

PRECIOUS STONES

Gems are prepared in a hidden place;
They are created from dust, and molded in clay.
Made of commonplace elements found in the Earth,
They are formed in a specialized way.

Initially, they look unattractive;
They are rough when they first have been found.
But His hammer will bear down upon them;
Rocks will cry out from the ground.

They are found in the caves and in crevices;
They are sought after, chiseled and mined.
Exposure and friction will perfect them.
In the depths of the caverns, they are refined.

The rocks are exposed to great pressure:
The particles of Earth are smitten, distressed.
Subjected to heat and erosion,
Their components are formed and compressed.

Stones are embedded, produced in the Rock,
They are formed in a place of obscurity.
When the cleansing has accomplished its purpose,
They will be brilliant in clearness and purity.

Their surface is touched by the water,
That flows from His fountain and streams.
Metamorphosis changes their substance:
They will be lustrous, transparent and clean.

Rocks become gems of great value;
When perfected, their worth will be higher.
Like the Stone that was tried, they are precious;
They will glisten and exhibit the fire.

Their edges are smoothed by a Craftsman,
Who cuts with precision to make the stones bright.
Like a mirror, reflecting His beauty,
Every facet will capture the light.

Each of them sparkles with beauty,
With a glory that He has foretold.
When the process is finished and all is complete,
They'll be surrounded in gold.

The walls of His City are glorious;
The foundations are constructed of stones.
Every manner and type will be gathered;
And presented to the One in the Throne.

His name is inscribed upon all of them;
They are shining, translucent and bright.
Revealing His virtues and attributes,
Many stones are His temple of light.

Like the Cornerstone, these stones are living;
The most costly and rare that a merchant could bring.
The nations will come to their brightness;
They look like the crown of a King.

Terri Hill

“Foursquare it shall be...and thou shalt set in it settings of stones...they shall be set in gold in their inclosings”; Exodus 28:16-20

“And the Lord their God shall save them in that day as the flock of His people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land”; Zechariah 9:16

“And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For this is contained in scripture: Behold I lay in Zion a Choice Stone, a precious Corner Stone, and he who believes in Him shall not be disappointed”; 1 Peter 2:4-6 (NAS)

“To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it...And I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God”; Revelation 2:17; 3:12

“And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones”; Revelation 21:19