

In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month ; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." None of the cities of the earth can shelter from the effects of sin ; such as sickness, tears, suffering, death ; but no pain exists in the heavenly city. The apostle sees it coming down out of heaven from God prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Eternal life, joy, blessing, will be the happy part of all those who are found there ; all tears shall be wiped from their eyes, and God Himself will be with them, their God.

The treasures of the earth are not lasting. "The world passeth away and the lust thereof" and in fact will be burned up (II Peter, iii, 7) ; but the city we speak of is permanent ; and all who enter therein do the will of God ; they dwell there eternally (I. John, ii, 17).

How marvellous is the description of the heavenly city ! It has no doubt been given us to stimulate our hearts, to nourish them in hope ; and to remind us that it is time for us to awake out of sleep, "for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand" (Rom. xiii, 11-12). Faith is about to give place to sight ; and we shall soon be forever with the Lord. Let us then seek more the things which are above, that our hearts may not be seduced by the vain pleasures of the earth. The trials of the pilgrimage will soon be past.

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob confessed that they