

All Things New!

Revelation 21-22

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Anticipation of summer vacations
- Anticipation of our “eternal” vacation!
- **Events surrounding the end of time, beginning of eternity.**
 - Christ offers up His kingdom to the Father, and it merges with the eternal kingdom
 - Death and Hades are forever destroyed in the lake of fire
 - **The destruction of the present heavens and earth**
 - 2 Peter 3:10--*“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”*
 - 2 Peter 3:12-- *“looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?”*
- **We have scant but sufficient information on the eternal state.**
 - 1 Corinthians 2:9-- *“Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have it entered into the heart of man the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”*
 - Romans 8:18-- *“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us!”*

All Things New!

A. What’s True of a New Heavens and New Earth

- Revelation 21:1-- *“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.”*
 - Isaiah 65:17-- *“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.”*
 - Isaiah 66:22-- *“For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me,’ says the LORD, ‘So shall your descendants and your name remain.”*
 - 2 Peter 3:13-- *“Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”*
1. **It will be brand new, not a renovation of the old.**
 2. **It will not be like anything that we know today.**
 3. **It will be characterized by righteousness**
 - a. Earth originally created to be man’s permanent home and man was created to live forever.
 - b. The heavens were polluted by Satan’s presence and sin.
 - c. Mankind’s sin has polluted the earth
 - Isaiah 24:5-- *“The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.”*
 - d. God will create a new heavens and new earth in which dwells righteousness.

B. What's Missing in the New Heavens and New Earth

- Revelation 21:1-5-- *"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."*
1. **No More Sea**
 - Revelation 21:1-- *"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. "*
 - a. More of the new earth will be inhabitable as a result
 - b. Does not say that there will be no more water, but rather large bodies of water
 - c. The "sea" for John separated him from his family and friends. Eternity will be marked by unity and harmony, no barriers to separate us.
 2. **No More Curse**
 - Revelation 22:3-- *"And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him."*
 - a. **God cursed the earth as a result of Adam's sin**
 - Genesis 3:17-19-- *"Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; For dust you are, and to dust you shall return."*
 - b. **As a result, the earth has been subject to futility**
 - Romans 8:20-22-- *"For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now."*
 - c. **The curse will be partially lifted during the Millennium, but death will still reign.**
 - d. **In eternity, creation will be finally and fully liberated!**
 3. **No need for the Sun or the Moon to Shine**
 - Revelation 21:23-- *"The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it."*
 - Revelation 22:5-- *"There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever."*
 - a. Does not say that there will be no sun nor moon, but rather **no need** for their light.
 - b. Jesus Christ will be the "light"
 - Matthew 17:2-- *"his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light!"*

4. **No More Night!**

- Revelation 21:25-- *"Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there)."*
 - Revelation 22:5-- *"There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever."*
- a. **Time is measured by the day-night cycle.**
- Genesis 1:5-- *"God called the light DAY, and the darkness He called NIGHT! So the evening and the morning were the first day!"*
- b. **Eternity will be ONE ETERNAL DAY!**
- c. We will be so engrossed with worshiping and serving Christ that we will not miss time.

5. **No Tears, Sorrow, Death, or Pain**

- Revelation 21:4-- *"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."*
- a. **We will be living with glorified bodies not subject to pain or death.**
- 2 Corinthians 5:1-4-- *"For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life."*
 - Philippians 3:20b-21.-- *"eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself."*
- b. **Our memories of this life will be wiped clean.**
- Isaiah 65:17-- *"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind."*
- c. **This does not mean that we will not know one another in eternity.**
- 1) We will be gathered to our "families" in heaven.
 - 2) We will not be married, but will live together in closer unity and oneness.
 - Matthew 22:30-- *"in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven."*

C. **The Prospect of our Final Vacation Destination...**

1. **Gives us hope to endure what suffering we might experience now.**

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18-- *"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."*

2. **Can be ours only through Jesus Christ, who is THE way to heaven.**

- John 14:6-- *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*
- John 14:1c-- *"you believe in God, believe also in Me."*