Week 10: Heavenly Gold, riches & treasure

1. Introduction: Pictures of heavenly gemstones (powerpoint slides)
2. Read Gems from the City by DHE Woodward
3. Gems from the heavenly city are perfectly formed, both in respect to their outer shape and their internal structure
4. Ruby is not in the city due to its ability to produce laser light: “The conditions which we are told exist in the The City are the best possible for the production of laser light from a ruby. It follows that there would always be an ever present risk of disaster, perhaps inadvertently produced.”(page 36)
5. “The possibility of a man picking 12 gemstones in the year 96, all hardness of 7 or over and all giving these colored effects is extremely unlikely. The fact is that out of the 28 known gemstones, the chances of John choosing the 12 correct ones is less than 1 in 30,000,000.” (page 16-17)
6. Picture of gems that Eric Bents shared with us
7. Heavenly Gemstones: Revelation 2:17, “…*I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it.”*
8. **White stone**= like a brilliant, shining diamond/precious stone
9. Shining; glistening; precious stone
10. Reward for faithfulness
11. “*Then those who feared the Lord talked often one to another; and the Lord listened and heard it, and a* ***book of remembrance was written before Him of those who reverenced and worshipfully feared the Lord******and who thought on His name****. And they shall be Mine, says the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I publicly recognize and openly declare them to be My jewels (My special possession, My peculiar treasure)*,” Malachi 3:16-17

* Reward for remembrance for dedication to Jesus
* Reward for overcoming compromise (compromise means to settle; make concessions; middle ground)
* Set your heart to pursue Jesus
* Do not squander your time, money, energy on the pleasures in this kingdom
* Shake off the lethargic spirit of the world (the church)

1. **New name**= your story of who you are (character; faithfulness & role in the Kingdom)
2. We don’t know how much we move God’s heart until this day
3. Jesus will give us a name that reveals how He feels toward us
4. This name is known only to him who receives it and Jesus ~ very personal and intimate

* No one else besides Jesus understands what it took for you to be faithful
* Expressing my unique relationship with Jesus
* Simon was changed to Peter (his position as a rock)
* Abram was changed to Abraham (father of a multitude)~ Genesis 17
* Jacob was changed to Israel (Prince with God)~ Genesis 32
* Isaiah 62:2, *“…you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow*.”
* Isaiah 65:15, *“….but to his servants he will give another name.”*

1. This name may apply to various degrees of honor and privilege~ indicating your place/position/role in government and to describe your relationship with Jesus

* Could be like an invitation
* Precious stones were given as awards of honor to those who offered valiant service to the city or in battle. Those receiving these stones were also given special privileges. These stones with their name written on it gave them admission to special events, including the games and feasts hosted by the Roman gov’t.

1. Introduction to Gold~
2. Read Kat Kerr’s section on Streets of Gold (Revealing Heaven II) ~ pages 41-43
3. Gold refined in the fire is a costly and painful process to remove the dross

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=apD5cPVsDjc> (5 minute video on mining for gold and the refining process)

1. **Gold refined in the fire**: Revelation 3:18, “*I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire so you can become rich…”*
2. The gold of godly character
3. A tenderized heart to desire more of Him
4. I Peter 1:7 “*These (trials) have come so that your faith~ of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire~ may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed*.”
5. Eternal treasure/gold will be seen in our eternal dwellings, crowns, garments
6. Psalm 45:13, “*All glorious is the princess within her chamber, her gown is interwoven with gold.”*
7. Gold speaks of:
8. Status (royalty/trophy/medal)
9. Covenant (like a wedding ring)
10. What is in our heart in this age? Who is listening to Jesus’ counsel?
11. I Corinthians 3:12-13, “*If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is because the DAY will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man’s work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames*.”
12. The fire of God’s holiness will reveal the quality of these works
13. Eternity will hold for us what we have invested there during this life on earth.
14. “*I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve*,” Jeremiah 17:10.