

the gates ; but the heavenly city has no need of the sun nor the moon to lighten it, nor are there any lamps needed. "The gates of it shall not be shut at all by day," and "there shall be no night there." "For the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."

However numerous the inhabitants of the greatest cities of this world may be ; however famous the wisdom of the citizens ; human governments, honorable as those may be who exercise them, cannot last, for all are subject to death. Furthermore, they speak different languages, and in many cases the inhabitants of one city cannot understand the speech of those of another. There are also those who are shut up in prisons on account of their misdeeds. But those who dwell in the city of God are innumerable, and all are saints. They are kings and priests. Their bodies are fashioned like the glorious body of the Lord Jesus (Phil. iii, 21). They have also white robes, and crowns of gold. They all speak the same heavenly language. The glory and honor of the nations are brought unto it ; "And there shall in no wise enter into it, anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie : but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

Rivers of water run through many of the cities of the earth ; and they are ornamented with beautiful avenues of trees ; which however do not bear fruit, and which for the most part, shed their leaves in the winter. But of the heavenly city, we read that there is "a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

In the
the ri
mann
and th
nation
from t
ing, de
The ap
God p
Eterna
those v
from th
their C

The t
world p
will be
speak o
the will
ii, 17).

How
city ! I
our hear
that it is
is our sa
night is
11-12).
shall soon
seek more
may not
earth. T

Abraha