

I. QUICK REVIEW

A. Last week, we began our verse by verse study of Revelation 21–22 with a powerful reminder that for true Christians, the best is not behind us, but ahead of us!

B. We examined five important truths about eternity:

1. We need a right view of Heaven. What we believe about our eternal future determines how we live in the present.
2. We were created for Eternity. This present life is temporary, but every human being will exist forever, and what we do with Jesus determines what side of eternity we will end up in.
3. Eternal life is more than endless existence; it is the everlasting privilege of knowing, discovering, and enjoying God.
4. God is the God of the New. He has established a New Covenant with a people who have become new creations who are destined to live in a new heaven and a new earth in an eternal capital city called the New Jerusalem.
5. God's ultimate desire is to dwell with His People. The climax of redemption is not simply humanity going to heaven, but God coming to the earth to dwell with His people forever.

II. THE AWESOME GOD

1. Scientists estimate that an adult human body contains approximately 37 trillion cells. Each cell performs specialized functions, and trillions work together to sustain life.
2. Each human cell contains approximately six feet of DNA.
3. We live in a universe so enormous that our own galaxy takes light 100,000 years to cross.
4. Our Sun is so massive that approximately 1.3 million Earths could fit inside it.

5. The human body contains tens of trillions of cells working together to sustain life.
6. Our hearts pump approximately 2,000 gallons of blood every day, and our brains contain approximately 86 billion neurons.
7. We are surrounded by wonders so extraordinary that science is still discovering how they work.

a) ***"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable." — Psalm 145:3***

- B. Eternity for the disciple is glorious not primarily because of what will be there, but because of WHO will be there. The greatest promise of eternity is God Himself, dwelling with His redeemed people forever.

III. REVELATION 21:4-8

1. ***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."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."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. ⁷ He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. 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."***

IV. VRS 4

1. ***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."***

- B. Verse 3 describes what will be present in eternity, the fullness of God the Father, verse 4 describes what will be absent, all the effects of the curse of sin and satan that causes pain, sorrow, tears and death.

- C. God does not merely promise to comfort us in our suffering now, but He promises to create an eternal world in which the things that caused our suffering will be permanently removed fulfilling what He had spoken through His prophets.

1. ***"He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces."-Is- 25:8***

2. ***"They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."-Is. 35:10***

- a) When God wipes our tears in this moment they will never return.

V. WHAT GOD DOES WITH OUR TEARS REVEALS HIS LOVE

A. HE SEE'S THEM

1. ***"I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you."-2 Kings 20 :5***

B. HE DRAWS NEAR TO THEM

1. ***"The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit."-Ps 34:18***

C. STORES THEM IN A BOTTLE AND WRITES THEM IN A BOOK

1. ***You number my wanderings; Put my tears into Your bottle; Are they not in Your book?"-Ps 56:8***

D. URNS THEM INTO JOY

1. ***"Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy."-Ps 126:5***

E. WIPES THEM AWAY

VI. VRS 5

1. ***⁵Then 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."***

- B. