

A Colossal City in Space

The image is a vibrant, futuristic illustration. In the center, a glowing, golden city with tall spires and a central tower sits atop a circular space station. The station has a brown, metallic rim with red lights. The city is set against a backdrop of a large, orange and yellow ringed planet, similar to Saturn, which is partially obscured by the station. To the right, the Earth is visible as a small blue and white sphere. In the lower left, the planet Jupiter is shown with its characteristic bands. The background is a dark blue space filled with stars and a faint grid pattern. The title 'A Colossal City in Space' is written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font in the upper left corner.

Amazing Facts
Study Guide

Amazing Facts Study Guide 4 - A Colossal City in Space

Talk about a great city! New York, Tokyo, and London are nothing in comparison! Just wait until you grasp the amazing facts about this gigantic city that can travel through space. It's all fact, not science fiction! The information in this Study Guide will thrill your soul and give you hope for the future.

1. Who is the architect and builder of this space city?

"Wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." Hebrews 11:16.

Answer: The Bible declares that God is building a great city for His people. And this city is as real and literal as any you have ever known.

2. Where is this amazing city that God is preparing?

"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven." Revelation 21:2. "O Lord my God ... hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place." 1 Kings 8:28-30.

Answer: This great city that is being constructed is, at this moment, in far outer space in God's dwelling place, which is called heaven.

3. How do the Scriptures describe this amazing space city?

Answer:

(A) SIZE

"The city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs." Revelation 21:16. The city is perfectly square. Its perimeter is 12,000 furlongs, or 1,500 miles (a furlong is 1/8 mile). It is 375 miles long on each side.

(B) NAME

The city is called "new Jerusalem" in Revelation 21:2.



(C) WALLS

"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits. ... And the building of the wall of it was of jasper." Revelation 21:17, 18. A wall 144 cubits, or 216 feet high (a cubit is 18 inches), surrounds the city. The wall is made of solid jasper, with radiance and beauty beyond description. Think of it! Nearly 20 stories high and solid jasper!

The city's jasper walls are nearly 20 stories tall.

(D) GATES

"And had twelve gates ... On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates." And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl." Revelation 21:12, 13, 21. The city has 12 gates—three on each side—each one made of a single pearl.



Each city gate is made of one solid pearl.

(E) FOUNDATIONS

"The wall of the city had twelve foundations ... garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst." Revelation 21:14-20. The city has 12 full, complete foundations—each one made of precious stone. Every color of the rainbow will be represented, so at a distance the city will no doubt appear to be resting upon a rainbow.

(F) STREETS

"The street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass." Revelation 21:21.

(G) APPEARANCE

"The holy city, ... prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." "Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal." "The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal [proportionate]." Revelation 21:2, 11, 16. The city, with all of its precious stones, gold, and shimmering beauty, will be lighted with the glory of God. In its breathtaking majesty and purity it is compared to "a bride adorned for her husband."



The city streets will be pure gold--reflecting heaven's glories as a mirror.

4. What phenomenal feature of this majestic city assures every citizen eternal vigor and youth?

"In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22:2. "Take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever." Genesis 3:22.

Answer: The tree of life, which bears 12 kinds of fruit (and is in the middle of the city--Revelation 2:7), brings unending life and youth to all who partake of it. Even its leaves will contain marvelous sustaining qualities. This tree will yield a new crop of fruit each month.

5. Is it true that this amazing city will descend to this earth?

"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Revelation 21:2. "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5. "The righteous shall be recompensed in the earth." Proverbs 11:31.

Answer: Yes, the majestic holy city will come down to this earth to become the capital of the earth made new. All the righteous will have a home in this city.

6. What will happen to sin and sinners?

"All the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up." Malachi 4:1. "Fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." Revelation 20:9. "The elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." 2 Peter 3:10. "Ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet." Malachi 4:3. "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:13.

Answer: God will destroy all sin and sinners with fire. This fire will melt the earth and turn everything into ashes. Then God will make a perfect new earth, and the holy city will be its capital. Here the righteous will live in joy, peace, and holiness throughout eternity. God promises that sin will not rise up again. See Nahum 1:9.

7. What refreshing, thrilling promises does God make to the people who enter His new kingdom?

Answer:

A. The Lord, in person, will live with them (Revelation 21:3).

B. They will never become bored. There will be pleasures forevermore (Psalms 16:11).

C. There will be no more death, pain, tears, sorrow, sickness, hospitals, operations, tragedy, disappointment, trouble, hunger, or thirst (Revelation 21:4; Isaiah 33:24; Revelation 22:3; Isaiah 65:23; Revelation 7:16).

D. They will not get tired (Isaiah 40:31).

E. Every saved person will be physically whole in every way. The deaf will hear, the blind will see, the dumb will sing, and the lame will be able to run (Isaiah 35:5, 6; Philippians 3:21).

F. Jealousy, fear, hatred, falsehood, envy, impurity, cynicism, filth, worry, and all evil will be forever shut out of God's kingdom (Revelation 21:8, 27; 22:15). People will no longer be burdened with the worries and the cares that drive them to distraction. There will be no more nervous breakdowns. Time will become eternity, and the pressures and deadlines of earth will be gone forever.

8. How will the new earth differ from our earth today?

There will be no use for crutches and wheelchairs in heaven.

