

Ezekiel 48:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And these are the goings out of the city on the north side, four thousand and five hundred measures.

Analysis

The description—'And these are the goings out of the city on the north side, four thousand and five hundred measures'—begins detailing the city's dimensions. The Hebrew **וַיַּעֲשֵׂה** (totse'ot, 'goings out') refers to borders or extremities. The 4,500-measure dimension (likely cubits or reeds) creates a perfect square when combined with other sides (verses 30-34). This geometric perfection symbolizes divine order and completeness. The number 4,500 might combine 1,000 (multitude) times 4.5 or other significant breakdowns. Reformed theology sees the perfect square echoing the Most Holy Place (1 Kings 6:20) and New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:16)—God's ultimate dwelling with humanity perfected. The symmetry indicates God's justice and fairness—all sides equal, no favoritism.

Historical Context

Ancient cities' dimensions carried symbolic and practical significance. Jerusalem's Old City totals approximately 3,000 feet per side (smaller than Ezekiel's vision), suggesting this describes either ideal dimensions, millennial city or symbolic realities. The perfect square contrasts with irregular shapes of typical ancient cities built according to terrain. The measurements' precision recalls detailed temple measurements (Ezekiel 40-42), extending divine order from sanctuary to city—comprehensive sanctification. Nehemiah's rebuilt Jerusalem had measured dimensions and assigned gates (Nehemiah 3, 12:27-43). The city's foursquare shape anticipates New Jerusalem: 'the length and the breadth and the height of it

are equal' (Revelation 21:16)—perfect cube like the Most Holy Place, signifying unmediated divine presence throughout the entire city.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does your spiritual life reflect the 'perfect square' of balanced, comprehensive holiness?
2. What does the city's equal dimensions teach about God's impartial justice and consistent standards?
3. How seriously do you pursue comprehensive sanctification (entire city holy) versus compartmentalized spirituality?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵלֶּה תְּוֹצִיא תַּחַת יְדֵי מִפְּאָת צָפְנָת וְסִמְנָת
H428 And these are the goings out of the city side on the north and five
H8444 H5892 H6285 H6828 H2568

מִזְהָב אֶלֶף יָמִין וְאֶרֶב עַת מִזְהָב
hundred four thousand measures
H3967 H702 H505 H4060

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 48:16 (Parallel theme): And these shall be the measures thereof; the north side four thousand and five hundred, and the south side four thousand and five hundred, and on the east side four thousand and five hundred, and the west side four thousand and five hundred.

