**VICTORIOUS LIFE BIBLE STUDY**

**THE BOOK OF REVELATION- QUESTIONS**

1. Who is living outside of the city of the New Jerusalem?

**Revelation 22:14-15**

**“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.”**

For Without- The person’s who are mentioned in this text are not **“LIVING”** outside of the city. When they are described as “Those who are **“outside”** meaning that they are those excluded from access to the city, not those in close proximity to it. The list encountered in 22:15 is a specific warning regarding the consequences of not keeping the words of the prophecy of this book. Most, if not all, of the terms in this list have special meaning derived from Revelation. 21

 Scholars usually understand the "dogs." listed among those outsiders to the holy city in Revelation 22:14-15, is a metaphor for false teachers or immoral practitioners. They might also be understood in relation to the next category on the list, the "sorcerers" who, in fact, can be understood as scapegoats. There are articles that examine the role of dogs in rituals of purification, especially those used in the cult of Hecate, an underworld goddess often associated with dogs. Revelation 22 is here rejecting her cult and claims that purification is only through those who have washed their clothes in the blood of the Lamb. This warning would remind readers of a similar one in 21:8, where many of the same terms occur.

**8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.**

The meaning of οἱ κύνες (hoi kynes, “the dogs”) is not altogether clear, as it appears only here in Revelation. The reputation of dogs as the scavengers of the ancient world, who come to represent the extremes of base behavior and consequently would be unclean and deemed unfit to gain admission to the holy city, is easy enough to surmise. In addition, dogs function in the Psalter (22:16, 20) as malicious people who oppose and persecute God’s anointed.

**Psalm 22:16**

**16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.**

**Psalm 22:20**

**20 Deliver my soul from the sword; my darling from the power of the dog.**

In the Torah the word “dog” is a metaphor for a male prostitute, whose[…]”“whose person and money are deemed unclean and therefore cannot be brought into “the house of the LORD your God” (Deut 23:18).

**Deuteronomy 23:18**

**Living Bible**

**17-18 “No prostitutes are permitted in Israel, either men or women; you must not bring to the Lord any offering from the earnings of a prostitute or a homosexual, for both are detestable to the Lord your God.**

**2. How are the New Heaven and the New Earth Formed?**

**Revelation 21**

**Living Bible**

**Then I saw a new earth (with no oceans!) and a new sky, for the present earth and sky had disappeared. 2 And I, John, saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven. It was a glorious sight, beautiful as a bride at her wedding.**

The Revelation account does not give us any information regarding the formation of the New Heaven and the New Earth except that it declares that it came down **FROM God.** We can only assume that the New Heaven and the New Earths creation follows the same pattern as the original creation which is out of the mouth of God. Two terms are familiar with us concerning the creation of all things.

Creation Ex Nihilo- Creation out of Nothing

**Genesis 1:1**

**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.**

**Job 26:7**

**7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.**

Creation Per Verbum- Creation by the spoken word

**Genesis 1:1-3**

**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.**

**2 And the earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. 3 And God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.**

**John 1:1-3**

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made.**

**3. The scripture about the Lamb laying down with the wolf:**

**Isaiah 11:6-9, which reads:**

***“The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The infant will play by the cobra’s den, and the toddler will reach into the viper’s nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the sea is full of water.”***

From the Book of [Isaiah](https://www.dictionary.com/browse/isaiah); this saying is part of a description of an Earthly [paradise](https://www.dictionary.com/browse/paradise) that will follow the restoration of [Israel](https://www.dictionary.com/browse/israel) after its destruction in a series of wars. The full text reads: “The wolf shall also dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.” The reference to a “little child” is sometimes thought to be a prophecy of [Jesus](https://www.dictionary.com/browse/jesus)' birth.

In Revelation this text is referring to the advent of the new heaven and the new earth. While believers shall reign on earth with Christ for the 1000 years sin has not been fully removed from earth and eternity. The picture of the Lion, Wow and Lamb dwelling together is one that signifies the perfection and renewal of all things in creation and the end of sin.

**4. Where do the 114,000 come from?**

The number 144,000 appears three times in the [Book of Revelation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book_of_Revelation):

**Revelation 7:3–8:**

**saying: "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of God on their foreheads."
And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the** [**sons of Israel**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israelites)**:
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Judah**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Judah) **were sealed,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Reuben**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Reuben)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Gad**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Gad)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Asher**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Asher)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Naphtali**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Naphtali)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Manasseh**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Manasseh)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Simeon**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Simeon)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Levi**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Levi)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Issachar**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Issachar)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Zebulun**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Zebulun)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Joseph**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Joseph)**,
12,000 from the** [**tribe of Benjamin**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribe_of_Benjamin) **were sealed.[**

**Revelation 14:1:**

**Then I looked, and behold, on** [**Mount Zion**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Zion) **stood the** [**Lamb**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lamb_of_God)**, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.**

**Revelation 14:3–5:**

**and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the** [**four living creatures**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Living_Creatures) **and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.[**

The 144,000 are recently converted Jewish evangelists sent out to bring sinners to Jesus Christ during the seven year tribulation period.