

**THE NEW JERUSALEM, AND ITS
HEAVENLY DOCTRINE, AS LEARNED
FROM HEAVEN: TO WHICH IS PREMISED
SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW
HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH**

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The New Jerusalem, and Its Heavenly Doctrine, as Learned from Heaven: To Which Is Premised Some Information About the New Heaven and New Earth by Emanuel Swedenborg

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EMANUEL SWEDENBORG

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BY EMANUEL SWEDENBORG

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MATTHEW VI. 33

SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND ALL THINGS
SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.

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THE NEW JERUSALEM

AND ITS

HEAVENLY DOCTRINE

THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH ; AND WHAT IS
MEANT BY THE NEW JERUSALEM.

1. It is said in the Apocalypse, *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 city had a wall great and high, having twelve gates, and over the gates twelve angels, and names superscribed, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. . . . And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. . . . The city lieth four-square ; and the length of it is as large as the breadth, and he measured the city with the reed unto twelve thousand furlongs : the length and the breadth and the height of it were equal. And he measured the wall of it, a hundred and forty-four cubits, the measure of a man, which is, of an angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper ; but the city was pure gold like unto pure glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone. The twelve gates were twelve pearls. And the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. The glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof is the Lamb. And the nations which*

are saved shall walk in the light of it, and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honor into it (xxi. 1, 2, 12-24).

A man in reading these words understands them not otherwise than according to the sense of the letter, namely, that the visible heaven together with the earth is to perish, and a new heaven to come forth; and that upon a new earth the holy city Jerusalem is to descend, and that this is to be in its measures according to the description. But angels understand these things in altogether another way; for they understand the several things spiritually which man understands naturally; and as angels understand them, such is their signification, and this is the internal or spiritual sense of the Word. By a new heaven and a new earth, in the internal or spiritual sense in which angels are, is understood a new church both in the heavens and on earth — the church in both heaven and earth will be spoken of in what follows; by the city Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, is understood its heavenly doctrine; by its length, breadth, and height, which were equal, are understood all the goods and truths of that doctrine in the complex; by its wall are understood the truths that protect it; by the measure of the wall, which was a hundred and forty-four cubits, which was the measure of a man, which is that of an angel, are understood all those truths in the complex which protect it, and their quality; by the twelve gates, which were of pearls, are understood truths that introduce, as is likewise understood by the twelve angels at the gates; by the foundations of the wall, which were of every precious stone, are understood the knowledges upon which that doctrine is founded; by the twelve tribes of Israel are understood all things of the church, in general and in particular, as also by the twelve apostles; by the gold like unto pure glass, of which were the city and the street, is understood the good of love, from which the doctrine with its truths has its inward light; by the nations that were saved and by the kings of

the earth who shall bring their glory and honor into it, are understood all of the church who are in goods and truths; by God and the Lamb is understood the Lord as to the Divine Itself and the Divine Human. Such is the spiritual sense of the Word, to which the natural sense, which is the sense of the letter, serves as the basis; but still the two senses, the spiritual and the natural, make one by correspondences.

That there is such a spiritual meaning within all these things, there is not space to show here, as it does not belong to this work; but they may be seen shown in the "Heavenly Arcana" in the following numbers: —

By earth or land in the Word is signified the church, especially where the land of Canaan is meant — n. 662, 1066, 1067, 1262, 1413, 1607, 2928, 3355, 4447, 4535, 5577, 8011, 9325, 9643; because in the spiritual sense by a land is meant the nation which is in it and its worship — n. 1262. The people of the land are those who are of the spiritual church — n. 2928. A new heaven and a new earth signify a new state in the heavens and on earth as to goods and truths, and thus as to the things which are of the church in both — n. 1733, 1850, 2117, 2118, 3355, 4535, 10373. What is understood by the first heaven and the first earth that had passed away, may be seen in the little work on *The Final Judgment, and Babylon Destroyed*, from the beginning to the end, and particularly n. 65-72. By Jerusalem is signified the church as to doctrine — n. 402, 3654, 9166. By towns and cities are signified the doctrines of the church and of religion — n. 402, 2449, 2712, 2943, 3216, 4492, 4493. By the wall of the city is signified the truth of doctrine that protects — n. 6419. By the gates of the city are signified truths introducing to the doctrine, and by means of the doctrine into the church — n. 2913, 4477, 4492, 4493. By the twelve tribes of Israel were represented, and thence signified, all the truths and goods of the church in general and in particular, and thus all things of faith and love — n. 3858, 3926, 4065, 6335; and by the twelve apostles of the Lord nearly the same — n. 2129, 3272, 3354, 3488, 3858, 6397. By its being said of the twelve apostles, that they were to sit upon twelve thrones and to judge the twelve tribes of Israel, is signified that all are to be judged according to the truths and goods of the church, and