## **INTRODUCTION:** <u>AN UNSPOILED, PRIVATE PARK</u>

## I. THE CITY OF HUMAN IMAGINATION (see Jer.23:16; Dt.4:28; Rom.1:23f)

A. POLITICAL IDEAL VS. GEOGRAPHICAL, SOCIAL (polij: politics, polity)

B. RULING POLITICAL CENTER OF A DISTRICT (e.g., Oswego, Albany, Washington)

C. CITIZENS PARTICIPATE VS. WOMEN, CHILDREN, ALIENS, SLAVES (see Acts 22:28)

D. LIMITED, LOCAL, SELF-GOVERNING (e.g., city-state with subordinate towns and colonies)

E. CONSTITUTIONAL: PUBLIC LIFE SET IN ORDER BY CONSENT OF CITIZENS (commonwealth)

F. FREEDOM: BY WILLING SUBJECTION TO LAWS OF CONSENT (vs. monarchy, bureaucracy)

**G. IDEALS INCARNATED IN GODS WHO UNITED CITY-STATE WITH PAGAN CHURCH** (god/s for each city-state; Acts 19:35; see Jer.10:7,8)

H. DEMISE: INNER SELFISHNESS & OUTER ATTACK (e.g., city-states vs. empire of Alexander)
I. SUMMARY: HUMANS W/ THEIR IDOLS (gods) & IDEALS (ie, idolatry & immorality; Dt.4:28; Is.2:8)

## II. <u>THE CITY OF DIVINE REVELATION</u> (Dt.29:29; Is.51:16; 59:21; Jer.1:9; 2Tm.3:16; 2Pt.1:21)

A. GEOGRAPHICAL, SOCIAL REALITY (gathering of families, tribes; see Gen.4:17)

B. WALLED TOWN WITH ITS VILLAGES (Josh.15:45f; see Num.21:25, daughters)

C. HOMETOWNS (1Sam.20:6; 2Sam.5:7f)

- D. KINGDOM: PURCHASED & RULED BY GOD (see Ex.20:1f; Dt.28:52; redeemed vs. self-reliant)
- E. PUBLIC LIFE SET IN ORDER BY THE LAW OF GOD (Ex.20:1f; divine theocracy vs. human politics)
- **F. THE CITY THAT HE CHOSE FOR HIMSELF** (Dt.12:5,11; 14:24; 2Chr.6:28; Ps.46:4; 48:1,2,8; 78:68; 87:2,3; 101:8; Is.38:2; 60:14; Rev.20:9)
- **G. CITY OF SIN VS. CITY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS** (Babel, Sodom vs. Jerusalem; Gen.11:1f; Is.1:21,26; Mt.4:5; Rev.11:8; 14:8; 21:2f; note: Essenes not live in cities)
- H. OLD JERUSALEM DOOMED: SIN & DISCIPLINE (Dt.28:52; 2Chr.36:1f; also Lk.13:34f; 21:20f)
- **I. NEW JERUSALEM PROMISED** (Is.52:1; Ezk.40-48; Gal.4:25; Phil.3:20; Heb.11:10,16; 12:22-24; 13:14; Rev.3:12; 21:2; see Gen.2:8f,15f; 3:24; note: kingdom of heaven, Mt.3:2, etc.; see Phil.3:20; Col.3:1f)
- J. SUMMARY: GOD WITH HIS PEOPLE (i.e., religious & moral (vs. political); worship & life)

## III. <u>REJOICE IN THE BLESSED HOPE OF LIFE IN THE ETERNAL CITY OF GOD!</u> (Tt 2:12: and Heb 11:10-16: 12:22-24: 12:14: Day 21-22)

(Tt.2:13; see Heb.11:10,16; 12:22-24; 13:14; Rev.21,22)

Brethren, what shall <u>WE DO</u>? (see Acts 2:37f)