

Abraham's Search for a City

Part 1: The Call

Abraham's search for a city is really an echo of one that began in the Garden of Eden. Adam & Eve's fall in the garden was part of God's Plan. ¹ They were created in God's image, but not in His likeness; that is to say, not in His character or nature. We think of this like a child who looks just like a parent, but whose temperament lacks maturity. This likeness of "full-stature of maturity" only comes from a lifetime of experiences where we encounter bitter and sweet until we rightly discern. Parents can guide their children, but character is nothing that they can give to a child. They must learn the hard way. So it was for Adam & Eve. ² For them to come into God's likeness (nature), they needed to do something besides being given things. A Biblical example is that Saul could give his own armor & weapons to David, but David did not have time to test them. (David did however prove victorious in battle because he went in God's covering.)

Let's express this concept using symbolic pictures. We saw that Adam & Eve were given a covering of nine beautiful stones, but the covering was not enough to cover them when tested. When exploring more, we then see that the scriptural pattern for a complete covering would include 12 glorious stones. ³ Adam & Eve would have to search out and acquire the three missing stones before being able to go home to the garden. These three missing elements would enable them to walk unharmed past the flaming sword.⁴ (We'll explain later on as to how this ties into Abraham's quest, for in a sense he too was searching for something vital.)

To completely cover the nakedness of their fallen nature, Adam & Eve needed to put on the full breastplate. Fig leaves (man's efforts apart from God's Spirit), just don't do the job. The "full breastplate" of course is symbolic of a covering of righteousness, which is only found in our Messiah. Our Messiah is the source of life ⁵ understood as the "tree of life," with 12 fruit, not just nine. The 12 types of fruit of the Tree of Life (just like the breastplate of 12 stones), represent 12-aspects of the nature of God; nine of which are a free gift, but the other three can only be acquired through testings & trials, (just as Jesus in his mortality had to be tried three ways when the devil threw darts his way in the wilderness.) ⁶

1. God's Plan is laid out in a big-picture overview in Lesson 00, "God's Plan."

2. Eve's Hebrew name is pronounced as "Chavvah," from Strong's No. 2332, (equally as "Havvah.")

3. We present a snapshot of this here, but for a clear Scriptural background of the 3-missing stones, see our Study, "Things Are Not as We Were Taught, Part 2," starting with item 7.

4. The sword represents the Word of God, and the fire represents His Spirit. The fallen flesh nature is not compatible with the Word, or the Spirit, or the Kingdom of God.

5. Revelation 2:7, and chapter 22.

6. I like to think of it this way; we can walk around the tree of life and pick 9-fruit within reach, for He says, "come unto Me all who hunger...", and also, "eat of Me." But the other 3-fruit are not in easy reach. To get to them, we have to climb into the tree and go to the top. It takes effort, risk, & perseverance, (by grace through faith). In other words, we must be found fully in the Messiah. Then we are one with Him, as He is one with the Father.

There is deep within us all a calling to this adventure to find the hidden treasure. We all relate to this faint echo of the deep message of God beckoning to the deep recesses of our heart. We tend to gravitate to anything that resonates with this particular call. There are many things that call to us throughout life, but this deeper call is distinct from all of the others. And so we set out for answers to this mysterious reason as to our purpose.

This is why both outer space and microscopic explorations are so fascinating. And not only those mysteries, but a whole list of others, including UFOs, the origin of man, even of matter, of time itself, the existence of other dimensions, angels & demons, life after death, matter vs. energy, and even of time itself. Studies such as psychology, the human body that houses a soul, the paranormal, and hidden treasure are all intriguing as well. Archaeological finds, genealogical research, uncovering the past, time-travel, and more, all capture our attention. This call within is why there is an urge to climb the highest mountain, to plunge to the bottom of the deepest seas, to investigate hiking trails, to break records for speed, physical achievements, and to leave our mark in this world.

We know that we're missing something, and we know that there's something calling us. There is a goal, and answers too; but it's all just a bit fuzzy. We cannot quite seem to put our finger on it...or can we? Actually, yes, we really can! The key is to discover the source of the call, Who's the caller? Many of us have found that the caller is indeed our Creator. ⁷ From there, we need to focus on getting to know the one who beckons to us. As we do, we come to understand the mystery of the call. ⁸

But the Word says that many are called, while few are chosen. The chosen are the ones who respond to the call and are faithful to endure this odyssey to the end, growing in the knowledge (& love), of the caller. The trail to maturity has thorns in the path, as Paul found out, yet by the end of his writings, he knew that he had captured the prize, which could only be found in Yahshua,⁹ our Messiah. The prize is Him, the fullness of who He is, the totality of union with Him, "a marriage."

