

### **Revelation 21:10-11 (HCSB)**

**10** He then carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, **11** arrayed with God's glory. Her radiance was like a very precious stone, like a jasper stone, bright as crystal.

### **Revelation 21:23-24 (HCSB)**

**23** The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because God's glory illuminates it, and its lamp is the Lamb. **24** The nations will walk in its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

### **Revelation 22:1-5 (HCSB)**

**22** Then he showed me the river of living water, sparkling like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb **2** down the middle of the broad street of the city. The tree of life was on both sides of the river, bearing 12 kinds of fruit, producing its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree are for healing the nations, **3** and there will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and His slaves will serve Him. **4** They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. **5** Night will no longer exist, and people will not need lamplight or sunlight, because the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign forever and ever.

1. The Biblical Story begins with a very physical world and ends with a very physical world.
2. God's Plan for his people is *not* a disembodied spiritual experience.
3. God's Plan does not *begin* with matter only to finally become a *refined* world of spirits and angels and clouds.
4. Creation is The First word.  
Creation is The Last word.
5. The Biblical Story begins with a beginning and ends with a beginning.