

“The Judged Judge”

Presentation Handout

NOLA No-Call...

With 1:49 remaining in regulation and the score tied 20-20 in the 2018 NFC Championship game between the New Orleans Saints & L.A. Rams, a blatant pass interference play by Rams cornerback Robey-Coleman against Saints wide receiver Lewis was completely missed by the game’s referees.

After the play Robey-Coleman is seen looking side-to-side waiting for the penalty to be called. But no pass interference was called to the astonishment of the fans, game announcers, and on-looking sports world.



This missed no-call stalled a Saints drive on the Rams 13-yard line where they had to settle for a field goal instead of a possible touchdown that would have sealed their game victory.

Ultimately, the Rams went on to win the game 26-23 in overtime and then on to the Super Bowl.

As you can imagine, the no-call was met with backlash, particularly in New Orleans where Saint fans attempted to have the game replayed and ultimately boycotted the Super Bowl.

Although both the NFL and the Rams Robey-Coleman admitted a pass interference penalty should have been called, league commissioner Roger Goodell determined the no-call was an act of human error by the referees and not enough to reverse the game’s outcome.

{Adapted from the [Wikipedia.com](#) search: “2018 NFC Championship Game”}

TAKE-AWAY: It’s amazing how quickly people get riled-up when there is a missed/botched call against their favorite sports team(s) by referees, umpires, officials, or judges. It happens every time—guaranteed!

Understandably, no one likes a “wrong/botched call” against them! It doesn’t matter if it’s his/her favorite sports team, political candidate, or everyday life situations—traffic stops/tickets, a school administrator/teacher misinterpreting a student’s actions, a boss’ wrong assumption at work, misdiagnosis by a medical provider, etc.

It’s amazing how human beings want fairness to be served in all of life, except when it comes to God as Judge. Then..., attitudes change! Then..., many feel it’s unfair of God or He is dictatorial, harsh, unloving, etc.!

God’s Wrath: What is it? Why does one experience it?

- Comes upon those (they invite it) who continually and willfully reject God’s love and salvation, whether His people or His/their enemies {*Psalm 78:21, 31, 38, 49*}.
 - We must remember: God is not vindictive! He simply, fairly honors individual choice.

- Comes upon God’s people who continually refuse to allow Him heart-access into their lives—revealed in their disdain for His leading/working in their lives, and/or through unbelief/distrust in Him, etc. {*Psalm 78:5-(8), 9-11, 12-19 (17-19), 22, 31-(32), 36-37, 40-42, 56-58*}.
- Again, we see God’s wrath-judgment comes as a result of an attitude of continual refusal/rejection of His love and salvation, not just a one-time act.
- Though God pours out His wrath against sin, the Psalmist still declares God {*Psalm 78*}:
 - Showed His wonders to His people {*v. 11*}.
 - Did marvelous works before their ancestors {*vv. 12-16, 20, 23-30a*}.
 - Was His people’s Rock and Redeemer {*v. 35*}.
 - Was full of compassion and forgiveness {*v. 38*}.
 - Did not destroy His people though they deserved it {*v. 38*}.
 - Turned away His righteous anger because of their sin, not pouring out His complete wrath upon them, though they deserved it {*v. 38*}.
 - Was patient with His people {*v. 39*}.
 - Redeemed them from their enemies {*vv. 42b, 52*}.
 - Led His people in the wilderness when all odds were against them {*vv. 53-56, 65-66*}.
- Received because of unbelief in Jesus and His gift of salvation {*John 3:33-(36)*}
 - Unbelief is something an individual chooses, bringing upon him/herself God’s wrath, not God in a fit of rage indiscriminately deciding they will suffer it.
 - Again, God honors one’s freedom to not belief, even it destroys their faith in Him.
- Poured out on (“revealed against”) human beings’ unrighteousness and ungodliness {*Romans 1:18*}.
 - This is revealed through {*Romans 1*}:
 - The suppression of God’s truth in unrighteousness {*v. 18*}.
 - Rejection of God presence and His working in our world {*vv. 19-21*}.
 - Downplaying who God is or making Him into their own idea of “god” {*vv. 22-23*}.
 - Believing lies about God, their identity as human beings, and worshipping these ideas and/or other human beings, like movie stars, athletes, etc. {*vv. 24-(25)*}.
 - Living homosexual-lesbian or heterosexually immoral lifestyles, exhibiting/living out wickedness, covetousness/greed, maliciousness/malice, envy, murder, strife, deceitfulness, evil-mindedness, gossiping, hating God, violence, pride, disobedience of parents, dishonesty, unmerciful, willfully disobedient—rejectors of God’s will, and/or encouraging these lifestyles/traits in others {*vv. 26-32*}.
 - Other lifestyles of disobedience {*Ephesians 5:3-6; Colossians 3:5-6*}:
 - Fornication—sleeping around, sex outside of marriage, etc.
 - Covetousness/greed/idolatry
 - Filthiness
 - Foolish talking/course jesting
 - Evil desire/passion
- Comes on those who receive the mark of the beast and our lost {*Revelation 14:9-11 (10), 19-20*}.

- Equated with seven last plagues and God’s judgment {*Revelation 11:18; 15:1, 7; 16:1*}.
- Revealed at Jesus’ Second Coming on those who are lost {*2 Thessalonians 2:9-12; Revelation 6:14-17*}.

TAKE-AWAY: Though God’s wrath is not something to take lightly/“blow-off,” neither is it something humans need to fear. This might sound confusing/conflicting, but hear me [presenter: David] out.

Remember, God’s wrath is His holy, just, fair judgment against/on sin, which destroys human beings’ lives, distorts God’s beautiful character, and/or causes someone to attack/mistreat others.

And just like true human love cares about others, wanting to protect loved ones & friends, or see justice for the mistreated, or against abuses of all kinds—racism, prejudice, etc.; God’s wrath ends sin—defeating all of these above-mentioned evils—so that His love-justice can reign in our world again.

Unfortunately, human beings who hold on to sin will be destroyed in God’s wrath-judgment-justice against sin along with Satan, the sea beast & land beast/false prophet. This was never God’s desire since hell was only for Satan & his evil angels {*Matthew 25:41*}!

During the millennium God ends all of this evil and answers all of the redeemed/saved questions. His love-justice is finally on full display for all of the universe to see and proclaim!

1,000-Year Millennium

- Timeline of events

End-time/Last Days	1,000-year/Millennium	Eternity
1st Resurrection		2nd Resurrection
Christ’s 2nd Coming —————> Saved taken to heaven —————> > Dead resurrected > Living translated Living wicked slain —————> > Wicked dead stay in graves Satan bound on earth —————> > because the saved are in heaven & wicked are slain	Saved/saints reign with Christ in heaven for 1,000 years. > Engage in the review of God’s justice-judgment > They actually judge God, which He invites them to do! <— Earth remains desolate for 1,000 years —————>	<— New Jerusalem descends to earth > With Christ & saved inside <— All wicked resurrected <— Satan loosed > Then organizes attack against New Jerusalem <— Executive judgment > Satan, wicked & effects of sin destroyed <— Earth renewed like Eden > Eternal home of the saved

○ **Christ's Second Coming & End-time/last days**

- The false trinity/godhead—the red dragon (Satan/devil - *Revelation 12:7-(9), 10, 12*), the sea beast (the Papacy - *Revelation 13:1-10, 18; 16:13-14*) & the land beast/false prophet (U.S.A - *Revelation 13:11-17*) form an unholy alliance of Catholicism and Protestantism, which:
 - ❖ Promotes/teaches a false gospel in place of God's three-angels message.
 - ❖ "Joins hands" with secular governments—U.S.A. in particular, forcing earth's inhabitants to make an image to the sea beast and receive the mark of the beast.
 - ❖ Eventually as a result this religious-secular alliance (Spiritual Babylon) will persecute and/or martyr God's end-time people when they do **not** comply.
 - ✓ Ultimately, its activity is motivated by a desire to be worshiped in place of God, coercion, fear, force, deception, personal feelings/opinions, etc. instead of God's unconditional love, freedom of choice, salvation in Jesus, God's truth in the Bible, etc. *{Revelation 13:7, 9, 14-17}*.
- Jesus' Second Coming *{Revelation 19:11-16}*
 - ❖ Right before His Second Coming Jesus sends the seven last plagues upon those who have persistently followed the false trinity/godhead in rebellion against the true Godhead and Their three angels' gospel message—the everlasting end-time gospel *{Revelation 16}*.
 - ✓ This righteous judgment by God opens the doors for Jesus' rescue of God's people at His Second Coming *{Revelation 16:12; 17:1-2, 15}*.
- Dead righteous/saved are resurrected, and the living righteous/saved are translated *{1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:50-57}*.
 - ❖ They are then taken to heaven to be with the Godhead during the 1,000-year millennium *{John 14:1-3; Revelation 20:4, 6}*.
- Living wicked/lost are destroyed by the brightness of Jesus' appearance at His Second Coming *{Revelation 19:17-18, 20; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10 (8); 2:9-(10)}* while the dead wicked/lost remain in their graves *{Revelation 20:4-(5)}*.
- Satan/devil/red dragon—the ringleader of this false trinity/godhead—is captured and "bound" in a bottomless pit for 1,000 years *{Revelation 20:1-3}* while the sea beast & land beast/false prophet are cast into the lake of fire *{Revelation 19:20; 2 Thessalonians 2:8}*.
 - ❖ In *Revelation 9:1*, the reader has already been introduced to an abyss/bottomless pit, angel/star, key, and opening.
 - ✓ This angel/star falls from heaven and is given a key, which he uses to unlock the pit, releasing a fury of evil upon the earth.
 - ✓ This fury of evil is Satan's working, which is motivated by his rebellion and sin against God and His government.
 - ✓ His mindset has been: one can live his/her life without God and the results of this spiritual folly is revealed.
 - ✓ This angel-star = Satan.
 - "Stars" in the Bible can often represent angels *{Job 38:7; Isaiah 14:12-15; Revelation 1:20; 12:9}*.
 - ✓ And this abyss is the "laboratory" from which his evil workings destroy humanity's concept of God, their belief in Him, and the destruction of their lives, along with our world/culture/society in general.

- ❖ Since Satan (angel-star of *Revelation 9*) was bound from heaven the angel of *Revelation 20* is not Satan, but another angel sent on a mission from God.
 - ✓ The word for abyss in *Revelation 20:1* is the same word used in the Greek Old Testament (Septuagint) for the formless and void state of the earth before God created {*Genesis 1:2*} or Palestine during the Babylonian Exile {*Jeremiah 4:23, 25*}.
 - ✓ Thus Satan is “bound,” not literally, but symbolically by a “chain of circumstances”—the wicked/lost have all been slain by the brightness/majesty of Jesus at His Second Coming {*Revelation 19:17-18, 20; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10 (8); 2:9-(10)*} or remain in their graves while the righteous/saved are in heaven with Jesus {*John 14:1-3; Revelation 20:4*}.
 - This means Satan no longer has anyone to deceive or use for his evil purposes against God. Thus, he’s bound on the desolate earth—in this abyss of evil he created as revealed in *Revelation 9*.
 - This abyss of circumstances that “binds” Satan is a mocking of all he believed and claimed in his rebellion against the Godhead—the earth is scorched, not a soul is alive, no one to deceive, he can’t raise the dead, or produce a plant or an animal. Obviously, he isn’t God as he claimed, and is confined/trapped upon this “trashed” earth by the God who is truly God!
 - For the 1,000-year millennium, he is given the opportunity to reflect on the results on what his rebellion against God has produced. It must be a helpless, hopeless sense of loss, despair, embarrassment for him!
- The earth is also desolate—formless and void like the earth before God created {*Genesis 1:2*}—because of the great earthquake and other natural convulsions connected with Jesus’ Second Coming {*Revelation 16:17-21 (18)*}.
 - ❖ The emphasis is on the absence of human beings on the earth at this time.
- **1,000-year millennium**
 - The redeemed/saved reign with Christ Jesus for 1,000 years in heaven {*Revelation 20:4, 6*}.
 - ❖ Some of them were translated without experiencing death {*1 Corinthians 15:51-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17*}.
 - ❖ Many others were resurrected from their graves {*1 Thessalonians 4:15-17*}.
 - The redeemed conduct a judgment-review. What are they judging/reviewing?
 - ❖ God’s character in the great controversy between good & evil—the spiritual battle between Christ & Satan.
 - ✓ God’s character...
 - Based on our past studies (*Evil #1-4*) we discovered Satan is engaged in a ruthless smear campaign against God that accuses Him of being an authoritarian, a liar, selfish, unfair, unjust, unreasonable, etc. {*Genesis 3:4-5; Ezekiel 28:14-16*}—
 - The word “trading” in *Ezekiel 28:16* = slander...against God.
 - Unfortunately, one-third of the angels believed Satan’s lies about God and sinned {*Revelation 12:3-4a*}.
 - And so did Adam & Eve and then humanity {*Genesis 3:6-7; 4:3, 5-9, 13-14*} who now distrust God because of sin {*Genesis 3:9-(10), 12-13*}.