We see another example of someone responding to the call in the Shulamite maiden of the "Song of Songs." ¹⁰ The Shulamite maiden was often lonely, sidetracked, and disillusioned in her search; but she did not give up, even though the call was often a faint whisper. In the end, through her persistence, she had her caller, her truly faithful lover, and they became one. The call was in fact a promise...the promise of inheriting a new life with our caller. The Shulamite represents those of us who respond to the call, who cannot be satisfied with less than being the Bride of our Savior, our true shepherd. ¹¹

7. I remember my own search as a young man that led to breaking up with my high school sweetheart. I told her that I was searching for something, but I didn't know what it was, however I knew that it was something bigger than marriage. Until I found what I was looking for, I needed to release her to go on and live her life, since I had no idea how long it would take to solve the mystery. It was heartbreaking for both of us, but within 6-months I received the baptism of His Spirit. Then I knew the source of this call within. I knew what that longing was all about. Light came into me to see the path I was to walk, and this path was to grow in Him. Interestingly, as soon as I understood, I tried to contact the girl (to propose), but found that she had already taken up with someone else. I trusted that it was all part of God's plan for the both of us, so I just went on to where I knew to go. Perhaps it was all a test for me, (just as it was for many Bible characters), to see how serious I was in my quest to find the caller of my heart.

8. 1Corinthians 8:3 "But the person who truly loves God is the one who is open to God's knowledge." TLB

9. "Yahshua" is the spelling in English that best represents how Jesus' name was pronounced in His native Hebrew language. For more info on this, see Mistranslation Item 18 under "Eric's Library."

10. It is the Bible book that's sometimes referred to as "The Song of Solomon," since he is the one who wrote it.

11. Mary Elizabeth was always puzzled by this story in the Song of Songs, until she read it in "The Holy Bible in Modern English by Ferrar Fenton." This 1906 translation made the story very clear to both of us.

Part 2: The City

As time marched along after Adam, more got revealed about this promising call, and the reason behind it. Our first big clue comes with Abraham. God called Abraham when his name was still Abram. ¹² He called Abram to travel from the land & relatives where he lived to a new land that God would show to him. This call was linked to a promise. The promise was that a nation would come from Abram. Even more than this, Abram would be the "standard-setter" for how anyone on earth could be blessed, and that nation from him was to also be that light to others. Indeed, he became known as the "man of faith." ¹³ He was declared righteous (saved), by his faith. He has been the example since then of how anyone could be declared righteous (saved from their old nature/death), through trust in the sacrifice of the Son. This is the salvation by grace through faith that we embrace today. ¹⁴

So, what exactly was Abram searching for? Why did he leave family, and all that was familiar to him to launch into the unknown? Here is what we read:

"9. By faith he [Abraham] dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10. FOR HE WAITED FOR THE CITY WHICH HAS FOUNDATIONS, WHOSE BUILDER AND MAKER IS GOD."

Hebrews 11:9,10 New King James Version

Here we see that at this time Abraham had physically moved into the land of promise, yet was still waiting for the promise to materialize. The promise therefore was far more than where he was to be in the natural realm. The promise obviously was even more than inheriting the land of where he lived. This is confirmed by this next verse:

"13. In belief all these DIED, NOT HAVING RECEIVED THE PROMISES, but seeing them from a distance, welcomed and embraced them, and confessed that they were aliens and strangers on the earth. 14. For those who speak this way make it clear that they seek a fatherland...16 But now THEY LONG FOR A BETTER PLACE, THAT IS, A HEAVENLY... FOR HE HAS PREPARED A CITY FOR THEM."

Hebrews 11:13-14, & v. 16 The Scriptures

Some of us may have jumped to conclusions and said that when Abraham died, then he "went to that heavenly city."¹⁵ We note however that this quote does not say "they received the promise when they died." In fact, the context of this chapter concludes that not only Abraham, but that all the people of faith of the Old Covenant (long since dead), did not receive the promise.

12. Genesis 12.

13. Galatians 3:7 and Hebrews 11.

14. Ephesians 2:5-10.

15. This is yet another false religious myth contrary to the Word of God.

We also pay attention that the location of the promise is to be on the physical land of this earth, not in heaven. And yet it never happened before Paul wrote Hebrews 11.¹⁶ Then it goes on to tell us why.

"39...all these...did not receive the promise.

*40. God having provided something better for us,
that they should not be made perfect apart from us."*

Hebrews 11:40 The New King James Version

What this is saying is that Abraham could not enter the city made by God until it existed, and it doesn't exist until it's complete, and it's not complete until ALL "truth-seekers" lay claim to it. We remember that the city is not buildings & roads, but is a population of people. In other words, Abraham could join, along with other searchers-for-the-city, but until all join in, there is the feeling that something is missing...and it is, (us!).

We do however see the promise fulfilled here in symbolic imagery:

"1. Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...¹⁷ 2. Then I, John, saw THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM COMING DOWN OUT OF HEAVEN from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people GOD HIMSELF WILL BE WITH THEM AND BE THEIR GOD. 4. And God shall wipe away all tears...for the former things are passed away."

Revelation 21:1-4 The New King James Version

Thankfully God has shown us the end from the beginning. The mystery of the city is solved at the end of the book of Revelation. We won't quote all of the other passages here, for it is all of **Revelation chapters 21 & 22**. These two concluding chapters describe "the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God." This is the city that Abraham was searching for, ***a spiritual people on earth in whom God made His home.***

The city, like all cities, has a name. The name is "The New Jerusalem." And it is a huge city, and populated by a people who together are called, "The Bride of the Messiah." And one key way these people are identified is by them being anchored on 12-foundation stones, as first seen in the 12-apostles. These foundation stones are the same ones as the stones in the breastplate, each of which is tagged with a name of one of the 12-tribes of Israel, which together represented the 12-aspects of Jacob, whose name became, "Israel." The 12-fruit Tree of Life is seen in these inhabitants of God's City. God dwells in them, is their covering, & their foundation too.

16. That Paul was indeed the author of the book of Hebrews has been consistent in the Eastern Aramaic Peshitta. For more info see the Appendix, "Epistle to Hebrews" in the Aramaic-English New Testament.

17. See our Bible Lesson 03, "The Four Realms" to help understand that this is talking about "old orders" passing away, as confirmed in verse 3.

Part 3: The City is Bigger than we Realized!

Together, the 12 tribes (from Abraham's grandson, Jacob), make up the nation promised to Abraham, and on the birth of this nation they were called "a nation of first-born sons of God," (prophetic of sons who are just like their Father, Yahovah). As we'll see, that is why the 12 gates into the City of God are each named after a different tribe of Israel. The people that make up this city where God lives are the true "first-born sons of God." To come into this city, we must enter into "Israel." In other words, we too must become part of the "first-born sons of God people." All are invited to enter into this city that is like a fruitful garden, but the only ones allowed entry are those fully in the image AND likeness of God, (with no darkness of the old Adam nature). ¹⁸

In summary so far, we see that Abraham was in search of a city where God lived. It was not a physical city in "the promised land." He soon discovered that there was no such city there. What he really searched for was a city made up of people who had God's Spirit within them; who knew what God wanted them to do, and wanted to do it. It was a group of people where righteousness & justice reigned. It was a population where people would be safe from evil men, where their wicked deeds would not be tolerated. Abraham discovered that this city would be seen on the earth, but that the God-inhabited-people who inhabited that property, would be people of faith like him; and in fact would come from him, through his son Isaac, then grandson Jacob. Eventually they would not only be a city, but a nation, and then a multitude of nations. They would eventually cover the earth, and through them the earth would be transformed.

In the promise made to Abraham, the concept of God dwelling on earth would expand from a garden to a tent to a temple, to a city, to a nation of these peculiar people (each like a priest and a king), to a multitude of nations. This is all part of God's Plan. Abraham was not content to meet with God in a garden, or to visit God at a tent, or a temple, but sought His presence in many people who were networked together into one city, where he too could live. This city (people), would in time cover the whole earth. Through them, the other nations would be blessed. And through them all creation would be restored. ¹⁹

God kept stirring within Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob the urgency to become that city. How? By reminding them through painful experiences that their wives and daughters were not safe in Chaldea, or in Egypt, or even in "the Promised Land." We are also reminded by reading their stories of what prompted them to get moving as well. So we ask, "What does it take to stir us to action, to let His life work through us to effect change both within & then for others?"...bondage to slavery?...the loss of our children?...the loss of our men to wars?...the loss of our women to thieves?...or our wells repeatedly filled up with dirt?

