

Heaven - our living Hope!

Part 8

By Pastor Grant Williams

In part 7 we began to learn about *ages past*, the number of heavens and their locations or placement. We looked at where God is residing in the third heaven, true north, according to the Old Testament writers. Many Bible scholars believe that Lucifer was assisting God in the building of the New Jerusalem in *ages past* as well before the creation of mankind in Genesis. The fall of Lucifer and 1/3 of the angels many Bible scholars believe took place before the New Jerusalem was completed.

When was Lucifer and the angels created? Lucifer was in heaven as a cherub before he fell... so, when was that? When was the rebellion where he took 1/3 of the angels and then they fell with him? This rebellion was brought up for remembrance as an example to God's people in preparation for when Jesus would return...don't be like them.

Jude 3-8 AMPC

3 Beloved, my whole concern was to write to you in regard to our common salvation. [But] I found it necessary and was impelled to write you and urgently appeal to and exhort [you] to contend for the faith which was once for all [a]handed down to the saints [the faith which is that sum of Christian belief which was delivered [b]verbally to the holy people of God].

4 For certain men have crept in stealthily [[c]gaining entrance secretly by a side door]. Their doom was predicted long ago, ungodly (impious, profane) persons who pervert the grace (the spiritual blessing and favor) of our God into lawlessness and wantonness and immorality, and disown and deny our sole Master and Lord, Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

*5 Now I want to remind you, though you were fully informed once for all, **that though the Lord [at one time] delivered a people out of the land of Egypt, He subsequently destroyed those [of them] who did not believe [who refused to adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him].***

6 And angels who did not keep (care for, guard, and hold to) their own first place of power but abandoned their proper dwelling place—these He has reserved in custody in eternal chains (bonds) under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgment and doom of the great day.

7 [The wicked are sentenced to suffer] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns—which likewise **gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice and sensual perversity**—are laid out [in plain sight] as an exhibit of perpetual punishment [to warn] of everlasting fire.

8 Nevertheless in like manner, these dreamers also corrupt the body, scorn and reject authority and government, and revile and libel and scoff at [heavenly] glories (the glorious ones).

Jesus said in Matthew 25:41-hell is prepared of the devil and his angels.

Matthew 25:41 AMPC

41 Then He will say to those at His left hand, Begone from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels!

So, when did this rebellion take place? When did Lucifer and 1/3 of the angels get cast out of heaven?

On the sixth day of creation, God declared everything to be “very good” (Genesis 1:31).

Genesis 1:20-31 AMPC

20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly and swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly over the earth in the open expanse of the heavens.

21 God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, which the waters brought forth abundantly, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good (suitable, admirable) and He approved it.

22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let the fowl multiply in the earth.

23 And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creeping things, and [wild] beasts of the earth according to their kinds. And it was so.

25 And God made the [wild] beasts of the earth according to their kinds, and domestic animals according to their kinds, and everything that creeps upon the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good (fitting, pleasant) and He approved it.

26 God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the [tame] beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth.

27 So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 And God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it [using all its vast resources in the service of God and man]; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and over every living creature that moves upon the earth.

29 And God said, See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the land and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

30 And to all the animals on the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the ground—to everything in which there is the breath of life—I have given every green plant for food. And it was so.

31 And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good (suitable, pleasant) and He approved it completely. And there was evening and there was morning, a sixth day.

Genesis 2:1-7 AMPC

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.

3 And God blessed (spoke good of) the seventh day, set it apart as His own, and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all His work which He had created and done.

4 *This is the history of the heavens and of the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens—*
5 *When no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not [yet] caused it to rain upon the earth and there was no man to till the ground,*
6 *But there went up a mist (fog, vapor) from the land and watered the whole surface of the ground—*
7 *Then the Lord God formed man from the [a]dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath or spirit of life, and man became a living being.*

In Genesis 1:31 most Bible scholars believe “everything” includes angels. Sometime after that, Satan rebelled against God and was cast out of heaven. Jesus witnessed the event and told His followers...

Luke 10:17-18 AMPC

17 *The seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name!*
18 *And He said to them, I saw Satan falling like a lightning [flash] from heaven.*

Another passage that I introduced in Part 7 describes the fall of Satan from heaven is Isaiah 14:12–15.

Isaiah 14:12-15 AMPC

12 *How have you fallen from heaven, O light-bringer and daystar, son of the morning! How you have been cut down to the ground, you who weakened and laid low the nations [O blasphemous, satanic king of Babylon!]*
13 *And you said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will sit upon the mount of assembly in the uttermost north.*
14 *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.*
15 *Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol (Hades), to the innermost recesses of the pit (the region of the dead).*

The context is primarily about a human king, as judgment is pronounced against Babylon. The poetic language used by Isaiah is so grand, however, that most scholars have concluded that there is more to the passage. References to “the whole earth” (Isaiah 14:7), the king’s “fall from heaven” (verse 12), his desire to exalt himself “above the stars” (verse 13), and the symbolic name Lucifer or Light-bringer (verse 12) are all expressions of hyperbolic greatness.

