

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: The New Heavens and the New Earth

PASSAGE: Revelation 21:1-7

DATE: November 14, 2021

Three Aspects to the New Heavens and the New Earth

1. God's Fully Renewed Place: vs. 1-3a

- "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."
- 2 Peter 3:10-13
- "The transition from the present world to the new one would be a matter not of destruction of the present space-time universe but of its radical healing. Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about." - N.T. Wright
- "...in my Father's house are many rooms...I go to prepare a place for you." - John 14:2-3
- "In glorified bodies we will enjoy a restored and renewed Eden, a place of pristine beauty and unbroken fellowship. The new heaven and earth will provide an environment conducive to the most precious values we now know - just and loving relationships, fellowship, beauty, and significant activity."
- "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness." - Isaiah 65:17-18

2. God's Fully Restored People: vs. 3-4

- "He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken." - Isaiah 25:8
- "The saints are like so many vessels of different sizes cast into a sea of happiness where every vessel is full: this is eternal life, for a man ever to have his capacity filled. But after all 'tis left to God's sovereign pleasure, 'tis his prerogative to determine the largeness of the vessel." - Jonathan Edwards

3. God's Fully Reclaimed Epicenter: vs. 5-7

- "And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." – Luke 23:42-43
- "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better." – Philippians 1:21-24
- Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. – 2 Cor. 5:8-9
- "Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous that he might bring us to God." – 1 Peter 3:18
- "The critical question for our generation and for every generation is this: If you could have heaven, with no sickness, and with all the friends you ever had on earth, and all the food you ever liked, and all the leisure activities you ever enjoyed, and all the natural beauties you ever saw, all the physical pleasures you ever tasted, and no human conflict or any natural disasters, could you be satisfied with heaven, if Christ were not there?" – John Piper
- "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! – Revelation 22:12-13, 17, 20

Benediction

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." – John 14:1-4