

Message: ***"Here Comes the Bride!"***

Scripture: Revelation 21:9-27
(07-06-25 Pastor Tony Hao)

The passage begins with one of the seven angels saying to John, *"Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb."* This is symbolic language. New Jerusalem represents the people of God—you and me, the Church, glorified. This is the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan: His people, beautifully adorned, dwelling in His presence forever. It is radiant with the glory of God. Like a rare jewel, clear as crystal. The focus is not just on the architecture but on the presence of God.

John says, *"I saw no temple in the city."* Why? Because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. *"And there's no need for sun or moon."* The glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. In other words, worship is no longer centered around a place, but a Person. We will live in the unfiltered presence of God, basking in His light, with nothing separating us from Him. One day, we won't pray to a distant throne—we will walk with Him face to face.

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

1. What is it about the New Jerusalem that John and his readers are meant to notice in particular? Why? What impresses you the most about this city?
2. How much the early Christians have greeted this vision of what is in store for them? How do you respond to this same hope?
3. What do you think it will be like living with the continual and direct presence of God? Will this new world be recognizable? How so?
4. How do you feel knowing that the New Jerusalem will be your hometown? That this is what Jesus has prepared for you?