

## *ABSTRACT*

Gems in the foundation of the new Jerusalem wall (Rev 21,19-20) were always related with features, as follow: safety, protection, God's independence, basic authority of the twelve apostles, everlasting paradise. Some scholars were seeking a connection between gems and astral systems in ancient times, nevertheless they concede John has utilized these sources in controversy. Despite of scholars' strong effort to identify gemstones exactly, it must be concluded that we are not able to determine all ancient and biblical gemstones according to a modern science. It is not possible to recognize most of twelve breastplate gems (Ex 28,17-20) and some of the new Jerusalem foundation gems because ancient people determined and named gemstones by a completely different way. Therefore, we cannot succeed with dubbing the gems by the names of the old Israel tribes or twelve apostles.

As we have few references of gemstones within the entire Bible it is necessary to evaluate them all. Only in this case we could say something stricter on the often mentioned minerals, such as shoham, sapphire, jasper, especially on their symbolic meaning. It has been investigated that the colour, transparency, lustre and hardness are the most important characters of gemstones for the authors of ancient texts.

It is essential for biblical exegesis to get a knowledge that gemstone was first of all perceived as a material for seals production. And even more, god and god's attributes were often described by means of natural elements, among others by gemstones, but gold played almost never a role.

Key words: Revelation, heavenly city, gemstones, Lamb's bride, foundations