

Language of light in Revelation 21.9-26

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. **It has the glory of God** and a **radiance like a very valuable stone**, like jasper, **shining like crystal [krustallizonti]**. It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. The angel who talked to me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. The city lies four-square, its length the same as its width; and he measured the city with his rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal. He also measured its wall, one hundred forty-four cubits by human measurement, which the angel was using. The wall is built of jasper, while the **city is pure gold, pure as glass**. The foundations of the wall of the city are adorned with every valuable stone; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates are twelve pearls, each of the gates is a single pearl, and the **street of the city is pure gold, pure as glass**. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has **no need of sun or moon to shine** on it, for the **glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light**, and the **kings of the earth will bring their glory into it**. Its gates will never be shut by day--and **there will be no night** there. **People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations**.