18. Revelation 21:25-27.

19. Romans 8:19

Part 4: Abraham's Hidden Motive to Find the City

The promise in God's call to Abraham was to live in "a city built by God" (in that promised land). ²⁰ To better grasp what is meant by this "city built by God," let's look back at the city that Abraham left to get to the land of promise.

Abraham (who was "Abram" at that time), grew up living with his father Terah in the city of Ur of the territory of Chaldea. ²¹ It was Terah who first left Ur, taking his family with him. He set out to settle in the land that we know today as Israel. Once Terah got out of Ur however, he was content to settle in an area called Haran. It seems likely that Terah named this new spot after his son, Abram's brother Haran, who had died in Ur. ²² Once in Haran, God calls Abram to leave his family and continue on to settle in their original destination, of what is now Israel. ²³ The call to Abram was to pick up where others left off.

This brings up the question of why did Haran die so young? The Bible doesn't seem to tell us that. But other sources shed some light on this mystery. Josephus, tells us that "*Terah hated Chaldea on account of his mourning for Haran*" ²⁴

Terah hated not only the city of Ur, but all of Chaldea. Now, isn't that interesting! He hated enough to leave. So, why did he despise his homeland, and why was his destination the land today known as Israel? Well, we have two other books that reveal more of what might have been going on. They both are the Apocryphal books: Jubilees, and Jasher. ²⁵

Both of these books give an account of Haran's death. What both stories share in common is that Haran was burned alive by the ruling authorities, (supposedly Nimrod). In both stories, Haran's fate resulted from Abram taking a stand against idolatry, the works of man's hands, instead of worshiping Yahovah. Abram took this stand after spending time with "the house of Noah," shown to be Noah's favorite son, Shem. ²⁶

20. Hebrews 11:8-40 tells us that Abraham never got to receive the fullness of the promises made to him.

21. Genesis 11:31

22. Haran left behind a son, Lot, & 2 daughters. Abram's other brother, Nahor, married one of the daughters of Haran.

23. Abram doesn't leave until Terah dies. When Abram leaves, he lacks full obedience, not leaving his family entirely since he brings along Lot. As a result, Abram doesn't hear God again until he parts from Lot.

24. From "Antiquities of the Jews" by Josephus, Chapter 6, Section 5, and then in Chapter 7, Section 1 where Abram was also eager to leave, having introduced truth where it was not welcomed.

25. "Apocryphal" is a term referring to those books reserved for the wise, (implying only the church leaders). The church leaders at various church councils throughout history made an effort to limit the Biblical books available to the public, and so "canonized" only certain ones. This list changed a number of times over the years. Even the Book of Revelation was eliminated for awhile. The 1611 edition of King James had 81 books, but the printers found they could sell just as many if they cut back to 66 books, which is now commonly accepted by religious tradition to be all that we should regard as being "anointed." The Aleph-Tau Cephher Bible (with 87 books, including the "lost" chapter 29 of Acts), in their Preface has a fascinating, easy-to-follow summary of the history of which books should be considered of God, and which should not. In Biblical studies, there are many reference books that may be explored for insights.

26. From Jubilees 12 and Jasher 11 & 12.

Whatever the correct details are for what lies behind the reason for Terah & Abram leaving Ur, we know that they did strive for something better, a better promise, a better people, a better inheritance. They didn't know exactly where this better place was, but they did know for sure that it wasn't in Ur, and they couldn't wait to leave the place. It is certain that Terah & his family left behind a pagan culture of idolatry, where no woman or child was safe, nor was anyone (like Abram), who took an opposing stand to the pagan culture. We note that although Terah was content once he separated from that evil society, Abram was not. Abram could hear the call to keep moving on. It is one thing to leave what is evil, while it is quite another to go on to become part of what is the best. With God's encouragement & direction, Abram sought to find the best, "the City built by God."

The Shulamite maiden also found that living with the rich king (like Moses also realized), was the best this world had to offer, but that it would still leave a void. So, she (as did Moses), continued her pursuit for her Shepherd lover, who would lead her into greener pastures. He would still the stormy waters of her soul and she would taste true love and peace.

