

THE NEW JERUSALEM AND THE BOOK OF LIFE

Given by Bro. George Tabac
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It took over four thousand years of blood, sweat and tears by countless faithful servants of God to bring us the Holy Bible. They were inspired by God to record history, to prophecy of events thousands of years in the future, to instruct us, to inspire us, to motivate us with the knowledge of his wonderful character, and his plans and purposes for us and all mankind.

When God's work was almost finished, we can envision our glorified Lord and Heavenly Father sitting down conversing together, as to just how they should end their book. They wanted it to give a recap of what the entire bible's message was all about. They wanted to prove its authenticity by showing things that only the creator of the universe could have known. They wanted its ending to be especially inspirational.

Today we will study what our Lord and Father finally decided on. The last vision of the bible is "The New Jerusalem." It truly is a Divine Masterpiece that accomplished all they intended.

We would like to begin our study by considering an overview of the beautiful symbols of the New Jerusalem picture in the last two chapters of Revelation. In this overview we will endeavor to show how the New Jerusalem is a symbolic picture of the gradual processes of the Kingdom work.

Many aspects will show how mankind will be raised from the tomb outside the city, will have to make a consecration to enter the city, where they will then have the opportunity of gradually walking up the highway of holiness.

In this study however, we came across one scripture that **seems at first reading**, to give the thought of finality.

Re 21:27

And there shall in no wise **ENTER INTO IT** any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: **but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.**

As you can see it seems to imply that the New Jerusalem is a completed picture. That the only ones who enter the city are those who have their names written in the book of life.

In our study we hope to harmonize this scripture with the thought that entering the New Jerusalem is not a final picture, but rather it depicts the **gradual process** of walking up the highway of holiness unto perfection.

As we consider some of the details of the New Jerusalem we trust it will strengthen your faith as it has mine. Higher Critics would have us believe the Bible was nothing but myths written by scheming men, that there is no God, nor any such thing as Divine Inspiration.

But as we review the architectural and mathematical details of this magnificent pictorial structure notice how it would be absolutely impossible to design it without Divine Inspiration.

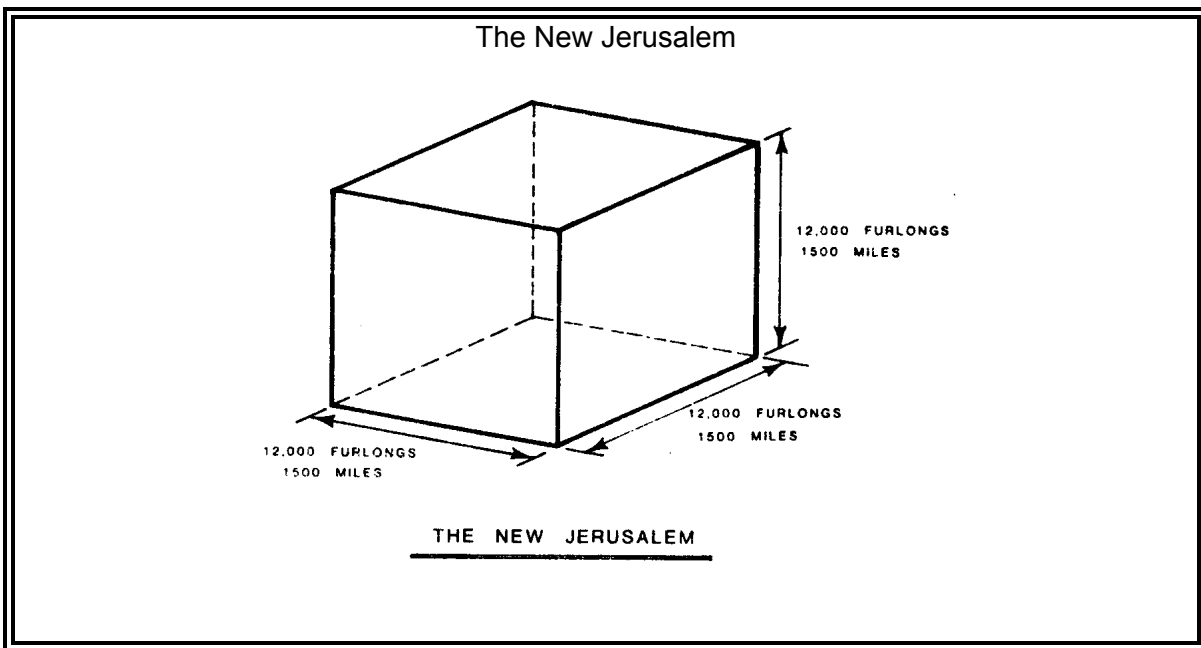
For it corroborates the entire bible's prophetic teaching regarding God's plan for the Church's salvation, that of mankind's in the Millennium, as well as how it ties in the dimensions of the sun, earth and moon, which would have been impossible to know thousands of years ago, except by the ones who created them.