Answer:

A. Vast seas as we know them today will be gone (Revelation 21:1). The oceans and seas cover three-fourths of the earth's surface today. This will not be the case in God's new kingdom. The whole world will be one huge garden of unsurpassed beauty, interspersed with lakes, rivers, and mountains (Revelation 22:1; Acts 3:20, 21).



Children will safely play with lions in the earth made new.

B. The deserts will become gardens (Isaiah 35:1, 2).

C. The animals will all be tame. None will prey upon others, and a little child will lead them (Isaiah 11:6-9; 65:25).

D. There will be no more curse (Revelation 22:3).

E. There will be no more violence of any kind (Isaiah 60:18). This precludes crime, storms, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, injury, etc.

F. Nothing defiling will be found in the new earth (Revelation 21:27). There will be no cigarette butts, tobacco juice, drunkards, taverns, alcoholic beverages, brothels, lewd pictures, or any other wickedness or impurity of any kind.



9. Will there be children in God's kingdom? If so, will they grow up?

"And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof." Zechariah 8:5.
"And ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall." Malachi 4:2.

There will be no more natural disasters in the new earth.

Answer: Yes, there will be many boys and girls in the holy city (Isaiah 11:6-9), and these youngsters will grow up (Malachi 4:2). We have degenerated much in stature, intellect, and vitality since Adam, but all of this will be restored (Acts 3:20, 21).

10. When reunited with loved ones in heaven, will the saved know each other?

Then shall I know even as also I am known." 1 Corinthians 13:12.

Answer: The Bible clearly teaches that righteous loved ones who have died will be raised to join the righteous living in God's kingdom (Isaiah 26:19; Jeremiah 31:15-17; 1 Corinthians 15:51-55; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). And the Scriptures also teach that people in God's new kingdom will know each other, just as people recognize each other on the earth today.

11. Will people in heaven be real, with flesh and bones?

"Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have." "And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them." "And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and ... while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven." Luke 24:36-39, 41-43, 50, 51. "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11. "The Lord Jesus Christ ... shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body." Philippians 3:20, 21.

Answer: After His resurrection, Jesus proved to His disciples that He was flesh and bones by having them feel Him and by eating food. This same Jesus of flesh and bones ascended to His Father and will come again to the earth. The righteous will be given bodies just like the body of Christ and will be real people with flesh and bones throughout eternity. The difference will be that the heavenly body will not be subject to death, decay, or deterioration. The teaching that the saved in heaven will be ghosts who float on mist clouds and do nothing but play harps has no foundation in the Scriptures. Jesus did not die on the cross to provide any such trivial and foolish future for those who accept His love and nobly follow His way of life. Most people have no interest in such an ethereal existence and, therefore, have little or no desire to enter God's heavenly kingdom--often preferring it only because they fear hell. If only all people everywhere could learn the truth about God's holy city and new earth, millions would begin to understand His love and

would turn to Him with all their hearts. A person who misses out on God's kingdom has made the supreme blunder of a lifetime.

12. How will the righteous spend their time in the heavenly kingdom?

"They shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: ... mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." Isaiah 65:21, 22.

Answer: The righteous will build their own homes in the new earth. (Each will also have a city mansion built by Christ-- John 14:1-3.) They will plant vineyards and eat the fruit from them. The Bible is plain. Real people do real things in heaven, and they will thoroughly enjoy it all.

13. In what other thrilling activities will the redeemed participate in?

Answer:

- A. Sing and play heavenly music (Isaiah 35:10; 51:11; Psalms 87:7; Revelation 14:2, 3).
- B. Worship before God's throne every Sabbath (Isaiah 66:22, 23).
- C. Enjoy never-fading flowers and trees (Ezekiel 47:12; Isaiah 35:1, 2).
- D. Visit with loved ones, patriarchs, prophets, etc. (Matthew 8:11; Revelation 7:9-17).
- E. Study the animals of heaven (Isaiah 11:6-9; 65:25).
- F. Travel and explore without ever becoming weary (Isaiah 40:31).
- G. Listen to God sing (Zephaniah 3:17).
- H. Realize fondest ambitions (Psalms 37:3, 4; Isaiah 65:24).
- I. Greatest joy of all--the privilege of being like Jesus, traveling with Him, and seeing Him face to face (Revelation 14:4; 22:4; 21:3; 1 John 3:2).



Heaven will bring us the privilege of becoming friends with Bible patriarchs and prophets.

14. Can feeble human language really describe the glories of the heavenly home?

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." 1 Corinthians 2:9.

Answer: Not even in its wildest dreams can the heart of man begin to comprehend the marvels of God's eternal kingdom. All that Adam lost will be restored (Acts 3:20, 21).

15. Is this kingdom being prepared for me personally?

"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Revelation 22:17. "To an inheritance incorruptible ... reserved in heaven for you." 1 Peter 1:4. "I go to prepare a place for you." John 14:2.

Answer: It is prepared for you personally. The invitation from the Lord is to you personally. If rejected, friend, you will have no one to blame but yourself.

16. How can I be assured of a place in that great and glorious kingdom?

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in." Revelation 3:20. "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Revelation 22:14. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 7:21. "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." John 1:12. "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7.

Answer: The Bible makes it plain. It is simple. Give your life to Christ for cleansing from sin. When you do this, He also

gives you power to do His will and keep His commandments. This means, of course, that you will begin to live as Christ lived and will overcome all sin. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." Revelation 21:7. In short, a person is prepared for heaven when he has heaven in his heart.

17. I have decided to accept Jesus' offer to live with Him forever in His heavenly kingdom.

Answer: