

## THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH

### Revelation 21:1-5

#### I. INTRODUCTION-

- a. The Bible says that one day God is going to make a new heavens and a new earth.
- b. Today we are going to look at the Promise of the New Heavens and the New Earth; the Production of the New Heavens and the New Earth; the Properties of the New Heavens and the New Earth.

#### II. THE PROMISE OF THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH-

- a. The promise of a New Heavens and a New Earth is found throughout the Bible.
- b. *Isaiah 66:22 (NKJV) "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." 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. *2 Peter 3:13 (NKJV) "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."*
- d. *Hebrews 1:10-12 (NKJV) "And: "You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. 11 They will perish, but You remain; And they will all grow old like a garment; 12 Like a cloak You will fold them up, And they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not fail."*
- e. *Revelation 21:1, 5 (NKJV) "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." 5 "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."*

#### III. THE PRODUCTION OF THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH-

- a. The Bible tells us when and how God will renew His creation. According to the Bible's timeline the next great event on God's prophetic calendar will be the Rapture of the Church which will be followed by seven years of Tribulation.
- b. At the end of the Tribulation the Battle of Armageddon will occur and Jesus will return to this earth.
- c. The return of Christ will usher in the literal 1,000 year reign of Christ on this earth. At the end of that reign there will be one final rebellion after which Satan will be cast into the Lake of Fire forever.

- d. Then the Great White Throne Judgment will take place where all those who have rejected Christ throughout history will be judged.
- e. Immediately after the final judgment of the unsaved the Bible says God is going to make all things new.
- f. “New” in this instance does not mean that God is going to replace the present creation with another. It means that God is going to restore and renew this present creation to what it was before the fall of man in the Garden of Eden.
- g. And not only is God going to restore His creation, He is going to enhance creation in ways that we cannot even begin to fathom. The Bible tells us when and how God is going to do this.
- h. *2 Peter 3:10 (NKJV) “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.”*
- i. Peter says the basic materials of the heavens and the earth will not be annihilated but they will undergo an intense process of purification.
- j. God will use a great purifying fire to completely destroy all the evidences of decay, disobedience, disease, death and the stains and scars of sin from His creation. (Like a pot being scalded out.)
- k. After this purification is complete, God will once more exercise His creative power and He will make the present creation new and improved.
- l. In 2 Peter 3:5-7, Peter compares Noah’s flood to what God is going to do in the future. *2 Peter 3:5-7 (NKJV) “For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.”*
- m. Peter says that just as God once purified the world with a flood, He will one day purify the heavens and the earth with fire. And, as Noah and his family were protected from the flood in the ark, God’s people will be protected from His purifying and cleansing fire in the New Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem will be our ark of safety.
- n. And, as the door of the ark was opened to reveal a new world after the flood, the pearly gates of the New Jerusalem will be opened to reveal God’s new and improved creation, the New Heavens and the New Earth.

#### **IV. THE PROPERTIES OF THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH-**

- a. **There will be no more sea.** *Revelation 21:1 (NKJV) "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."*
- b. The topography and makeup of the New Earth will be completely different from what it is now. This is represented by John's statement that on the New Earth there will be no more sea.
- c. This does not mean that there will be no water on the New Earth. Revelation 22 says there will be a river flowing out of the New Jerusalem.
- d. The water from this river will flow into the New Earth feeding meandering rivers, lakes, ponds and large bodies of water that will be all over the New Earth. God knows how much human beings love the water and there will be water on the New Earth.
- e. **The curse of sin will be reversed.** *Revelation 22:3 (NKJV) "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."*
- f. When man fell God put a curse on creation. The Bible says since the fall of man creation has been groaning to be set free from the curse of sin which is found in *Genesis 3:17-19 (NKJV) "...Cursed is the ground...In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. 18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you...19 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."*
- g. On the New Earth the curse of sin will be reversed. The sense of toil caused by the curse of sin will be removed from our work and service.
- h. The ground of the New Earth will no longer produce thorns and thistles but it will abundantly produce all that is needed for our blessing and enjoyment. And human beings will no longer return to the ground in death because we will never die.
- i. Not only did Jesus die on the cross to redeem lost mankind, He died to redeem fallen creation and that purpose will fully accomplished when God ushers in the new earth.
- j. **The uniting of all things.** *Ephesians 1:10 (NKJV) "that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth--in Him."*
- k. Today there is a great separation between Heaven and earth. But God's plan is to one day demolish that separation forever.

- l. God's plan is to one day bring all things in Heaven and on earth together without any separation under one Head, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- m. In the new creation, Heaven will be on the earth and earth will be a part of Heaven and all things in Heaven and on earth will be together under the Headship of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## V. CONCLUSION-

- a. Heaven will be splendid beyond comparison. It will be a place characterized by laughter without tears, life without death, singing without mourning, contentment without crying, pleasure without pain and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be there and our loved ones will be there and our loving Heavenly Father and the blessed Holy Spirit will be there and we will live in a resplendent city called the New Jerusalem and we will go in and out of that city as we serve God and explore His new creation for all eternity.
- b. How can you go to Heaven? There is only one way. *John 14:6 (NKJV)* "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."