God is pronouncing judgment on both “kings of Babylon”—the human king and the spiritual ruler who empowers him (Babylon being a symbol of rebellion from Genesis to Revelation). Isaiah 14:12, I believe with most Bible scholars contains a dual interpretation.

Isaiah 14:12-15 AMPC

12 How have you fallen from heaven, O light-bringer and daystar, son of the morning! How you have been cut down to the ground, you who weakened and laid low the nations [O blasphemous, satanic king of Babylon!]

The book of Revelation describes “a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth” (Revelation 9:1).

Revelation 9:1 AMPC

9 Then the fifth angel blew [his] trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth; and to the angel was given the key of the shaft of the Abyss (the bottomless pit).

This “star” is given a key to the bottomless pit and proceeds to release a horde of tormenting “locusts” (Revelation 9:2–11). While Revelation 9:1 is not a clear reference to Satan, the fact that the “star” fell from heaven has a key (authority), listed as an angel, and given that authority to use the key to unleash terror upon the earth.

The Bible explicitly and implicitly teaches that Satan fell from his position in heaven. But how do we know that one third of the angels also fell with him?

We know that Jude references the fall angels but the passage that best supports the idea that Satan took one third of the angels with him in rebellion is Revelation 12:3–4. John sees a sign in heaven: “An enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth.” John then relates that the dragon was hurled down to the earth and positively identifies it as “that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray” (Revelation 12:9). The dragon is not thrown to earth alone, however: “His angels were cast out with him” (verse 9). The angels that are ejected from heaven with Satan we associate with the “third of the stars” that the dragon’s tail swept from heaven to earth in verse 4.

Revelation 12:3-9 AMPC

3 Then another ominous sign (wonder) was seen in heaven: Behold, a huge, fiery-red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven kingly crowns (diadems) upon his heads.

*4 **His tail swept [across the sky] and dragged down a third of the stars and flung them to the earth.** And the dragon stationed himself in front of the woman who was about to be delivered, so that he might devour her child as soon as she brought it forth.*

5 And she brought forth a male Child, One Who is destined to shepherd (rule) all the nations with an iron staff (scepter), and her Child was caught up to God and to His throne.

6 And the woman [herself] fled into the desert (wilderness), where she has a retreat prepared [for her] by God, in which she is to be fed and kept safe for 1,260 days (42 months; three and one-half years).

7 Then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels went forth to battle with the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought.

8 But they were defeated, and there was no room found for them in heaven any longer.

*9 And the huge dragon was cast down and out—that age-old serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, he who is the seducer (deceiver) of all humanity the world over; **he was forced out and down to the earth, and his angels were flung out along with him.***

The “stars” of Revelation 12:4 are indeed a symbolic reference to Satan’s “angels” in verse 9, the reference to the fall of a portion of the angels (the heavenly hosts) who followed Satan in his rebellion. Two thirds of the angels remained loyal to God and are called the “holy angels” in Scripture (Mark 8:38); one third of the original angels joined Satan and are called “unclean spirits” or “demons” today (Mark 9:25).

Just a reminder, in part 7 we found out where is heaven located....

Isaiah 14:13 AMPC

13 And you said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will sit upon the mount of assembly in the uttermost north.

The northern part of heaven is unique because there is a star there called Polaris or the North Star. This star sits just a little bit off of true north and any time you need to find a true direction, from ships, safari, exploration you need to find the north star.

Polaris, known as the North Star, sits more or less directly above Earth's north pole along our planet's rotational axis. This is the imaginary line that extends through the planet and out of the north and south poles. Earth rotates around this line, like a spinning top.

Job 26:7 AMPC

7 He it is Who spreads out the northern skies over emptiness and hangs the earth upon or over nothing.

Job 26:7 KJV

7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

The earth is hanging on nothing and the north is an empty place. In Part 7 we read in God’s Word where HE is sitting, in the third heaven , True North.

The never wrong Prophet Isaiah wrote this quoting satan...

Isaiah 14:13-14 AMPC

13 And you said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will sit upon the mount of assembly in the uttermost north.

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.

The “Never Wrong” Prophet tells us of three heavens, and the Bible specifically indicates what the three heavens are.