Our symbol begins with:

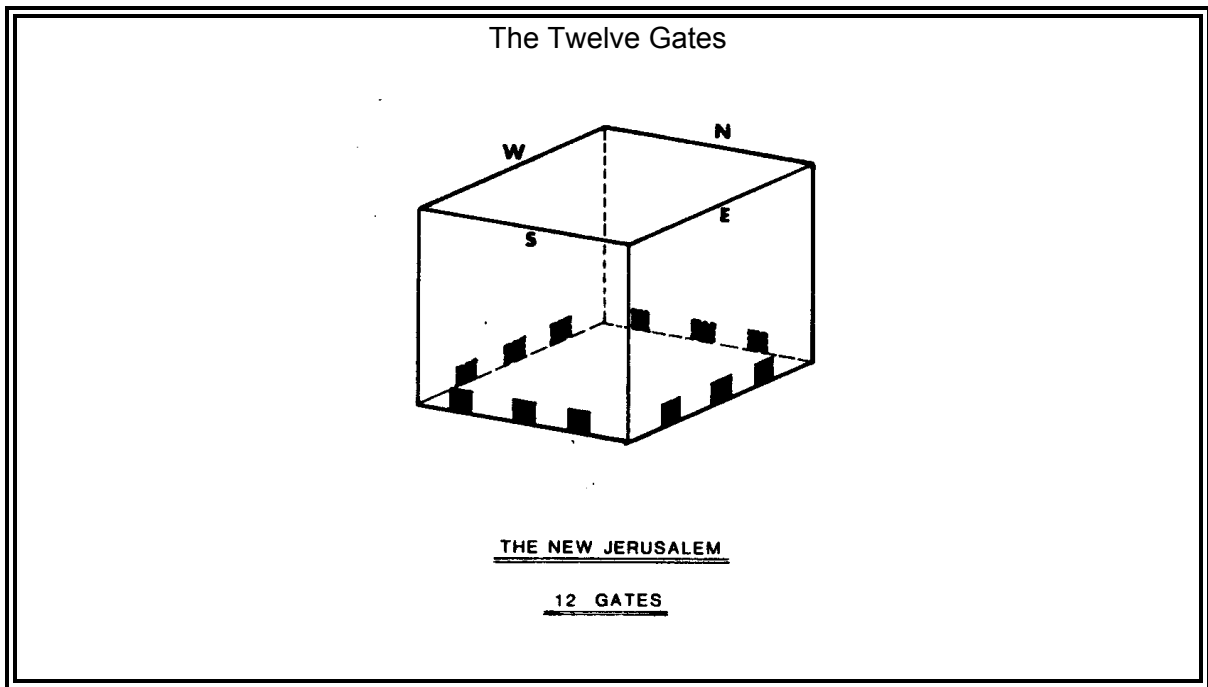
Re 21:1,2
And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the **first heaven and the first earth were passed away**; ...And I John saw the holy city, **new Jerusalem**, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

The setting for the New Jerusalem is **after Armageddon**, when the present Ecclesiastical Heavens, and the evil social Structure of earth have passed away.

The New Jerusalem is actually a picture of the Kingdom overall. It begins with the heavenly phase, of Jesus with his Church becoming the spiritual government. And when the Heavens class is complete, the New Jerusalem symbolically comes down from heaven, to picture the beginning of the earthly phase of the kingdom.



Verse 21:16 tells us what the New Jerusalem looked like. It was a perfect cube with dimensions of the length, width, and height, all being equal, 12,000 furlongs each, or as we will soon see 1500 miles.



Verses 21:12,13 tell us it had a great and high wall with 12 gates, three on each side facing the four points of the compass.

Verses 14, & 17 tell us the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, and the wall was 144 cubits.

But as we look at our city, you wonder why would you have to put 12 foundations under a wall that goes around the city? And what does the wall being 144 cubits mean?

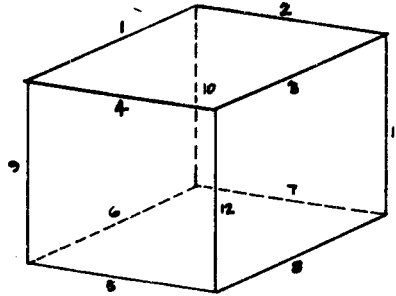
WE believe the 144-cubit wall refers to the walls THICKNESS – NOT IT'S HEIGHT, - and that the WALL COMPLETELY SURROUNDS THE New Jerusalem. Not only is there a wall on four SIDES, but there's a wall on TOP AND BOTTOM as well.

But the question might be asked, why have walls all around including top and bottom?

We recall walls in Old Testament times were built for the safety and protections of all inhabitants inside. The same is true for the New Jerusalem. But to enforce the picture we have walls even on top and bottom to show us these walls will provide absolute total perfect protection, even from spirit beings.

These walls picture the Church as all-powerful Divine Spirit beings that will keep all enemies restrained or bound, so they could not hurt those within.

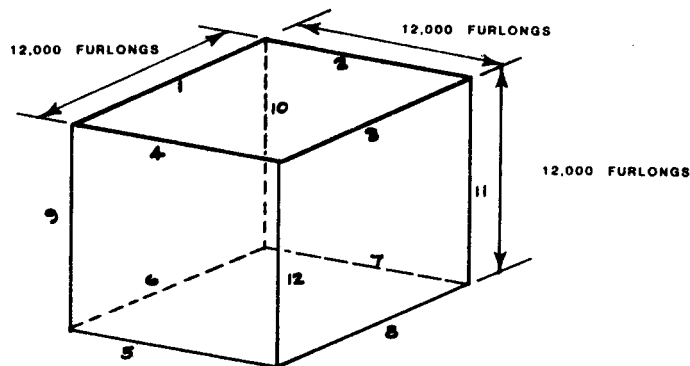
12 Foundations – 12 Apostles



12 FOUNDATIONS = 12 APOSTLES

Having seen the wall completely surrounds the New Jerusalem including top and Bottom, we can more easily see what the wall having 12 foundations means. Note how there are 12 edges to the cube. On top 4, - on the bottom 4 and four upright edges.

Twelve edges which surround and holds together the cube. Beautifully showing us how indeed the 12 apostles are the foundations upon which the walls (which picture the Church) are built and held together.)



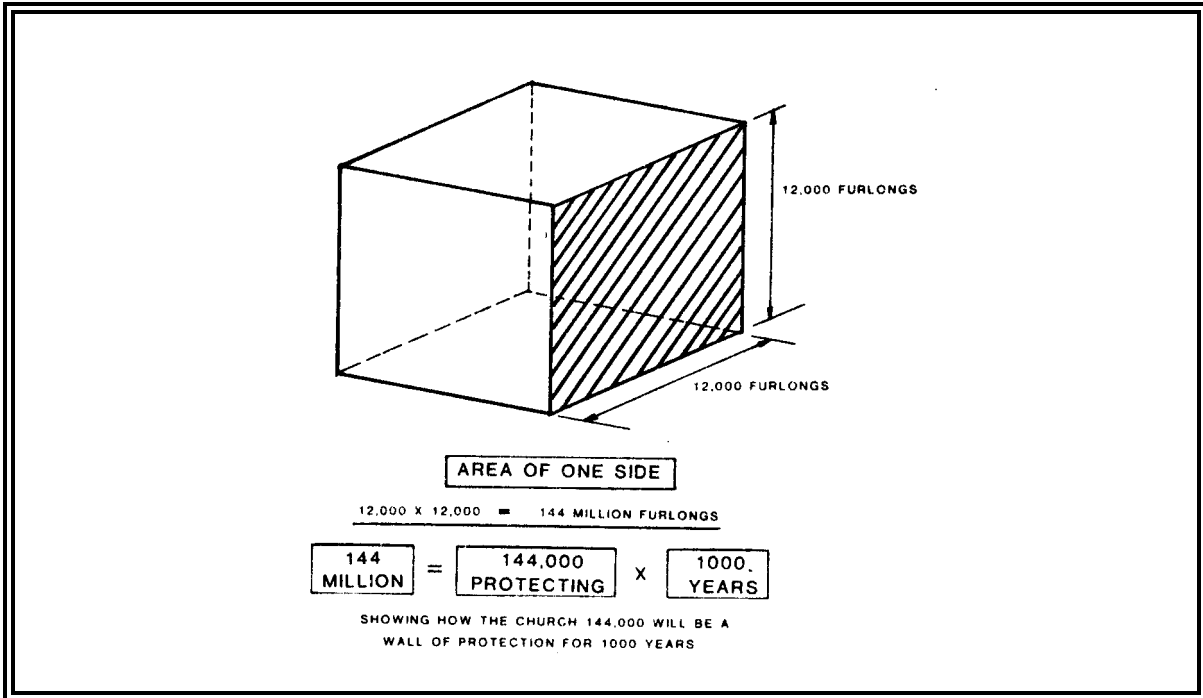
12 FOUNDATIONS X 12000 FURLONGS EACH = 144,000

SHOWS HOW CHURCH OF 144,000 WILL CIRCUMSCRIBE THE CITY

Continuing on, we recall from verse 16 that the city was a perfect cube, with 12,000 furlongs being the length, - the breath, - and the height.

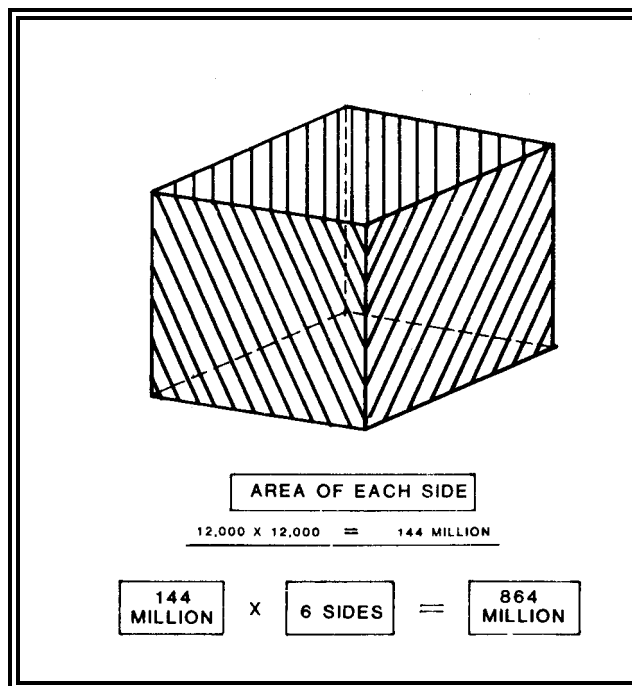
Realizing there are these 12 edges to the cube, picturing the 12 foundations, and each of these edges are 12,000 furlongs in length we have a beautiful picture of the entire Church.

12 foundations or edges, multiplied by 12,000 furlongs in length = equals 144,000. It shows us how the Church class of 144,000 will completely surround the city and be a wall of protection to those inside.



Let's now look at the area of one wall of this New Jerusalem. It's 12,000 by 12,000 furlongs. So we multiply 12,000 by 12,000, and we get 144 million Furlongs.

What does the 144 million picture? = Multiplying 144,000 x 1000 years gives you 144 million. Thus picturing how the Church of 144,000 will be a wall of protection for the 1000 years of the Millennial Kingdom.

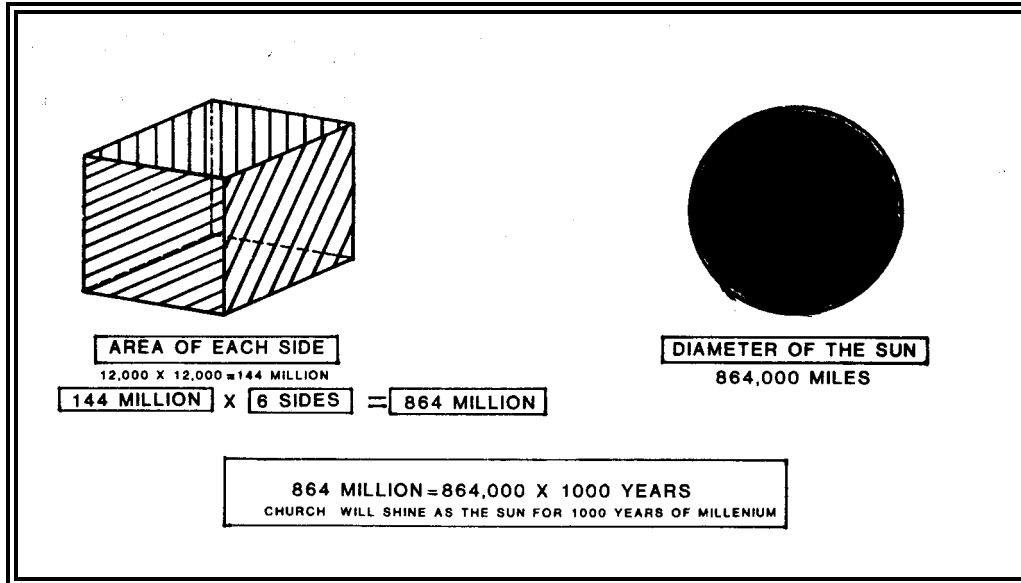


The symbol continues to teach us what could only have been known to the Creator of the Universe when this vision was given.

We saw how the area of one wall of the cube was 144 million. So now lets notice the area of the overall 6 walls of the city. Four sides, top, and bottom.

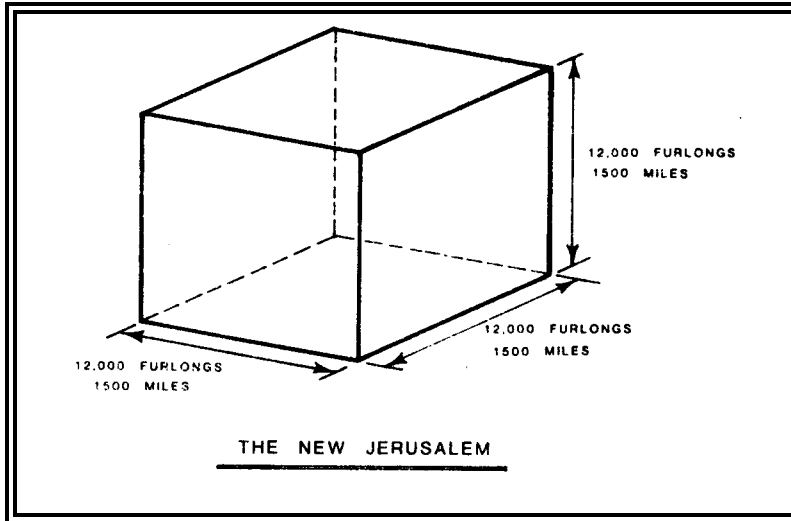
If one wall was 144 million we multiply by 6 to get the overall area of 6 sides, which gives us 864 million furlongs. What would that number picture? Recall the scripture in:

Mt 13:43
Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.



Now notice the diameter of the sun. It's 864,000 miles. So we have another correlation. The New Jerusalem with it's area of 864 million furlongs, equals, = the suns diameter 864,000 miles multiplied by 1000 years. A picture of how the Church (who are the walls of this city,) will SHINE as the SUN, to enlighten and protect all within the city for a 1000 years of the Kingdom.

Proceeding further we'd like to go on to show how the New Jerusalem measurements in addition to correlating with the sun, - amazingly correlates with the size of the earth as well.



Remember the New Jerusalem is a cube of 12,000 furlongs. How long is a furlong?

