

22. Next follows the antithesis to all this scene of terror, which accompanied the introduction of the ancient law. Worshipers, under the new dispensation, approach a scene of a very different nature... *but ye come to mount Zion*. Not the literal mount Zion, but the figurative, i.e. heavenly one. This is made plain, by the additional description which follows... *and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem*. The epithet... here determines, of course, that a *spiritual Jerusalem, a heavenly city* is meant. Comp. Heb.11:14—16. 12:28. 13:14. Gal. 4:26. Rev. 3:12. 21:2, 10.

For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that *country* from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city. (Hebrew 11:14-16)

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. (Hebrews 12:28)

For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. (Hebrews 13:14)

But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. (Galatians 4:26)

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, *which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.* (Revelation 3 :12)

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Revelation 21:2)

And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. (Revelation 21:10)

(Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews, Vol. II by M. Stuart, Andover: Published... by Mark Newman, 1828, 293; Commentary on Hebrews 12:22)