3 Levels of Heaven

1. Clouds (clouds thru the stars)
2. Stars (stars until the end of the stars)
3. End of the stars (begins the third heaven where God dwells)

Man has dominion over the first heaven -

First heaven: Adam was given dominion over the birds that fly. Second heaven: Principalities, rulers of darkness and high places. Third Heaven: God dwells and rules. In between the first and third heavens, where we are and where God is, we have spiritual warfare going on. (Ephesians 6:11-12)...

The Bible tells us that after man was created, everything was good, it was pleasant and then God rested. As a result of that verse, some believe that it was after the creation of Adam and Eve that Satan fell (along with 1/3 of the angels) but one thing we know, there was something being built at the same time in the third heaven...the New Jerusalem.

This is the “Never Wrong” Prophet Ezekiel telling us about what happened when God spoke to Lucifer.

Note: The prophetic passages in Isaiah that we read referred to satan but also the King of Babylon, the prophetic passage in Ezekiel is similar by the author not limiting the context to the King of Tyre.

Ezekiel 28:13-15,17 KJV

*13 Thou hast been in **Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering**, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.*

*14 **Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth**; and I have set thee so: **thou wast upon the holy mountain of God**; thou hast **walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire**.*

*15 Thou **wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee**.*

17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness:

The “Never Wrong” Prophet Ezekiel is speaking of the Holy Mountain of God in the Third Heaven and not a mountain on earth in Jerusalem at that present time. Also, this is the Heavenly Eden and not the earthly Eden, there is a difference.

In verse 14 of Ezekiel chapter 28, God is speaking to an anointed cherub...no other angel or cherub is called anointed but this one.

Ezekiel 28:14 KJV

*14 **Thou art the anointed cherub** that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.*

Websters Dictionary 1828

Cherub defined: A figure composed of various creatures, as a man, an ox, an eagle or lion. The first mention of cherubs is in Genesis 3:24, where the figure is not described, but their office was, with a flaming sword, to keep or guard the way of the tree of life. The two cherubs which Moses was commanded to make at the ends of the Mercy seat, were to be of beaten work of gold; and their wings were to extend over the Mercy seat, their faces towards each other, and between them was the residence of the Deity. Exodus 15:1.

The cherubs, in Ezekiel's vision, had each four heads or faces, the hands of a man and wings. The four faces were, the face of a bull, that of a man, that of a lion, and that of an eagle. They had the likeness of a man. Ezekiel 4:1, and 10. In 2 Samuel 22:11, and Psalms 18:10, Jehovah is represented as riding on a cherub and flying on the wings of the wind. In the celestial hierarchy, cherubs are represented as spirits next in order to seraphs. The hieroglyphical and emblematical figures embroidered on the vails of the tabernacle are called cherubs of curious or skilful work. Exodus 26:1.

Ezekiel 28:14 KJV

*14 **Thou art the anointed cherub** that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; **thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.***

There are 4 English translations of the Bible that translate verse 14 “the gemstones of fire” which is from the original Hebrew text.

Note: Every gem stone is formed in fire..

I have yet to read anyone/anything that would disagree this is not referring to satan, this anointed cherub and angel is Lucifer. I know the context as well and the hermeneutics behind it from speaking of earthly kings along with Lucifer or satan and the parallels to which the author is speaking picturing these story lines together...

Here's satan in verse 13 with 9 gemstones.

Ezekiel 28:13-15 KJV

13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold (note: gold is a filigree or lattice defined in Exodus 28): the workmanship of thy tabrets (percussion instruments) and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

Remember, Satan is the master musician, he was over the music. The 9 gemstones listed here by Ezekiel are also 9 or the 12 gemstones on the breast plate of the High Priest Aaron representing the 12 tribes of Israel.

Exodus 28:12-25 AMPC

12 And you shall put the two stones upon the [two] shoulder straps of the ephod [of the high priest] as memorial stones for Israel; and Aaron shall bear their names upon his two shoulders as a memorial before the Lord.

13 And you shall make sockets or rosettes of gold for settings,

14 And two chains of pure gold, like cords shall you twist them, and fasten the corded chains to the settings.

15 You shall make a breastplate of judgment, in skilled work; like the workmanship of the ephod shall you make it, of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet [stuff], and of fine twined linen.

16 The breastplate shall be square and doubled; a span [nine inches] shall be its length and a span shall be its breadth.

17 You shall set in it four rows of stones: a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle shall be the first row;

18 The second row an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond [so called at that time];

19 The third row a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst;

20 And the fourth row a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper; they shall be set in gold filigree.

21 And the stones shall be twelve, according to the names of the sons of Israel, like the engravings of a signet, each with its name for the twelve tribes.



