

“A New Home for the Bride”

Revelation 21:1-8

Revelation #49

The first glimpses of “Immanuel’s Land”

1. The New Home!

vv. 1-2

(1) A New Heaven and a New Earth *“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth,
for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.*

- “new” – newness of *quality*
 - The first world order, impermanent and temporary cf. 20:11
 - The second, permanent and enduring cf. 2 Pet. 3:10-13
- “no more sea”
 - The sea – a place of unrest and danger; formerly separating the nations
 - Also figurative for the restlessness and threat of the nations

(2) The Bridal “Processional” Begins! *“Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,*

- The Bride: Described in great detail in 21:9-27 *prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”*
- The bride-city symbolizes the saints, the church in its final, eternal beauty

2. The Greatest of Promises Fulfilled!

vv. 3-5

(1) God with Us! *“And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying,
‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,*

- 1- **The heart of the covenant of grace fulfilled!** *and He will dwell with them,
and they shall be His people.
God Himself will be with them
and will be their God.”*
 - This promise in view through all of redemptive history
 - God dwelling with His people:
 - Lost at Eden, Tabernacle in the wilderness, Temple in Jerusalem
 - Fulfillment inaugurated in Jesus! cf. Jn. 1:12; 14:16-18

-2- **Intimacy with God! Forever secure in Him!**

(2) The Former Things have Passed Away!

- 1- **All things related to sin and sin’s effects are done away!** *“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...”*

- 2- **All things made new!** *“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.”*
- OT cf. Is. 43:18-19; 42:9
- Eph. 1:10; Rom. 8:18-21

3. Everything Has Been Prepared!

vv. 6-8

(1) The Divine Declaration *“And He said to me, ‘It is done!
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.’”*

- **The sovereign God has determined all!**

- **God brings history to its conclusion! It is all HIS narrative!!**

(2) The Gospel Invitation rings out again! *“I will give of the fountain of the water of life
freely to him who thirsts.”*

- How anyone may hope to enjoy these blessings – all of grace!
- The only condition: Spiritual thirst!

(3) Two inheritances – worlds apart! (7-8)

-1- The Redeemed – inherit all things! *“He who overcomes shall inherit all things,
and I will be his God, and he will be My son.”*

- **The Condition:** *“He who overcomes”*

- Perseverance in faith
- Characteristic of all true saints cf. 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21
- Descriptive of the character of the Christian life

- **The Reward:** inheritance and authority

-2- The Unbelieving – eternal punishment! *“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 whole range of sin covered

Some emphasis on those who abandon the faith:
“cowardly, unbelieving, liars”

- “their part” Gk: meros - a portion of property allotted through inheritance

Further Application

1. Where do you fit in the great “Divine narrative?”