

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by Pastor Chuck Smith, Vernon McGee, David Hocking, Warren Wiersbe and others.

THE PATTERN OF THINGS IN THE UNIVERSE WILL BE CHANGED – V.1

Rev 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 NEW CITY WILL BE THE MAIN ATTRACTION IN ETERNITY – V. 2

Rev 21:2 Then I, John, saw the holy city,

New Jerusalem,

coming down out of heaven from God,

prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

GOD’S PURPOSES WILL BE FULFILLED – V. 3

Rev 21:3 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.

WE SEE SEVERAL THINGS ABOUT THE FUTURE: THE PATTERN OF THINGS IN THE UNIVERSE WILL BE CHANGED – V. 1

v. 1 “a new heaven and a new earth” - Our physical surroundings will be brand new! - Cf. Isa. 65:17; 66:22; 2 Peter 3:13

v. 1 “for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.” - Our present physical environment will pass away! - Cf. Matthew 24:35; 2 Peter 3:10-12

v. 1 “there was no more sea.” - Our future environment will be different - “no more sea”

A NEW CITY WILL BE THE MAIN ATTRACTION IN ETERNITY – V. 2

Notice four things about that city:

v. 2 “holy city” - The character of the city - “holy” - cf. 21:8, 27; 22:3, 15 cf. Isa. 52:1

v. 2 “New Jerusalem” - The contrast of the city - cf. 11:8 and Galatians 4:24-26 - contrast between the old and the new city

v. 2 “coming down out of heaven from God,” - The coming down of the city - Rev. 3:12; Heb. 11:10

v. 2 “prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.” - The comparison of the city - cf. 2 Cor. 11:2 What a great comparison! Who is the husband? Who is the bride?

GOD’S PURPOSES WILL BE FULFILLED – V. 3

*v. 3 “the tabernacle of God is with men,” - Cf. John 1:14, 18; Rev. 13:6; Psalm 16:11 (tabernacle) He really wants to be with us. He really likes us!
John 17:24 “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.*

“A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH” Revelation 21:1-8 - He is LAMB AMONG THE REDEEMED - 21:1-22:21

Human history begins in a garden and ends in a city that is like a garden paradise! The most important thing about the new city is that God will dwell there will His people!! God has promised His people a new heaven and a new earth!

“Heaven”/ “Heavens”!

The word “heaven” appears 582 times in the King James Version, and the word “heavens” an additional 133 times.

Cf. Psalm 23:6 (house of the Lord); John 14:1-3 (mansions); Hebrews 11:13-16 (heavenly country; city prepared by God); 12:22-24 (Mt. Zion; city of the living God; heavenly Jerusalem)

Genesis 1:1, 14-18, 20 - God created the heaven and the earth - cf. Neh. 9:6 - but God is greater than that which He created - 1 Kings 8:27

According to 2 Corinthians 12:3 there are at least three heavens: - cf. Psalm 115:15-16

(1) Earth’s atmosphere (birds and clouds) - Genesis 1:20; Psa. 104:12

(2) Outer Space (stellar heavens; galaxies) - Genesis 1:14-18

(3) Where God dwells - Psalm 11:4; 14:2; 20:6; 33:13-14 (He sees all we do!); 73:25!; 89:6; 102:19; 104:12

THE PAST WILL BE REMOVED – V. 4

Rev 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."

THE PROMISES OF GOD WILL BE REALIZED – Vs. 5-8

Rev 21:5 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."

Rev 21:6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

Rev 21:7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and

I will be his God and he shall be My son.

THE PAST WILL BE REMOVED

v. 4 "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." - - Cf. Psalm 56:8; Rev. 7:17; cf. Isa. 25:8-9; Isa. 65:17- "and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind"; Isa. 43:18-19 "Remember not the former things, neither consider the things of old" - "Behold, I will do a new thing"); Heb. 8:12; 10:17 - "their sins and iniquities will I remember no more"

THE PROMISES OF GOD WILL BE REALIZED - VS. 5-8

BASED ON FOUR THINGS:

v. 5 "'Behold, I make all things new.'" - Based on His ability to do it

v. 5 "these words are true and faithful." - Based on the accuracy of His Word - cf. Rev. 3:14; 19:11

v. 6 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. - Based on His authority to do it - - cf. Isa. 44:3, 6-8; 48:12-13; Rev. 1:8, 11, 17; 22:13; - cf. Rev. 16:17 - "It is done!"

v. 6 "I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. - Based on the assurance He gives - Cf. Isa. 44:3; John 4:14; 7:37-39; Rev. 22:17 - Assurance of eternal life

v. 7 "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, - Assurance of inheritance - cf. Rom. 8:16-17

v. 7 "I will be his God and he shall be My son. - Assurance of family relationship with God

This sounds too good to be true, but God affirms these things are true, they are faithful!!

vs. 6-7 Assurance of eternal life - He that overcomes. Now back in chapters two and three as Jesus addressed the seven churches, He had special promises in each church for those who were the overcomers. Here the promise that He will be our God, we shall be His son. Beloved, now are we the sons of God. It doesn't yet appear what we're going to be, but we know when He appears we'll be like Him for we shall see Him as he is. And as many as received Him, to them he gave the power to become the sons of God, even to those who believed on His name. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and if we are sons, then we are heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs through Jesus Christ. The blessed promises to the overcomers! They will be with God in the new heaven and in the new earth.

Assurance of inheritance
Assurance of a personal, family relationship with God

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED IS CERTAIN – V. 8

Rev 21:8 But *the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.*

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED IS CERTAIN – V. 8

v. 8 “the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.” – The punishment of the wicked is for certain! - Cf. Galatians 5:19-21(..those who practice such thing will not inherit the kingdom of God); Ephesians 5:3-6 (...has any inheritance in the kingdom of God)

All will spend eternity in the glorious kingdom of God as is being described and will continue to be described on through chapter twenty-two or in the lake that burns with fire. That’s the destiny of every one of us here tonight. We will spend eternity in one place or the other, and it all depends upon our relationship with Jesus Christ. He that has the Son has life. He that has not the Son has not life, but the wrath of God abides on him.

Conclusion:

Isaiah 55:1-13 – An Invitation to Abundant Life!
Rev. 21:1-7!!

“THE HOLY CITY, JERUSALEM”

*Last night I lay a-sleeping,
There came a dream so fair,
I stood in old Jerusalem,
Beside the Temple there.
I heard the children singing,
And ever as they sang,
Methought the voice of angels
From Heav'n in answer rang.
Methought the voice of angels
From Heav'n in answer rang.*

chorus:
*Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Lift up your gates and sing;
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna to your King.*

*And then methought my dream was changed,
The streets no longer rang.
But with a glad Hosanna
The little children sang.
The sun grew dark with mystery,
The morn was cold and chill,
But the shadow of a cross arose
Upon a lonely hill.
But the shadow of a cross arose
Upon a lonely hill.*

chorus
*Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Hark, how the angels sing
Hosanna through the ages,
Hosanna to your King.*

*Then once again the scene was changed,
New earth there seemed to be.
I saw the Holy City
Beside the timeless sea.
The light of God was on its streets,
The gates were open wide;
And all who would might enter
And no one was denied.
No need of moon nor stars by night
Or sun to shine by day,
It was the new Jerusalem
That would not pass away.
It was the new Jerusalem
That would not pass away*

*Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Sing for the night is o'er;
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna for ever more.
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna for ever more.*

Questions:

1. What is probably the most significant aspect of the new heaven and of the holy city?
2. How many times is God (*Theos*) mentioned in today's study?
3. Do you think it's possible to be "so heavenly minded that one is no earthly good"?
4. About how many times are the words, "heaven" or "heavens" mentioned in the Bible? (100, 350, 700)
5. When we get to heaven, does the Bible teach that this place will not come to mind? (v. 4)
6. What purpose/s of God will be fulfilled with the new city, the new Jerusalem?
7. Does the Bible make it clear that no one in the Lake of Fire will ever be a part of the new heaven and the new earth?
8. Do you think that it possible for a person who is saved to continually live in sin and not be concerned about it?
9. Can you summarize your thankful thoughts for the promises in verses 1-7? Your fearful and awful concern for verse 8, for all unbelievers?