Part 5: Description of the City of God

What does this city look like? Although the city was not to be seen in its fullness until the last days (when mankind had fulfilled the original command to multiply and fill the earth), God meanwhile provided some details of His City in symbolism below.

"9...I shall be showing you the bride, the wife of the Lambkin. 10. And he carries me away in spirit ...and shows me THE HOLY CITY, Jerusalem,²⁷ as it is descending out of heaven from God. 11. having the glory from God...14...And the wall of THE CITY HAS TWELVE FOUNDATIONS, and on them the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lambkin...19. The foundations of the wall of the city are ADORNED WITH EVERY PRECIOUS STONE..."

Revelation 21:9-11, and verses 14 & 19 Concordant Literal New Testament

This passage then goes on to list the 12 stones needed for complete adornment that identifies the bride. Each foundation stone is a different stone. This is the "city of God" that Abraham was looking for. Any city is a large group of people living in the same area. But the city built by God (the one with a unique foundation), is the one that only God could build. The people that live in this city are the ones that God gathers. They are not just those who are called, but those who are called who are chosen, & seen to be faithful. ²⁸

27. The City of God is called, "New Jerusalem," and also, "Mt. Zion," and "The City of David."

28. Revelation 17:4, and here it is also where these people are called "the Overcomers with the Lamb" in the Complete Jewish Bible. The context confirms this in the other translations as well. They overcome the beast, which is symbolic for the beast nature of unredeemed man.

The 12 foundation stones represent the 12 apostles, each of which followed the Lamb wherever He went to the end. It does not say that each stone represents a separate apostle. Rather it says that the names of the apostles are written on them. In the Spirit it would seem that each stone had 12 names written on them, which is why each apostle is adorned with the other 11 jewels as well. Each apostle had acquired all 12 stones. But whether one agrees with this view or not, it is certain that collectively the 12 apostles represented all 12 stones. The 12 apostles also represented the nucleus of the ekklesia,²⁹ in whom was God's Spirit to manifest His Kingdom upon the earth. Like Abraham, the ekklesia are not content to just leave the evil nature, but press on to inherit Yahshua (Jesus), in His full maturity, with the 12-fold fruit of His character, (represented here by all 12 stones). They take ground for God's Kingdom, and they defend it with their lives.

We also see that this city of God is where God lives. ³⁰ The Temple in Jerusalem is where the people met with God. But as we read the rest of Chapter 21 in Revelation, we see that there is no Temple building in the New Jerusalem city built by God. Yet the glory of God & the Lamb fill the city (the people), and are its source of light from within. And this city is filled with God's people, and stays open for all to come in. None however who still walk in the ways & deeds of the old fallen nature of Adam are allowed to enter.

This is the city that Abraham searched for. He searched for a people in whom was the spirit of the living God, among whom he & his family would be safe, and join with him in worship to the one true God. These are the Renewed (New) Covenant people that have God's ways in their minds (the mind of the Messiah), and also written on their hearts, (circumcised hearts).³¹ In other words, a people (city), who know what God wants them to do, and who want to do it.

29. Ekklesia is the Greek word mistranslated as "church." Whereas "church" refers to a building or institution organized and headed by men, with one man at the top, "ekklesia" means "assembly," organized & headed by Yahshua. These assemblies are independent of institutional buildings, and move by His Spirit in both home congregations & in the marketplace. They have no salaries, buildings, or budgets to drain them. The ekklesia are called to be "the ruling council" (to take action in prayer & deeds), for their area. These home congregations have always been persecuted by the church systems, who are typically religious businesses disguised by a covering of good works, (fig leaves).

30. Joel 3:17

31. Hebrews 8:10, as promised in Jeremiah 31:31-33 and in Ezekiel 11:19-20 & 36:26-28. The context of all of these passages is that these are the people in whom God will live. Together, they are "the City of God." The writing of God's ways on hearts involves first cutting out the stony heart of the old nature. This circumcision of the heart is first mentioned in Deuteronomy 30:2-6. One can find this city by finding these people. When you see people acting in God's character, you've found the city! Yahshua identifies His people in Matthew 12:50 as those who hear the Father on the right thing to do, and they do it. Now we pay note to how many times Yahshua emphasizes "to hear" in the Gospels, and in Revelation.

