

Embrace  
Holy  
Living

# RE- FLECTING GOD

**08/24/21 - Where Friends Await Me**

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Revelation 21:9-11, 22-27

Travel has been one of the joys of my life. Though my first airplane flight was taken at 20 years old, jobs and ministry opportunities, after completing university study, including travel quickly made up the difference. My journeys since have included 49 states in the United States and 40 nations globally.

Yet when people ask me about my favorite destinations, I quickly reply, "Where friends are!" Though historic sites and scenic landscapes were very enjoyable, the most memorable times have included coffee shared, warm conversations, engaging discussions, and moving times of worship in one accord. A day spent in modest surroundings, but with rich fellowship and service, always wins the day.

Expectations of eternity often center on golden streets and ornate mansions. However, when John was taken up to the holy city, the angel took him first to the "bride, the wife of the Lamb," and the "glory and honor of the nations ... brought into it" (vv. 9, 26). Though filled with precious stones, the light to all is Jesus himself. Heaven will be where our friends await us!

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