- This dilemma now requires God to interact with humans who distrust Him and an onlooking universe of unfallen beings who have had the seed of doubt about Him planted in their minds through Satan's lies.
- ✓ Who is saved and lost...
 - Since we don't know an individual's motives or thoughts, we don't really know who is genuine or fake. As human beings we tend to evaluate based on outward behavior/profession, which can be deceiving.
 - But God knows the real heart, motives, thoughts, choices of an individual and based on this who has responded to His gift of salvation or not.
 - So, when the redeemed get to heaven there will be surprises for all—who is there and who is not as well as the rest of the story in the interaction of individuals with others.
 - Case in point: Isaiah will be surprised to see King Manasseh in heaven. Manasseh martyred Isaiah but was converted later. Or Stephen who was martyred while Saul, later the Apostle Paul, watched and helped.
 - Maybe its others who had a grand profession, but the sad reality it was only an outward profession while they were actually unconverted.
- ✓ God's actions and justice in how He dealt with sin and what happened in the lives of human beings...
 - If we're honest, humans in general, and each of us individually, have probably wondered why God allowed certain things to happen to particular individuals and not to others.
 - Why do missionaries die in an accident while sacrificially serving others for God? Why did that baby die and this other one live? Why did that parent get cancer and die young while another lived? Why does suffering, evil, bad, etc. happen in our world if God is such a loving, caring, good God? Why do good people suffer, die, etc. while sinful people live without any real issues/problems?
 - No matter how much one may trust in God and love Him, he/she will have questions of some kind. None of us can know the full behind-the-scenes happenings in our lives or world. We're not God!

TAKE-AWAY: What does the perfect, all-knowing God of the universe do in this situation? If anyone had the right to say, "This is the way it is because I said so. Sit down, keep quiet, don't ask questions!" It would be God. **BUT...**He doesn't! Instead, He does the unthinkable. He takes the "witness stand," allowing the unfallen beings & redeemed—to "cross-examine" all of His dealings and decisions throughout this terrible great controversy between good & evil, until they're satisfied with His character of love, justice, and fairness, along with His actions and decisions.

This just doesn't make human sense to me [*presenter: David*] or if you're honest, you as well!

- Finally, I [*presenter: David*] can imagine Jesus taking each one of His redeemed children personally to the tree of life and explaining to them all that happened in their lives that they didn't understand, why it happened, how He used it to develop their characters, and where He was as all of it happened.