The bad news was that Abraham found that this people did not exist as an exclusive group occupying a particular city, not even in the physical land of Canaan. ³²

The good news was that a people would come forth from Abraham to become those people. They'd begin occupation of the earth in the land of Canaan. This promised land would eventually be acquired by Israel, the nation that would be come from Abraham's grandson, Jacob, whose name was changed to "Israel." The transfer of the promised land would not however come without a vicious struggle; but the land in the end however would be transformed from a culture of corruption & depravity into a land of righteousness.

The land itself would become fruitful (blessed) as a result of the righteous people caring for it. And from Abraham would come a multitude of nations who likewise would become God's agents to transform the entire earth. And in Abraham all of the nations of the earth would be blessed. They would not just become a city of godly people, they would cover the earth and transform all of creation.

The first godly nation from Abraham was birthed in the Exodus from Egypt 430 years after Abraham began his journey to find the city of God. This nation was noted for being the "nation of first-born sons." God said that they were His. They were to become His sons. And the nation was named "Israel," the new name given by God to Jacob, the grandson of Abraham. "Israel" means "he will rule as God." ³³ Sadly, in the end they deserted the ways of God and embraced the idolatry of man's ways.

32. Now why was Abraham directed to settle in the territory of what we know as "the promised land"? We see an interesting clue in Jasher 8-10, where Noah apportions the earth among his 3-sons. Noah bound his sons by oath that they or their sons would be cursed and removed if they tried to take any of the land allotted to their brothers. The best of the land promised to Shem however, was preemptively taken by Canaan not long after that. When Canaan occupied Shem's promised land, Canaan was warned of the curse by his father, Ham, and also by two of his own brothers. The curse said that his people would fall in the land and be rooted out forever. But greed prevailed, and Canaan took the land anyway. No doubt Abraham (descended from Shem), heard of this history from Shem, whom he had spent time with. The lesson here is that it is one thing to leave evil (as did Terah), but it is quite another thing to move on to acquire all of the full inheritance of the goodness of God, (as did Abraham). This theme of course repeats throughout the Word, and into our lives today. When are we not just satisfied to no longer manifest evil, but move on, determined to see the full character of God displayed in all of our thoughts, words, & deeds? God has made the way through the blood atonement of Yahshua & by sending His Spirit within us, but only the overcomers endure faithfully to the end. These are the people who enter to become a part of this City of God.

33. From Strong's Hebrew Dictionary found in his Concordance, word No. 3478.

Part 6: Where is the City of God Today?

The first one to become God's Son in His fullness was Yahshua (Jesus), as proven by the resurrection. He is both the cornerstone and the headstone of the City of God. There is however a promise of a people (city), who will take part in the first resurrection as a company of sons.³⁴ They are the overcomers who follow the lead overcomer, our Messiah. They are in the full maturity of His character, for they follow the Lamb (Messiah), wherever He directs. Yet these overcoming sons (& daughters), could only come into maturity in His image & likeness by His Spirit growing within them. We first see this (after the Messiah's resurrection), in a group called "the apostles," the foundation stones of the "City built by God." Through this company of sons, the nations of the world will be transformed, for the glory of Yahovah is to fill the earth as the waters fill the sea! ³⁵

The startling (and joyous), thing is that today we are witnessing the manifestation of this City of God. ³⁶ Perhaps Yahshua will have me write of specific examples of these people soon. Meanwhile, we quickly recognize each other. ³⁷ Be encouraged dear friends, the corrupt rule of the Adamic governments of man is now crumbling like the statue in **Daniel 2**. In its place is steadily growing the City of God!

This message may be copied & distributed in print or electronically when not for sale or profit.

Eric & Mary Elizabeth Ellis
PO Box 400
Easton, Maine 04740
ericandmaryellis@gmail.com
<https://www.bibleconcepts.com>

34. Luke 20:34-36 and Hebrews 11:35, and Revelation 20:6

35. Habakkuk 2:14

36. Jonathan Mitchell's "The New Testament," emphasizes in Revelation 21:2 that the noticing of this spiritual people taking rulership in the natural realm is a progressive event. This dispels another religious myth, that the City appears suddenly. As the people approach full stature, it is like a garden approaching harvest time, with the fruit not escaping notice. At harvest time however, they will suddenly be resurrected, which will then be undeniable, for all to see.

37. At the same time, most of the religious world is totally missing this, just as when Yahshua came as a baby long ago.