

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
NEW HEAVEN, NEW EARTH, NEW JERUSALEM
REVELATION 21-22**

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Introduction

For a while now we have been looking at THE COMING OF THE LORD in our Sunday School for a good number of weeks now (I think 30 weeks).

We have talked about the coming Rapture, the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Tribulation Period, the marriage of the Lamb, the second coming of Christ, the Millennium, and the Great White Throne judgment.

Today we come to this passage which speaks of the New Heaven and New Earth AND the New Jerusalem!

I. THE DESCENT OF THE NEW JERUSALEM!

A. The Present Heaven And Earth Will Pass Away. (v 1)

We need to understand that there are two words that are translated "*new*" in the New Testament.

One of those words means *new in time, recently made*. That is **not** the word that was used here.

Instead, we have the word translated here that means *renewed or renovated*.

It is the very same term that is used of the unregenerated believer becomes a "*new creature*" (1 Corinthians 5:11).

"Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

The suggestion is that while the present creation is cleansed by fire as Peter said in **2 Peter 3:7-12**. God brings out of it new conditions.

It will be new because everything about the old will be gone.

The universe in which we now live is going to be completely destroyed. It will be new in quality and in character.

What a shame that so many people's lives are wrapped up in the things of this world when it is all just going to burn up one day.

B. God Will Make All Things New. (Vs 5)

1. Jesus said in *Matthew 24:35*, "*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*"

2. When we say "*heaven*" will pass away, we are not talking about the dwelling place of God, but we are talking about the heaven and earth that we now know.

II. THE DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM.

A. It Will Be A City Of "*No Mores*"!

1. No more separation from God! (21:3)

It will be a time of eternal fellowship with God.

- a. The tabernacle of God will be with us!
- b. God will dwell with us!
- c. We will be His people!
- d. God Himself will personally be with us!
- e. God will be our God!

2. No more tears or crying! (21:4)

The suggestion here is that there have been tears up to this point.

- a. I believe tears will be shed at the Judgment Seat of Christ!
- b. I believe tears will be shed by those looking on at the Great White Throne Judgment!

3. No more sorrow! (21:4)

Think for a moment about the things that have caused us sorrow in this life. They are many aren't they? There won't be any of that ever again!

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4. **No more pain! (21:4)**
This life is full of things that bring pain. Accidents, injury, sickness. . .you name it! It will all be gone!
5. **No more death! (21:4)**
One of the most difficult things as a pastor is trying to help those who are grieving over the death of a loved one.

But there will be no more being separated from those we are with, no more caskets, no more funeral services, no more grave sites.

Won't it be wonderful there!?
6. **No more wants! (21:7)**
We have many unfulfilled desires here in this life. Sometimes our lusts in this life get us into trouble. But that won't be a problem in the heavenly city! Our lives will be totally satisfied with God and His eternal provision for us!
7. **No more sinners! (21:8)**
8. **No more sin! (21:27)**
9. **No more curse! (22:3)**
10. **No more sea! (21:1)**
The sea is necessary to sustain life in the world in which we live.

There will be no need for a sea with the LORD. He will sustain us!

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11. **No more night! (21:23; 25; 22:5)**
Darkness is the absence of light. God is light and in Him is no darkness at all! Since we will eternally be in His presence, there will be no night!
12. **No more temple! (21:22)**
The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

It Will Be A City Of "No Mores!"

B. It Will Be A Perfect City From God!

1. *Hebrews 11:10* tells us that Abraham "looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."
2. Jesus said, in *John 14:2*—"I go to prepare a place for you."
3. This city will be perfectly symmetrical. (Vs 16) (12,000 furlongs is equivalent to 1500 miles)
4. 2,250,000 square miles and 1500 miles high which makes it 3,375,000,000 cubic miles in area!
5. The world as we know it now, combining the areas of the seven continents, equals an area of 57,609,000 square miles.
6. The area of the New Jerusalem will be over 58 times that amount!
7. There will be no shortage on space! Jesus said *John 14:2*—"In my father's house there are many mansions".
8. It will be perfect, because of the perfect Architect designed and built it!

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C. It Will Be A Beautiful City Of God!

1. It will shine with the Glory of God like crystal so there is no need for a sun or moon. (11 ; 23 & 22:5)
2. The walls are jasper and the city is of pure gold. (18)
3. The gates were of pearl (Vs 21) and the foundation is of precious stones (Vs 19-20).
4. There will be no temple there because we will dwell in the very presence of God Almighty. (22)
5. There will be a pure river of the water of life proceeding out of the throne of God. (22:1)
6. There will be the tree of life yielding twelve manner of fruit. (22:2)

D. It Will Be A City Of Worship And Service. (22:3)

1. Only those who are saved will be there. (21:8; 24; 27)
2. We shall see the face of the LORD and we will be identified by bearing His name in our foreheads. (22:4)
3. We shall reign for ever and ever! (22:5)

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Ephesians 2:7 That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness towards us, through Christ Jesus.

David said in Psalm 17:15—"As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied when I awake, with thy likeness."

When we see Him throughout eternity we shall be:

Finally satisfied

Fully satisfied

Forever satisfied

We can have a part in this glory and we can enjoy these eternal blessings, all because there was One who made it possible by His death on Calvary's cross.

If we know Jesus Christ as our Saviour we will enjoy the blessings of the New Jerusalem when this world is no more.

The question is, do you know Him?

If you do know Him, are you serving Him?

Conclusion:

If heaven was simply a great city with streets of gold, gates of pearl, precious stones and wondrous beauty it might not be worth it all.

But it is more than all of this. It is a place where we shall see Jesus face to face and dwell with Him for all of eternity. And that will be worth it all.

In eternity future, God will reveal to us the exceeding riches of His grace according to Ephesians 2:7!