

Live in the True City of Peace, Happiness, and Enlightenment

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➤ Intro:

- watched “Extreme Towns” on Travel Channel
- showed **Maharishi Vedic City, Iowa** – city in the USA – 1st city built on Vedic principles
 - “. . . Maharishi Vedic City, Iowa, USA incorporated on July 21, 2001, as a model of ideal city life. The name “Vedic” comes from the Sanskrit word “Veda,” which means “knowledge.” The name “Maharishi” is in honor of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi who is renowned throughout the world for bringing to light in a scientific, systematic manner the complete Vedic science of consciousness. This includes 40 approaches to promote life supported by total Natural Law and enhance the quality of every aspect of life”
(<http://www.maharishivediccity-iowa.gov>).
 - **video: YouTube, shows architecture of city, every building built according to Hindu religious traditions** (Maharishi Sthapatya VedaSM design) to promote health, happiness, and good fortune
- the town is governed so that strict Vedic traditions are observed by all citizens
 - all buildings are Vedic: face east and have a central silent space called a Brahmasthan, and a golden roof ornament called a kalash
 - health: town has a college of Vedic medicine, and The Raj Resort which is a spa based on the natural prevention-oriented Maharishi Vedic Approach to Health
 - agriculture: only organic food can be sold in the town, all other is illegal
 - education: schools teach and every student daily practices meditation at school
 - “Recognizing that the solution to all problems is proper education-education that develops the total brain potential and cosmic creative intelligence of every student-the City adopted an ordinance on January 28, 2004, to establish Maharishi Vedic University to provide a public university, colleges, and primary and secondary schools for the city's residents. The City and the surrounding area is also home to pioneering Consciousness-Based universities and schools including Maharishi University of Management, Maharishi School of the Age of Enlightenment, Maharishi Open University, Maharishi Spiritual University, and Ideal Girls School” (<http://www.maharishivediccity-iowa.gov>).
 - currency: currency of the City is the Raam-the development currency of the Global Country of World Peace
 - also accept US dollars and credit cards
 - Vedic Defense: “Founded to become a “lighthouse of peace” for America and the world. The City is working to establish a permanent group of peace-creating experts whose daily practice of Maharishi’s Transcendental Meditation™ and Yogic Flying techniques will promote coherent national and world consciousness and thereby prevent any negativity from arising in America or in the family of nations”
(<http://www.maharishivediccity-iowa.gov>).
- the purpose of the Vedic city is to create heaven on earth – a city of peace, happiness, and enlightenment
 - Vedic religions (Hinduism) has grown into different sub-religions, some of which believe in different man-made deities
 - but it falls short, because it’s not from God – it’s based on the doctrines of men

this lesson: live in the true city of peace, happiness, and enlightenment

- **Peace: only God gives true peace** - not Vedic (Hindu) living
 - **Ja. 4:4** peace is being friends with God
 - **Jn. 15:14** “You are My friends if you do what I command you.”
 - obey God to be friend, at peace
 - - **Rom. 5:1, 6, 8-10** peace with God through faith, Jesus died for us
 - - **Rom. 3:23-25a** redemption in Christ, propitiation in His blood through faith
 - through faith we are at peace with God, made possible by Jesus death for us on the cross
 - - **Matt. 10:34-39** peace as a Christians is not the same as the world
 - true peace often results in strained interpersonal relationships with unbelievers
 - - **Ja. 3:13, 17a, 18** godly wisdom results in peace, not worldly wisdom (**Matt. 10:34-39**)
 - - **Eph. 5:15-17** wisdom is understanding the will of Lord
 - understand: Greek *sunimi* (soon-ee'-ay-mee), one who hears and “understands” bears fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty (**Matt. 13:23**)
 - the wise understand God’s word and are at peace – God, themselves, man
 - - **Phil. 4:4-9, 11, 13** peace results from complete devotion to God
 - **1 Pet. 5:6-7** humble selves under the mighty hand of God, casting all your anxiety on Him
- peace does not reside in a physical city on earth, nor can it be obtained through man-made religious observances, but only by obeying God and serving Him with all our being

- **Happiness: only God gives true happiness** - not Vedic (Hindu) living
 - happiness is trusting and obeying God
 - **Ps. 40:8** happiness (delight) is doing the will of the Lord – cf. peace
 - - **Pr. 29:18** happiness is keeping God's law – cf. peace
 - - happiness is being a Christian, child of God, serving God and working in His kingdom
 - **Matt. 5:3-12** blessed (translated from Greek adj. meaning happy) serving God
 - serving God makes us happy, even if people treat us badly
 - happiness from God is greater than the grief people may give us for doing it
 - if serving God is what makes us happy and peaceful, these are the things we consider to be fun and enjoyable
 - not the passing pleasures of sin
- peace and happiness do not reside in a physical city on earth, nor can it be obtained through man-made religious observances, but only by obeying God and serving Him with all our being

- **Enlightenment: only God spiritually enlightens us** - not Vedic (Hindu) living
 - **Ps. 19:8** commandments of the Lord enlighten us
 - **Eph. 5:15-17** wise, understand the will of the Lord – result, bear fruit (**Matt. 13:23**)

- - **Col. 2:2-3** must be in Christ to be spiritually enlightened, today
- - **Eph. 1:17-19a** Paul's prayer for Christians that they are enlightened, to know the hope of their calling, and surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe
- - **Eph. 1:19b-23** because of Christ, and what God has done through Him

- - **2 Pet. 1:2-4a** we are spiritually enlightened because we are partakers of His divine nature
 - **2 Pet. 1:5-11** note the process of coming to spiritual maturity
 - **not a process of applying Vedic (Hindu) doctrines**
 - not living in a house that faces a prescribed direction
 - not practicing transcendental meditation
 - not eating a particular diet
 - not living in a particular city

- peace, happiness, and enlightenment can only be obtained by obeying God and serving Him with all our being

- **You must be a member of Jesus' church to have peace, happiness, and enlightenment** – since must be in Christ
 - **Eph. 1:3** we must be in Christ to obtain spiritual blessings
 - peace, happiness, enlightenment is in Christ
 - only have peace, happiness, enlightenment if we're in Christ's church

- - **Rom. 6:3; Acts 2:38, 40-41, 47b** baptized: into Christ, saved, added to church
 - people in Christ are members of His church

- - **Acts 20:28** this is possible because Jesus purchased the church with His own blood
 - **Acts 22:16; Rev. 7:14** our sins are washed away with the blood of Jesus when we are baptized
 - **Eph. 5:23** Jesus is Savior of the body
 - **1 Pet. 1:18-19** we are redeemed with the blood of Jesus
 - we have peace, happiness, enlightenment because of Jesus, we owe it all to Him
 - Jesus not purchase any other church, or any US city

- **As a member of Jesus' church, you'll live in God's eternal city, if you're faithful till death**
 - on earth peace and happiness and enlightenment can not be obtained by living in a city, but only by being a Christian and a member of Jesus' church

 - but there is an eternal city God has prepared for Christians to live in, which we'll enter into after judgment

 - **Rev. 21:1-7; 22:1-5** eternal city of God, heaven, faithful Christians enter and live forever

Summary / Inv.

- only God gives true peace, happiness, and enlightenment
- today, you have to be a Christian and member of Jesus' church. . . .
- in eternity, we'll live in the heavenly city of God, where we worship God forever. . . .
- #227 **"There Is A Habitation"** - review verses
 - **Live in the True City of Peace, Happiness, and Enlightenment** – Zion, eternity
- **inv.**
 - be a faithful Christian, you'll live in the eternal city of God, Zion, experience peace and happiness and enlightenment for eternity