## Gemstones & Jewels

"And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald." (Revelation 4:3) Gemstones are dazzling works of God's creation. They come in a brilliant array of colors, and some of them are incredibly rare. Most gemstones begin as minerals that crystallize below the earth's surface under extreme heat and pressure. From the deepest, most hidden parts of our planet come all sorts of beautiful jewels—each designed by our magnificent Creator!

- Gemstones are valued for their rarity, beauty, and durability.
- There are two kinds of gemstones: precious and semiprecious.
- Some gemstones are formed by layers of sediment. Others, known as organic, are made from plant and animal material like pearls inside mollusks.
- Many scientists think diamonds and other gemstones are billions of years old. But the radiocarbon found in diamonds can't last that long, so they must've formed recently.



A jewel is a gemstone that's been cut and polished, which makes it shiny.



## Did you know?

Gemstones are evaluated on their hardness using the Mohs scale. This measures how difficult it is for them to be scratched. The softest gemstone is amber, while the hardest is diamond.

beryl

chrysolite

ACROSS

DOWN

2

Name the gemstones below to complete the crossword puzzle.

emerald

diamond

amethyst

topaz

sapphire

ruby

alexandrite aquamarine

3

Diamond

"For wisdom is better than rubies, and all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her." (Proverbs 8:11)

Emeralds

Onyx

Opal

Amber comes from hardened tree resin. It often contains preserved insects because it formed quickly before the insects could decay.

Turquoise

X alexandrite, S. topaz, 9. emerald; Down: J. diamond, Z. chrysolite, 5. aquamarine, 6. beryl, JO. ruby Answers to the Math Game: diamond = 1, ruby = 2, emerald = 3; Answers to the Crossword Puzzle: Across: 3. amethyst, 4. sapphire,

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