

REVELATION 21 - LESSON 28

At the end of tribulation, righteous go into the Millennial Reign and the Saints that return with Christ will help Him to RULE and REIGN for 1000 years.

It will be an unprecedented time on earth.

- *Peace like never before

- *Joyous time with Jesus on throne

- *Longevity

- *Animal kingdom

*Prosperity

It's also a time Satan is bound for 1000 years.

So evil and wickedness will be muted to a certain degree.

But people will still sin cause of our sinful nature.

It's not going to be heaven because people will still be committing and doing sinful things.

Why? Because everyone born during this time has never really made a choice for Christ, cause Satan has been bound.

So people will be given a choice to make and it shows how clever and deceitful he is because he will lead many nations astray and he will gather forces once to battle the Lord a final time in

Jerusalem. Jesus will put an end to that and it will be the last and final battle.

Satan will be cast into the lake of fire where the False Prophet and Antichrist have already been and all those that join forces with Satan will also be cast into the lake of fire.

That brings us to Ch 21 where we are now going to see a New Heaven and a New Earth.

It's a New Heaven and a New Earth and it's NOT the present Heaven or the present Earth.

Vs 1 - 8

Matthew 24:35 - Jesus said "Heaven and Earth will pass away but my words shall never pass away.

The current Earth we are living in and the current Heaven where God resides will pass away and God will bring about a totally NEW thing.

Isaiah 65:17-19

II Peter 3:10-13

It seems in the chronology of the language that the present Heaven and the present Earth pass and then there is a new one.

Question - where are all the people when the current Heaven and Earth pass away?

Many scholars believe that God will suspend us between the old and the new. Almost like suspended in space (strange).

Col 1:16-17

So this verse teaches us that Jesus is actually holding the universe together.

I want you to try and imagine what this might be like.

NO MORE SORROW

NEVER ANOTHER BAD DAY FOREVER

NOTHING TO MOURN

NO CRIME

NO DEATH

NO SIN

NO CRYING

NO SUFFERING

NO FEAR

NO BAD NEWS

Everything will be completely brand new at this point.

Contrary to a world that we have lived, where everything is touched and tainted by sin.

Next verse says “But God has revealed this to us by His Spirit”.

It's the idea you have to try and grasp this by your spirit because mentally this is so beyond our earthly mind.

Vs 2

The way He is setting this up is with great beauty and anticipation like a bride that gets ready for her wedding.

To summarize some things that will be there and things that won't be there.

THE NEW JERUSALEM

1) God will be present (Vs 3)

“Tabernacle” - same word used in John 1:14, word became flesh and “dwelt” among us. It's “Tabernacled Among Us”.

2) Death, pain and our sorrows will be absent.

Will I know if my loved one is missing if they didn't receive Christ?

I think about the fact no pain, sorrow and suffering in heaven, I believe the Lord in His mercy will take away any memories that are painful, hurtful or disappointing.

Vs 4 says God “will wipe away all our tears”.

Why are we crying to begin with?

We're finally there and all the things you've endured is over and it's a place of ultimate relief.

Overwhelmed with emotions and release.

3) All things will be new (Vs 5)

4) Believers will be present (Vs 7)

I get this question a lot also. Will we still be our own age and will there be different ages in heaven?

Bible is sort of silent on this but I tend to think we will all be sort of a universal age.

Some think there could actually be an universal age and some say 30!

Why? Numbers 4, you couldn't enter Priestly service until the age of 30 and it also says that the mandatory age of retirement is 50.

Saul became King at age 30.

David became King at age 30.

Jesus' public ministry began at 30.

What about little kids?

Will we know each other?

I do believe we will know one another. I Cor 13:12, 2

Elijah & Moses (Mt transfiguration)

5) Unbelievers were absent - 21:8, 27

Vs 8

Vs 27

So it's a reminder that believers are present but unbelievers are not.

6) No sun or moon but the Light will be bright with God's glory.

21:11, 23

Some scholars pull out the word "NEED" in Vs 23 and say there still might be the sun or moon but there will not be a need for it because the Light will be from the Glory of God.

But my take is if you don't need it then why is it there so I lean to it not being there.

Here's another thought . . . constant temperature cause without the sun and moon, night and day, no temp changes.

Jesus will have His hand on the thermostat and everyone will be happy.

This will literally be heaven on earth and some of the things you think you will miss will not even be thought of.

7) The wall will be high and wide

21:12, 17, 21

Interesting when you look in the O. T. as it pertains to the encampment of Israel when leaving Egypt on the way to promise land.

In Book of Numbers it lays out the configuration of the different tribes.

Notice vs 21

Pearly gates are actually one big pearl.

Vs 17 - 144 cubits - so that means walls are 200 feet thick and each gate is a single pearl.

8) Foundation is deep with 12 layers.

Vs 14

12 layers and names of 12 Apostles.

Judas' name is not on there, so the speculation is who is the 12th?

Most would say it's Paul.