Smiths Bible Dictionary

1 Furlong = 220 yards x 3 feet to yard = 660 Feet
 12,000 furlongs x 660 feet = 7,920 thousand Feet

Smiths Bible Dictionary tells us one furlong equals 220 yards. Thus if we multiply 220 yards x 3 feet to the yard, - we get 1 furlong equals 660 feet.

Thus 12,000 furlongs x 660 feet = 7920 thousand feet.

Another corroboration of the length of a furlong is from the:

New American Standard Bible

1500 miles x 5280 feet to a mile = 7,920 thousand feet

The New American Standard bible translates 12,000 furlongs directly into 1500 miles. Thus: 1500 miles x 5280 feet to a mile = 7,920, thousand feet. What does that number picture?

Diameter of Earth = 7920 Miles
 New Jerusalem = 7920 Thousand Feet

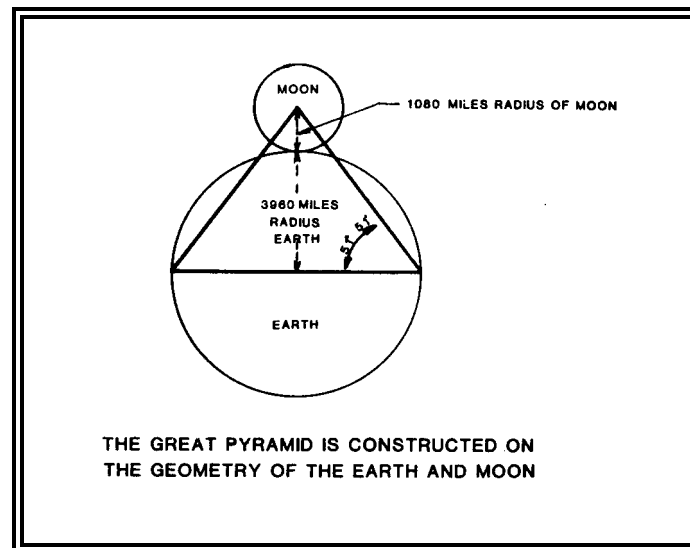
Now please note the diameter of the earth is 7,920 Miles.
 The New Jerusalem is 7920 Thousand Feet.

We stand in awe as we behold the work of the Great Architect of the Universe who designed and created our earth and sun. Then he proceeds to give us the New Jerusalem picture with measurements that correlate exactly with the dimensions of earth and sun.

Only our great God and creator knew these dimensions thousands of years ago when the bible was written. He gave them to us strengthen our faith, and to show us that this beautiful picture of the New Jerusalem was designed by him.

That this last symbol in the bible, the New Jerusalem, is His final way of telling us that everything he gave us in the bible is **TRUE**. It will be fulfilled! The Church will indeed shine as the sun! He will indeed bless all the families of the earth in "The New Jerusalem."

Brethren we are not following cunningly devised fables, as men would have us believe. No we have this symbolic city with it's inspired dimensions as well as countless other fulfilled prophecies that prove to us beyond any shadow of doubt our God exists and inspired the writing of the Holy Bible.



One other incidental point that thrills me is regarding the great pyramid. As we will see it too was constructed with the commensurate measurements of the earth, the moon and the New Jerusalem.

Let's imagine we place the moon so that it just touches our earth. Then envision building a great pyramid which would have the earth's diameter as its base, - and the center of the moon as its top.

The height of the pyramid would then be the radius of the earth, 3,920 miles, plus the radius of the moon, - 1,080 miles.

With a pyramid this size, we would find the angle formed by the sides meeting the base would be 51 degrees and 51 minutes. This conforms exactly with the geometry of the Great Pyramid of Gizeh in Egypt which we know is also another symbolic structure who's measurements symbolize God's Plan as well as it's chronology.

Truly it is thrilling to consider how our Lord had all these figures hidden in his word to strengthen our faith to see that He who designed and created our earth, moon and sun, is the same one who revealed His plan and promises to us in symbolic form in His Holy Word.

Now we'd like to go on to consider how the New Jerusalem picture illustrates the progressive steps that will be necessary for all to take in the kingdom in order to receive everlasting life.

When mankind are gradually raised from the tomb we are told their reawakening will be outside the city where they will hear a call from Jesus and the Church.

Re 22:17

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

This shows for anyone to receive life they must come to the point where they have a thirst or desire to do right, to want to partake of the water of life. They will hear this call when they are outside the city walls.

The water of life is inside the New Jerusalem. The only way one could enter into this city is through the gates which we will see picture consecration to righteousness.

As we read in:

Re 22:14 NAS

Blessed are those who **WASH THEIR ROBES**, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.

Notice one must do something before they can enter the city. They must wash their robes. Their robes here are referring to their own unclean condition. Their condition of heart must be washed and cleansed before they can enter. Somewhat similar to the Tabernacle picture, where the priests had to wash at the laver before they could enter the Holy.

Thus before one can have right to the trees of life by entering through the gates into the city they must repent, wash themselves and make a consecration to righteousness.

To further indicate the gates picture consecration lets notice some of the details regarding the gates:

Rev. 21:21 NAS

And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a **SINGLE PEARL**.

Each gate was a pearl. Reminding us of:

Mt 13:45, 46

The kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls. Who, when he had **found one pearl of great price**, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

The primary lesson in this verse is to the Church. The Church sees the pearl as the High Calling to everlasting Immortality, and we give our all in full complete consecration for that pearl of great price.

In a similar way, mankind will hear a call, an invitation to enter through this gate of pearl, which they will see however pictures the opportunity to gain perfect everlasting **human life**. Those rightly exercised will give of their all in a consecration to righteousness.

Other details of the gates is given in:

Re 21:12, 21 NAS

It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates **TWELVE ANGELS**; and names were written on them, which are the names of the **TWELVE TRIBES OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL**.

We note that at each gate there is an angel or messenger. We believe these messengers picture the Ancient Worthies. They will be the earthly instrumentalities for conveying the knowledge of what will be required to enter the city.

In addition we notice the names of the 12 tribes of Israel are on the gates. Showing us how everyone who enters through the Gates will become an Israelite. That is, through consecration they will enter into Covenant relationship with God under the New Covenant, becoming Israelites Indeed.

The gates into the city we're told will never be shut.

Re 21:25 NIV

On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there.

Yes the nighttime of sin and death will be over. The Church will be shining as the sun, and the opportunity to enter through the gates into covenant relationship will be open to all throughout the Kingdom.

Next we would like to notice, that entering through the gates into the city pictures the start of walking up the Highway Of Holiness.

Re 21:21 Rothham

The twelve gates, were twelve pearls,— each one of the gates, severally, was of one pearl; and, the **BROADWAY** of the city, was pure gold, as transparent glass.

King James translation hides the true meaning of this verse. It merely refers to the street of the city. But that's not the meaning of the Greek. Notice here it's a **BROADWAY!** It's referring to the beautiful Highway Of Holiness of Isaiah 35. This is what each of the gates into the New Jerusalem opens up to, the Broadway, or Highway Of Holiness. Now notice what is in the middle of the Highway of Holiness

Re 22:1, 2 Rothham

And he pointed out to me a **RIVER OF WATER OF LIFE**, bright as crystal, issuing forth out of the throne of God and of the Lamb, **IN THE MIDST OF THE BROADWAY THEREOF**.

What a beautiful picture. Down the middle of the Broadway or Highway of Holiness will be the grandest river that ever flowed on the face of the earth, - a river of water of life coming from the throne of God and the lamb.

Map - River From Jerusalem To The Dead Sea

This is the same river we read of in Ezekiel 47, where the water comes out of the Temple, (being a picture of the Throne of God and the Lamb,) – it goes out of the East gate, to the Dead Sea. We realize the Dead Sea is a picture of mankind in the tomb of death. All of who will be raised from the dead, for we're told that everything the river touches will receive life.

But just being raised to life in the kingdom will not in itself give eternal life. No, to gain that life, one must go to the source of that water in the New Jerusalem. They must make a consecration, - enter in through the gates, start walking up the Highway, and then partake further of the fruit from the trees of life on each side of the river. As we read further in:

Rev. 22:2 NAS

On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing **twelve kinds of fruit**, yielding its fruit **every month**; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Rothrham footnote: "Based on Eze. 47:7 where it refers to very many trees, here, tree may be Generic."

In keeping with Rothrham's footnote, we notice in addition it says, "On either side of the river was the tree of life, (singular.) If you have a tree on **both** sides of the river, you have to have more than one tree. Thus "TREE" must be generic. This really implies "Trees of life" on both sides of the river, as it is Ezekiel 47 where it refers to very many trees.

These trees of life are another picture of the Church. Notice how they bring forth 12 kinds of fruit every month.

144,000 TREES	x	12 FRUIT	x	12 MONTHS	x	1000 YEARS	=	20,736,000,000 POSSIBLE NUMBER WHO WILL BE HEALED
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So if we were to put this into equation form, what we would have is 144,000 trees x 12 fruit x 12 months for each of the 1000 years of the kingdom. And if we multiply them together we come up with a number of 20 billion, 7 hundred thirty six million.

We wouldn't want to be dogmatic brethren, but possibly that might indicate, that each of the fruit that the Church bring forth, would picture one member of the human family who will ultimately receive eternal life.

20,736,000,000 = 144,00 x 144,000
Possibly thus indicating each member of the Church
would heal or give life to 144,000 of Mankind.

Incidentally, that number 20,736,000,000 is the same as 144,000 times 144,000. Possibly thus indicating each member of the Church would heal or give life to 144,000 of mankind, nurturing them to everlasting life.

The Book Of Life

Having thus seen how this New Jerusalem picture beautifully depicts the gradual process of the Kingdom work, we come back to the one scripture we mentioned in the beginning.

(Don't read)

Re 21:27

And there shall in no wise **ENTER INTO IT** (that is the New Jerusalem) any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are **written in the Lamb's book of life.**

which seems to imply that the New Jerusalem is a final completed picture rather than a progressive one.

For it says that no one can enter the city except those who have their names written in the Lamb's book of life.

How can we harmonize this scripture?

To find the answer, we'll examine the scriptures that refer to "The Book Of Life" to identify exactly what it is, and when one's name is written in it.

Over the years Bible commentators have questioned as to whether there is one book of life or two. The reason being is there are references to Jehovah's book of life, and there are others that refer to the Lamb's book of life. Could the answer be, that one book possibly refers to those who will receive spiritual life, and the other book to those who will receive human life?

The answer is no.

For we find BOTH books of life, that of Jehovah's as well as the Lamb's, contain references to Both those who receive Spiritual Life, as well as those who receive Earthly Life.

Then what is the difference between the two?

I don't believe there's any difference. But rather they both are referring to the same book of life, just using **different names.**

Mostly it's referred to as God's or Jehovah's book of life because he is the author, the great first cause. At other times it is referred to as the Lamb's book of life, because his ransom sacrifice is what made all life possible, whether spiritual or human.

In addition, we believe God gave Jesus the oversight of keeping the record of who is written into this book. Hence it's at times called God's book of life, and other times, the Lamb's book of life.

However though we believe there is only one book of life, we see how it will have 4 chapters each referring to a different form of life.

Jehovah's and the Lamb's One Book Of Life

Chapter 1 = Divine Immortal Life for the Church

Chapter 2 = Spiritual Life for the Great Company

Chapter 3 = Human then Spiritual Life for the Ancient Worthies

Chapter 4 = Human Life for the Faithful of Mankind

Thus the one book of life when complete will be a permanent record for future creations, of how God's great love provided a way to give everlasting LIFE to billions from planet earth.

One of the references to this singular book of life in the Old Testament is Dan. 12:1, where it refers to **everyone** who will ever be written in the book of life whether **spiritual or human, and notice they are all written in one book.**

Dan. 12:1-3

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found **WRITTEN IN THE BOOK.** And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.

Notice how it refers to the entire time of our Lord's reign, the time that Michael stands up or assumes control of earth's affairs. It will begin with his 2nd presence and a time of trouble, but continues till the end of the "Little Season."

For notice during this time when Michael stands up, the dead are awakened, and then judged, and **everyone ultimately found written in the book**, (that is the "Book of Life,") will be delivered. Another way of saying will have received their eternal salvation.

It will include the Church, the Great Company, the Ancient Worthies, Israel (here referred to as Daniel's people,) and all mankind who will pass their final test.

In addition notice all these are referred to as written in "**THE BOOK,**" **ONE** book singular. Showing there is only **ONE** book of life not two, in which all names will be recorded, but as we will see they will be in different chapters.

As Bro. Russell brings out in Vol. 3 - page 62 in referring to these verses of Dan.12:1-3

“All found written in the **Lamb’s Book of Life** will be delivered forever, from all enemies: those written as worthy during the Jewish and Patriarchal ages as well as those written during the Gospel Age, and those who will be written during the Millennial Age.”

Another Old Testament reference to this book, but under a different name is in Mal. 3:16,17

Mal 3:16,17

16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a **book of remembrance** was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

A beautiful scripture assuring us of how God records in his book of remembrance, (that is, his book of life,) all those who truly reverence him and will thus become his precious Jewels.

The **first** reference to the book of life in the Old Testament is in Ex. 32:31,32 referring to one who was written in the Jewish Age. The setting is after Israel made and worshipped the Golden Calf. God wants to destroy Israel and make a great nation out of Moses. Moses pleads with God not to destroy the people.

Ex 32:31,32

And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, **BLOT ME, I PRAY THEE, OUT OF THY BOOK WHICH THOU HAST WRITTEN.**

This reference we believe helps to show us that God was recording throughout the ages all those who proved faithful to him, in His Book of Life. Moses here being written in the chapter called Ancient Worthies.

When we come to the New Testament we find 7 references to the book of life in Revelation, and one in Philippians 4:3

Php. 4:3

And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and [with] other my fellow labourers, whose names are in the **BOOK OF LIFE.**

Paul is telling us here, how he considered these brethren as having their names written in the book of life.

Now we’d like to come back to our scripture about those who enter the New Jerusalem.

(Don't read)

Re 21:27

And there shall in no wise **ENTER INTO IT** (that is the New Jerusalem) any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Previously we saw how entering the New Jerusalem pictured **starting the progressive journey up the highway of holiness**. This scripture says the only ones who enter are those who's names are written in the book of life, seeming to imply they have already passed their final test.

The harmonization is found in Rev. 3:4 & 5 where speaking of the true Church it says:

Rev. 3:4,5

4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and **I WILL NOT BLOT OUT HIS NAME OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE**, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Notice it's referring to those who made their calling and election sure. They didn't defile their garments, they were worthy. Those who overcome will be clothed in white raiments, picturing that they will no longer just be **covered** with the robe of Christ's imputed righteousness, but will have their **own garments of actual perfection**.

But then notice further what it says about them, **I WILL NOT BLOT OUT HIS NAME OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE!**

What this implies is that when ones name is first written in the book of life, it's only written tentatively, in pencil as it were. Whether it remains in the book, being permanently written in ink depends on being faithful unto death, if not, their name can be erased, or as this scripture brings out they can be **blotted out**.

One's name is first written in the book of life at the time of consecration and spirit begettal.

As Bro. Russell brings out in Harvest Gleanings 2 – Page 69.

