570 THE APOCALYPSE [CH. xxi. 9-14  
  
The New Jerusalem has “ twelve gates.”  
Even a casual glance at this wonderful city shows us  
how completely the number twelve runs through it.  
The number which has been prominent up to this point  
is seven; but henceforth it is discarded. Five is the  
number of nature : four plus one, or the world and God  
regarded as one. Seven is the number of dispensational  
perfection. But every successive dispensation ended in  
failure. Here is the eternal and unfailing scheme. ‘The  
two numbers seven and twelve are beautifully related one  
to the other, so as to be significant of this sentiment.  
Seven is subdivided, as we have often observed, into four  
andthree. Four indicates the creature ; three, the Creator.  
Seven consists of four and three in juxtaposition, and  
represents God and the creature in contact. But  
twelve consists of four into three, and represents the  
Creator and the creature in intimate and perpetual  
union.  
Siz, or one less than seven, and but half the sacred  
twelve, is the number of the False Christ. To the city  
of man belong seven mountains, on which the Harlot  
reposes. But the New Jerusalem has twelve founda-  
tions. The Usurper has ten kings, who uphold his  
cause : Jerusalem has twelve apostles, and twice 144,000  
first-fruits.  
Ten is the number which in general characterizes the  
arrangements of the tabernacle, and still more the  
temple of Solomon, and the future temple of Hzekiel.  
The tabernacle was to have twenty pillars in its length,  
ten for its breadth ; the length of the tabernacle court  
was a hundred cubits ; its breadth, fifty; the height of  
its pillars, five cubits. So also in the future millennial  
temple of Ezekiel. Ezek. xl. 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21,  
etc. See 1 Kings vi.  
Twelve gates will not be too many for entrance into,  
and exit from, so vast a city. The tabernacle had but