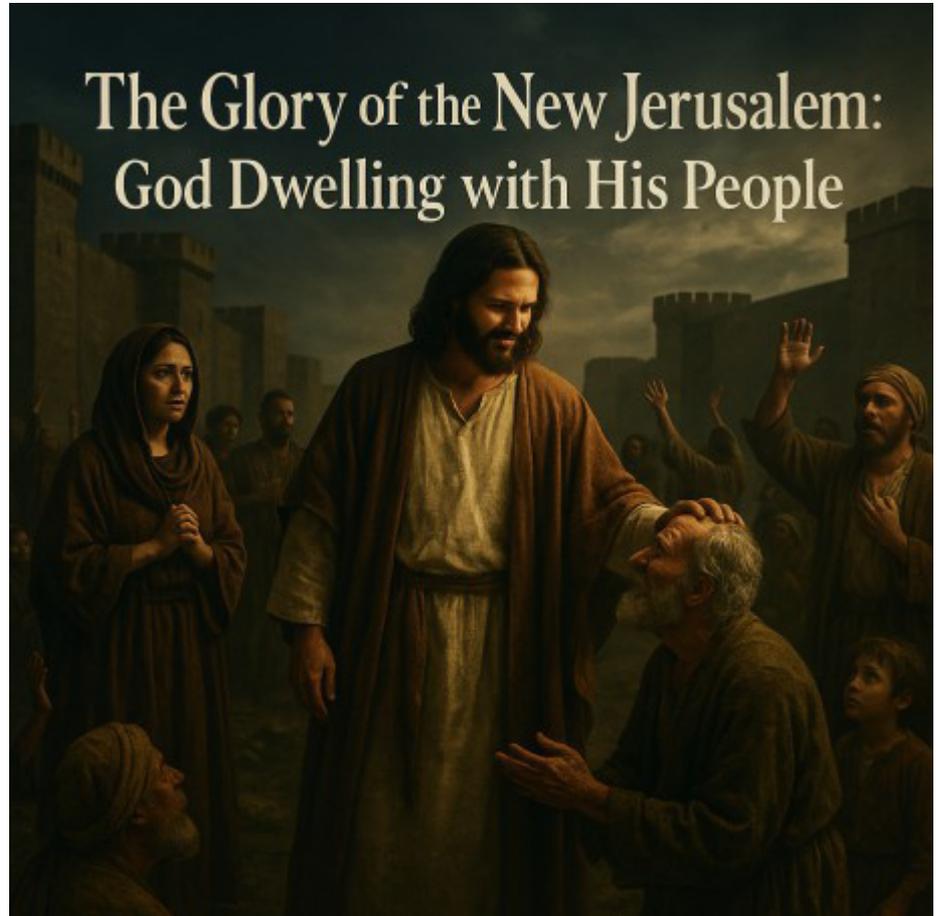
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The Glory of the New Jerusalem: God Dwelling with His People



By Dan Maines

The Glory of the New Jerusalem: God Dwelling with His People

Revelation 21:1-4; Isaiah 65:17-19; John 14:23; Ephesians 2:19-22

† The greatest moment in redemptive history is God Himself choosing to live with His people. The New Jerusalem isn't a physical city waiting to descend, it's the covenant reality of God's presence with His redeemed, fully unveiled after the Old

Covenant system passed away in AD 70.

† Revelation 21 shows a new heaven and a new earth, language drawn from Isaiah 65. This is covenantal: the old heaven and earth (the Mosaic system) passed, and the New Covenant creation stood alone.

† John hears, Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men. Paul echoes this in Ephesians 2:19-22: believers are the dwelling place of God through the Spirit.

† Jesus promised in John 14:23 that the Father and Son would make their dwelling with those who love Him. After the temple fell, nothing hindered that presence.

† Josephus recorded the temple's fiery end in AD 70, a visible sign that the old order was finished.

† Early church writers like Eusebius testified that the church flourished after the destruction, seeing God's promises as fulfilled.

† Ezekiel 37:27 declares, My dwelling place also will be with them; and I'll be their God, and they'll be My people, confirming that God's presence among His people was always His plan.

† Matthew 18:20 assures us, For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I'm there in their midst, reinforcing the reality of His dwelling.

† Hebrews 12:22-24 shows that believers have already come to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God, the true New Jerusalem fulfilled in Christ.

† Early testimonies such as Clement of Rome and the Didache also recognized that the destruction of the temple signaled the end of the old order and the full arrival of God's New Covenant

dwelling with His people.

† Leviticus 26:11-12 says, Moreover, I will make My dwelling among you, and My soul will not reject you. I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people, showing God's plan from the very beginning.

† Zechariah 2:10-11 proclaims, Sing for joy and be glad, O daughter of Zion; for behold I am coming and I will dwell in your midst, declares the Lord, directly anticipating Revelation 21.

† 2 Corinthians 6:16 reminds us, For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people, confirming the church as God's temple.

† Colossians 1:27 declares, Christ in you, the hope of glory, a powerful statement of God's present indwelling.

† Philo of Alexandria often described God dwelling with the righteous, another Jewish voice of the era that echoes this covenant presence.

† The Dead Sea Scrolls community anticipated God's coming to dwell with His people, setting a historical backdrop showing how first-century Jews longed for what was fulfilled in Christ.

How it applies to us today

† We live now as citizens of the New Jerusalem. God's dwelling isn't a future hope, it's our present reality.

† Our worship isn't tied to a place but to a Person. Wherever believers gather, the city of God is alive.

† This truth gives unshakable confidence, no earthly crisis can remove His presence from His people.

† His presence means our prayers reach Him directly, no temple veil stands between us and the Father.

† Every act of love and service reflects the New Jerusalem now

shining in the world.

† Prayer and fellowship are active experiences of the New Jerusalem as God dwells with His people now.

† Every act of reconciliation and love in the church today is a visible sign of God dwelling with His people.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

† Revelation 21:1-4; Isaiah 65:17-19; John 14:23; Ephesians 2:19-22; Ezekiel 37:27; Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 12:22-24; Leviticus 26:11-12; Zechariah 2:10-11; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Colossians 1:27

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews 6.4-6

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5

† Clement of Rome, 1 Clement

† The Didache

† Philo of Alexandria

† Dead Sea Scrolls

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