Harvest Gleanings 2 – Page 69

“Our names are thus figuratively written in the book of life, in the book of God's remembrance, from the moment we exercise the proper obedient faith in Christ and make our consecration to walk in His steps; but unfaithfulness on our part would cause **OUR NAMES TO BE BLOTTED OUT OF THIS BOOK.**”

Thus we see our names are written in the book at the time of our consecration signifying we have become probationary members of God's family, and a crown is assigned to us. But just as we can lose our crown for unfaithfulness, so in like manner our name can be blotted out from the book of Life.

The chapter of the book of life now open, is for spiritual life only as we read in:

“With the end of this age **THIS BOOK OF LIFE WILL BE PERMANENTLY CLOSED**, for the call of this Gospel Age is a spiritual call, a heavenly calling,...to life everlasting on a spirit plane and not as human beings.”

But after the close of this age a new book of life will be opened, or we could say a new chapter in the one book of life will be opened. As Rev. 20:12 brings out.

Re 20:12

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and **ANOTHER BOOK WAS OPENED, WHICH IS THE BOOK OF LIFE**: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their **WORKS**.

We see this is referring to the reawakening from the dead all of mankind, (the small and the great,) in the kingdom.

Then we're told the books (plural) will be opened. That is it's referring to the books of the bible being made clear in understanding to all. Then in this kingdom time we're told another book of life will be opened. That is, a new opportunity for **perfect human life** will be opened, a life where they will be judged by **WORKS**, not by faith, as the Church is judged now.

The opportunity to begin on this pathway to life, takes place when one enters through the gates into the New Jerusalem as we read earlier.

Re 22:14 NAS

Blessed are those who **WASH THEIR ROBES**, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.

They must wash, cleanse, in other words consecrate themselves before they could enter into the city, and start walking up the highway of holiness. Bearing this in mind we come back to Rev. 21:27 that we still need to harmonize.

Re 21:27

And there shall in no wise **ENTER INTO IT** (that is the New Jerusalem) any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: **BUT THEY WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE**.

The first part is in perfect harmony with the progressive picture. No one can enter the New Jerusalem who's defiled, or unclean. They must first cleanse and consecrate themselves to righteousness.

The harmony of the last part (that no one could enter but they which are written in the book of life,) is to apply the same principal that applied to being written in the book of **spiritual life**. Which is, their name **is written when they consecrate and enter through the gates**, but it is only tentative, it could still be blotted out.

We might want to think of an analogy. Just as no one could enter the Holy of the tabernacle until they have made a consecration, similarly no one could enter the city of the New Jerusalem and go on the Highway of Holiness, until they have made a consecration.

Similarly, the time ones name is written into the book of **Spiritual** life is when they enter the Holy after consecration, so in like manner ones name is written in the book of **human** life when they enter the New Jerusalem at consecration.

In both cases no one defiled can enter. They must first repent, wash, or cleanse themselves, then make a consecration before they will be allowed to enter either the Holy or The New Jerusalem.

In both cases, after one has thus consecrated, they enter into covenant relationship with God, and their names are tentatively written in the book of life.

But again the names are written only in pencil, they could still be blotted out if they prove unfaithful.

Even as we read in Harvest Gleanings 2- Page 70 speaking of the kingdom time:

Harvest Gleanings 2- Page 70.

“During that time of testing and proving another book of life will be opened...All those who under those conditions pledge themselves to obedience to the Lord and His kingdom of righteousness will have their names written in that book of life. For the entire thousand years to it’s very close, those names may remain written, and **will not be blotted out except through a direct violation in letter and in spirit of the contract under which the names were written.**”

Notice how the last three verses of the Bible confirm this.

Re 22:19-21

And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part **OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE, AND OUT OF THE HOLY CITY**, and from the things which are written in this book. He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

The thought of “if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy,” seems to imply full willful sin, completely disregarding the principals and teachings of God.

The consequences of full willful sin for either those who enter the holy of the tabernacle in the Gospel Age, or the New Jerusalem in the kingdom, will be similar, 2nd death.

For fully willful sinners of the Gospel Age, they will be blotted out of the book of **spiritual life**, and will have no part in the spiritual government of the New Jerusalem.

For those of the Messianic age who become full willful sinners, they will be blotted out of the book of **human life**, and will be taken out of the HOLY CITY, the New Jerusalem.

Their ultimate destiny is described in:

Re 20:15

Whosoever was **NOT FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE** was cast into the lake of fire.

This reference to those NOT found written in the book of life, is referring to the **completed picture, when the book of life is finished**. All who will not be permanently written in will be cast into the lake of fire, that is, eternally destroyed.

But for all the remaining faithful we're told:

REV. 22:5

"THEY SHALL REIGN FOR EVER AND EVER."

Yes, mankind will now have **dominion over all the earth as kings**, and indeed they shall go on to reign forever and ever, throughout the billions of years of eternity, as perfect human beings, in joyful, direct covenant relationship with God.

Thus we see how our Lord and our Heavenly Father decided to end their Holy Book. It truly is an inspirational Divine Masterpiece.

In one vision, it summarizes what the bible is all about, the method by which man, once fallen, can ultimately go on to be written in The Book of Eternal life, either spiritual or human.

It proves the bible's overall authenticity, with mathematics only the creator could know.

And we trust, it will strengthen and inspire our faith, to try even harder, to pull out all the stops as it were, that we may fulfill our consecrations faithfully.