There are only 9 gemstones listed by Ezekiel covering satan at the time he was kicked out. According to God's Word, these precious gemstones are a "covering" and from the Hebrew language they would of been adorned or on his body, fingers and or arms.

Satan was supervising, over the production of, walking up and down in the midst of the fire preparing these precious gemstones for the Holy City of Jerusalem. Rabbinical teachings say that when a floor is completed this angel was covered with that gemstone. He fell between the 9 and 10th floor of the building of the New Jerusalem and that is why he only had 9 of the 12 gemstones covering at the time he was kicked out.

Why was he kicked out?

Ezekiel 28:15-17 KJV

15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Pride, vanity, desire to be elevated...

Proverbs 16:18-19 AMPC

16 How much better it is to get skillful and godly Wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

17 The highway of the upright turns aside from evil; he who guards his way preserves his life.

18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

19 Better it is to be of a humble spirit with the meek and poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

This is the danger of pride, "I don't think this is sin"... "I think this is an acceptable sacrifice unto God"... believing, "did God really say that"?

Remember, Jude warned the church about this, that there will be those who were once following God with their whole heart. Those who were once obedient to His Word habitually, but gave themselves over to the desires of the flesh, spiritual pride, a haughty spirit.

Jude 5-7 AMPC

5 Now I want to remind you, though you were fully informed once for all, that though the Lord [at one time] delivered a people out of the land of Egypt, He subsequently destroyed those [of them] who did not believe [who refused to adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him].

6 And angels who did not keep (care for, guard, and hold to) their own first place of power but abandoned their proper dwelling place—these He has reserved in custody in eternal chains (bonds) under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgment and doom of the great day.

7 [The wicked are sentenced to suffer] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns—which likewise gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice and sensual perversity—are laid out [in plain sight] as an exhibit of perpetual punishment [to warn] of everlasting fire.

Imagine Lucifer who was once building the Holy City of Jerusalem the New Jerusalem in all its splendor and glory... who was walking amongst the gemstones that God was and is using to construct the walls of New Jerusalem and their relationship to the twelve tribes of Israel. This gleaming city, "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:2, HBFV), will be created and brought from heaven to a new earth only after all evil has been purged from the entire universe (see Revelation 20).

But Lucifer walked away during the construction process - between the 9th and 10th gemstone being completed. He knew what he was building and why but pride stopped him from spending eternity in Heaven to a place called the Lake of Fire for all eternity.

Can you imagine after building the Ark for 97 years knowing why, and what you must do to complete the job, walking away with 3 years left?

What is the New Jerusalem like?

The New Jerusalem is massive

The New Jerusalem is laid out in the form of a massive cube—it's length, width and height are all equal distance. New Jerusalem is at least 1,500 miles around at its base, while some believe that each side of the city is 1,500 miles in length. (See Revelation 21:16). The size of New Jerusalem means there is plenty of room for everyone who wants to live in the city. The city is so large that there is enough room for those alive today and all those who have lived in the past.

The gates

The city has twelve gates, three per side. Each gate is fashioned from a single pearl with an angel next to it. The pearls have the names of the twelve tribes of Israel written upon them. Best of all, these gates will never be shut—day or night. (See Revelation 21:12, 25).

A transparent city

The New Jerusalem is brilliant, shining with the glory of God. The city's light is like that of precious jasper as clear as crystal. New Jerusalem itself is likened to pure gold, as clear as glass. John also writes that the streets are made of pure and transparent gold. (See Revelation 21:11, 18, 21).

The foundations

New Jerusalem has twelve foundations made of precious stones with the names of the twelve apostles written on them. (See Revelation 21:14).

The walls

The city has a great and high wall of pure jasper (Revelation 21:12, 18). Revelation 21:17 adds, "Then he [an angel] measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel." So the wall was measured at 216 feet or 144 cubits, which many assume to be the wall's width.

No sun or moon

New Jerusalem is fully illuminated by the glory of God and the light of the Lamb brightens the city (Revelation 21:23). There is no need for the Sun or Moon. Revelation 21:25, even says “there shall be no night there.”

The River & Tree of Life

Revelation 22:1, speaks of a river flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb. This pure river of water of life is clear as crystal and the tree of life is on each side of the river. This tree produces fruit every month and its leaves are for the “healing of the nations.” Ezekiel 47:12, adds that the trees “will bear fruit every month because their water flows from the sanctuary.”

No more suffering or pain

New Jerusalem will be very beautiful. However, the city’s beauty will not even begin to compare to the joy of the saved as they experience no more aches and pains, suffering or death. Revelation 21:4 explains that, “God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

The Bible says that heaven will be more incredible than we can imagine.

1 Corinthians 2:9 KJV

9 But as it is written, 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.

