



## SEVEN PICTURES OF THE CHURCH

### GOD'S CITY

You have come to **Mount Zion**, to the city of the living God, the heavenly **Jerusalem**. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to **the church** of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. - Heb 12:22-23.

You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but **fellow citizens** with God's people. - Eph 2:19.

Explain the irony illustrated with the exchange recorded in Acts 22:27-28.

For Further study:

Read Isaiah 49 to see God's promise to rescue and expand his city. Explain how this picture of restoration and enlargement of the city is fulfilled in the Church.

### A Righteous and True City

Share the good and bad you have observed surrounding "national pride." Explain why belonging to a certain place or saying certain oaths doesn't really make you part of God's holy city. (Isaiah 48:1-4,22)

### An Opposite Metaphor

List the evils found in the godless cities which represent the unbelieving world. Share the fate of that "city."

- ❖ Rev 18
- ❖ Isaiah 47
- ❖ Jude 7

### A Different Citizenship

Review how our citizenship was changed. (Ephesians 2, Psalm 87)

National pride and joy matters. Contrast the mindset of the citizens of heaven with those who set their minds on earthly things. (Phil 3:18-4:1)

### A Growing City

Read the prophecies about God's city and share how it they are fulfilled in the Church.

- ❖ Ezekiel 11:14-21
- ❖ Zechariah 2

### A City That Will Not Be Shaken

Share what God will do for his persecuted and besieged city on the last day. (Rev 20:7-10)

Explain the pictures and how God's everlasting city will shine forever. (Rev 21:1-22:5)

List what makes God's city secure at all times. (Psalm 46)