- ❖ As a result His children will realize God is not the Author of sin, pain, death, etc., though He allowed these things to happen.
- ❖ And in the midst of it all, He never abandoned them!! He was right there with them through it all, though they didn't realize it.
- Then...what will be the response of the unfallen world and the redeemed?
 - ❖ They will **ALL** fall on their faces crying out, "Oh, God, You are loving, fair, just, holy, righteous in all of Your dealings with sin and sinners. We love You and worship You for all eternity!!!!"
 - ✓ "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!" {*Revelation 5:13*}
 - ✓ "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen." {*Revelation 7:12*}
- What will be the response of Satan, his evil angels, and sinners?
 - ❖ Probably not what most would expect.
 - ✓ Amazingly, they too recognize the Godhead's fairness, justice, etc. in Their dealings with them {*Philippians 2:9-11 (10-11)*}.
 - ✓ This doesn't mean their hearts/lives are converted. No! They seared their consciences for eternity through their stubborn neglect/rejection of God's beautiful, undeserved gift of salvation. There isn't any more the Godhead could have done to save them, that They hadn't already done!! How sad for someone to be in this situation!!
- All of creation is **now at peace** with who God is and what He has done in the great controversy between good & evil—the battle between Christ & Satan!!
- **Eternity**
 - Revelation is not always chronological from chapter to chapter.
 - ❖ Case in point: the descending of the New Jerusalem from heaven to the earth described in *Revelation 22:1-2, 10* actually occurs before Satan, his evil angels, and the wicked/lost are destroyed in *Revelation 20:7-9*.
 - ✓ Christ Jesus and the redeemed/saved are in the New Jerusalem as it descends to the earth.
 - ✓ This is why Satan, his evil angels, and the wicked/lost want to attack the city {*Revelation 20:7-9*}
 - New Jerusalem
 - ❖ This is the place Jesus went to when He went back to heaven after His resurrection and ascension to prepare for His people {*John 14:1-3*}.
 - ✓ It is described as the "bride" of Christ {*Revelation 21:2*}.
 - Just like the Old Testament literal Jerusalem is also described as a bride lavishly adorned for her husband {*Isaiah 62:1, 5-6*}.
 - The same metaphor is applied to God's people {*Revelation 19:7-8*}. New Jerusalem and God's people are identical.
 - Though symbolism is used to describe the New Jerusalem, it is a real place with real people.
 - This symbolic language pictures it in terms of fortified cities in John's day, Ezekiel's restored temple {*Ezekiel 40-48*}, and the restored Garden of Eden {*Genesis 2-3*}.

❖ Exterior & interior description

- ✓ Situated on a great and high mountain {*Revelation 21:10*}.
 - In symbolism this might be describing a mound made on the ruins of Spiritual Babylon.
 - Rebuilding a city on the mound of a previously destroyed city was a well-known practice in ancient times {*Jeremiah 30:18*}.
 - Symbolically, it's over the spiritual "ruins" of end-time Spiritual Babylon that the New Jerusalem rises in all its glory.
 - This affirms God's ultimate triumph over this end-time apostate system!
- ✓ God's glory shone from it like a precious stone {*Revelation 21:11*}
 - In the Old Testament temple, God's glory denoted His presence {*Exodus 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-11; Ezekiel 43:2, 4-5*}.
 - His presence is a personal presence that will be with His people face-to-face forever {*Revelation 21:3*}.
- ✓ Walls made of brilliant jasper {*Revelation 21:18*} .
 - Each of the four walls had three gates made of a huge pearl {*Revelation 21:12-13, 21a*}. On each pearl-gate was inscribed the name of an Israelite tribe—connecting the Old Testament with the New Testament. Also, the organization of the tribes of Israel camping around the earthly sanctuary also mirrors this gate arrangement {*Numbers 2:1-31*}.
 - The walls had 12 foundations each written with a name of one of the disciples/apostles {*Revelation 21:14*}. This connects the New Testament Church with the Old Testament—the Old & New Testaments are a complete whole-picture of God's people.
 - These 12 foundations are a different jewel {*Revelation 21:19-20*} like the 12 precious stones/jewels on the high priest's breastplate {*Exodus 28:17-20*}. All of God's people are now priests, not just a special, exclusive, select few {*Revelation 1:5b-6; 20:4, (6b); 22:3-4*} .
- ✓ God the Father & Christ Jesus are it's temple and light {*Revelation 21:22-26; 22:5*}.
 - This is why the city doesn't need light from the sun or moon, which fulfills a Messianic prophecy in *Isaiah 60:19-20*.
 - The redeemed walking in the light of God & Jesus is also a fulfillment echo of this same Messianic prophecy {*Isaiah 60:3*}.
 - The continually open gates is also a fulfillment of this same Messianic prophecy {*Isaiah 60:11*}. Open gates make it possible for all of the redeemed/saved people to enter into God's presence!
- ✓ River of life & tree of life {*Revelation 22:1-2*}
 - Both are a reminder of the Garden of Eden {*Genesis 2:8-14*}.
 - The tree of life symbolizes eternal life {*Genesis 3:22*}.
 - Because of the sin curse humans lost their right to the tree of life and the Garden of Eden, now becoming subject to death {*Genesis 3:22-24*}. But through Jesus the redeemed/saved have access restored to it again and the New Jerusalem-Garden of Eden.



By Nicolas Pena

- The tree of life yields a different fruit every month, and its leaves are for the healing of the nations, mirroring the prophet Ezekiel vision in *Ezekiel 47:12*.
- In the New Jerusalem no pride, prejudice, injustice, inequality, socio-economic status comparisons, etc. will be exhibited between the inhabitants. The tree of life's leaves symbolize the healing of God's Gospel in the lives of the redeemed no matter what background they are from.
- **Wicked resurrected, Satan loosed** {*Revelation 20:3c, 5a, 7-9*}
 - Satan is released from the bottomless pit/abyss {*vv. 3c, 7-8*} because all of the wicked who have ever lived are resurrected one more time {*vv. 5a, 7-(8)*}.
 - ❖ When this happens it's obvious Satan's attitude hasn't changed, neither was he converted by his 1,000-year reflection time during the millennium.
 - ❖ One last time, he unleashes his last great deception as he marshals all of the wicked, convincing them they can attack the New Jerusalem, overcome it, and reside in it instead of the Godhead & the redeemed {*v. 9*}.
- **Executive judgment** {*Revelation 20:11-15*}
 - As Satan, his evil angels, and the wicked are about to attack the city of God—the New Jerusalem {*20:9*}—God sits on His white throne in the final judgment of the lost in the great controversy between good & evil—Christ & Satan {*v. 11*}.
 - ❖ All of humanity who has ever lived—redeemed & lost—are present along with Satan & his evil angels before God's judgment throne {*v. 12-13*}.
 - The wicked are judged by two sets of books: book(s) of works & Book of Life {*vv. 12-13*}.
 - The lost/wicked's works are used because their outward actions reveal their internal attitudes, motives, and thoughts.
 - ❖ Their works are tangible revelations for the unfallen angels & beings along with the redeemed/saved can obviously see played out.
 - ❖ Also, their actions show they never had a heart conversion experience, nor believed in Jesus for salvation, even after they died and were resurrected.
 - ✓ Sadly, their actions reveal attitudes of hate and disdain for God, I will do what I want, and/or I will be the god of my own life, instead of a heart-love for God and heart-faith in Him.
 - ❖ As a result, God must now deal with their stubborn, eternal rebellion as He rains down fire and brimstone (*hell* – see *Forever 03*) that destroys forever Satan, his evil angels, and all of the wicked.
 - ✓ But..., before this happens in this executive-final judgment the unfallen angels & other universe inhabitants along with the redeemed/saved have seen that God's judgments are fair, honest, and holy in nature, not vindictive or authoritarian as Satan had claimed throughout the great controversy battle between good & evil.
 - ✓ And surprisingly, even Satan, his evil angels & the wicked acknowledge God's holiness, fairness, and justice in His final judgment against them.
 - As they see their lives played out before them, they acknowledge they've chosen to rebel against God, neglecting/rejecting His beautiful salvation gift and choosing eternally death instead.

- They now realize beyond a doubt that salvation is a gift purchased and provided by the Godhead, not through human achievement or their unaided human works, nor is it a cerebral-intellectual assent to a list of doctrinal facts with no heart-love involvement!
- They also acknowledge being in heaven in the Godhead's presence would be "hell" for them since they've spurned God's love and salvation.
- Thus their destruction by God in the lake of fire/hell is actually a manifestation of His mercy, not an act of wrathful vengeance!
- **Earth renewed like Eden**
 - Immediately once Satan, his evil angels & the wicked are justly, fairly sentenced in this executive final judgment, fire comes down from God and consumes/devours them completely {*Revelation 20:9*}.
 - ❖ Their punishment is described as a lake of fire (hell as discovered in the *Forever 03* presentation).
 - ✓ The very surface of the desolate earth outside of the New Jerusalem appears to melt, becoming a vast lake of burning fire {*2 Peter 3:7, 10, 12-13*}.
 - This purging, purifying fire eradicates the signs of sin, leading the way for Jesus to make a new heavens and earth.
 - "New" in the sense of form and quality, not origin and time.
 - The earth again is like the Garden of Eden before sin.

TAKE-AWAY: There's so much to the New Jerusalem than pure, transparent gold streets, brilliant jasper walls, or jeweled foundations, or gigantic pearl gates..., much more!

For the redeemed/saved of all ages it's being in the very presence of the Godhead for eternity. Outside of Adam & Eve and the prophets in vision to some extent, humanity has lived without seeing God.

Now, redeemed humanity can spend eternity with the Godhead, basing in Their glory, bowing before Them, worshipping Them out of a heart appreciation for all They sacrificed for them and the ultimate sacrifice-price They paid for their (redeemed/saved) salvation!

This beautiful, eternal picture is revealed in the remaining descriptions of the New Jerusalem.

In the Presence of God Forever...

- The Godhead & the redeemed/saved from all ages of earth's history live together for eternity with no more death, sorrow/pain, sin, crying (tears of heartache), etc. {*Revelation 21:3-4*}.
- All of the redeemed bow before the Godhead, acknowledging their salvation is from Them—a gift they do **NOT** deserve {*Revelation 1:5-6; 5:9b, 12*}.
 - No one will ever think they somehow achieved heaven through something they did to merit it!
 - They all will bow before the Godhead, acknowledging their salvation is from the Godhead—a gift they do **NOT** deserve {*Revelation 1:5-6; 5:9b, 12*}.

- New Jerusalem was...

- Made of clear/transparent gold {*Revelation 21:18b, 21b*}.

- The Old Testament sanctuary and temple were overlaid with gold on the inside {*1 Kings 6:19-22*}.

- Interestingly, in the New Testament gold is associated with faith {*1 Peter 1:7*}, so symbolically the New Jerusalem being made of gold is a constant reminder to the redeemed that they are there by faith in the sacrifice of Jesus, not through their own unaided human works.

- Constructed with walls that were equal measurements of height, width, and depth, forming a perfect cube square {*Revelation 21:16*}.

- This is significant when one considers that the Most Holy Place of the earthly sanctuary & temple was a cube as well {*1 Kings 6:19-20*}.

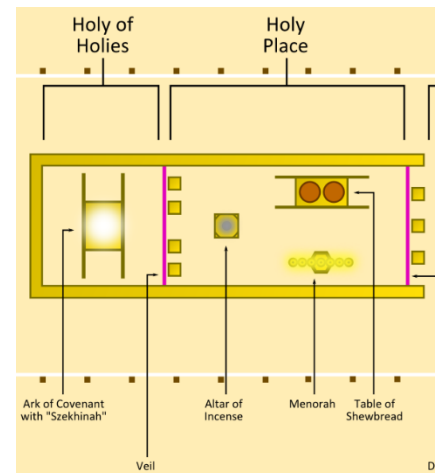
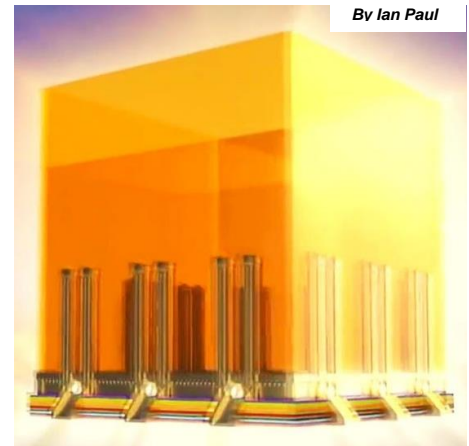
- The New Jerusalem is the ultimate fulfillment of God's covenant promise through Christ Jesus to bring redeemed humanity back into His very presence {*Hebrews 4:14-(16); Revelation 7:15; 21:3*}.

- ❖ God's throne is in the New Jerusalem {*Revelation 22:3*} just like the Ark of the Covenant represented God's throne in the Most Holy Place of the Old Testament, earthly sanctuary/temple.

- ❖ God "tabernacles" (sanctuary/temple terminology) with His redeemed people forever in the New Jerusalem!!

- ✓ The redeemed are forever in face-in-face communion with God, like it was before sin between God and Adam & Eve!

- ✓ This was God's forever desire/plan for all eternity. Humanity's sin ruined the reality of His plan being realized until the New Jerusalem!



LIVING CHOICE: Will you by God's grace open your heart to the eternal Godhead and their gift of salvation, choosing to live with Them forever in the New Jerusalem?

RESOURCES:

- *Christ is Coming* ~ Norman Gulley, PhD
- *Plain Revelation* ~ Ranko Stefanovic, PhD