

jenaministries – Part 7 My Questions

7. Can Christian Gentiles Get in the New Jerusalem?

Sometimes the Holy Bible can be confusing; especially in the last book of the Bible – Revelation. That is a very hard book to understand and to take in.

When the seven seals are opened, horrific stuff happens (Fire, War, Famine, Earthquakes, Locus, etc.). A third of mankind is killed.

Then there is judgement day (**Scriptures 1 – Judgement Day**). All the dead people get judged according to what they had done. All the people whose name is not in the book of life get thrown in the lake of fire.

After all that happens, the New Jerusalem comes down from heaven. It has twelve gates , one for each tribe of Israel. Each gate is named one of the tribes of Israel (**Scriptures 2 – The New Jerusalem Twelve Gates**). There are three gates at each end (North, South, East, & West).

That leads me to question, what about Christian gentiles like me? Are we going to be able to get into one of those gates? Specifically stating the twelve tribes on the gates could lead to the understanding that you have to go through your tribe's gate to get in.

So, maybe Christian gentiles live outside the New Jerusalem. But no, that's not the case either. Outside of New Jerusalem are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood (**Scriptures 3 – Outside New Jerusalem**). No thank you. Don't want to go there.

Surely there must be a place for us Christian Gentiles. That's who God sent the Apostle Paul out to teach – the Gentiles. God made it very clear – the Gentiles are all part of God's people. Salvation and heaven are for them too.

I'm hoping the twelve tribes of Israel on the gates just represent (or symbolize) God's chosen people. Christian gentiles are God's chosen people too and hopefully we can get through the gates as well.

Or maybe the New Jerusalem is just for the living at that time and heaven is somewhere else. I don't think that's the case, but just throwing the idea out there.

It's ok if we get confused when reading the Holy Bible. We are not supposed to understand everything in the Bible, or we would be gods ourself. But we can rest assured that God is good and that we Christians are saved and will be with him forever.

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Scriptures 1. Judgement Day:

Revelation 20:11-15

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

Scriptures 2. The New Jerusalem Twelve Gates:

Revelation 21:9-27

One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long. The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits thick. The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass. I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

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Scriptures 3. Outside New Jerusalem:

Revelation 22:14-15

“Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. **Outside** are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.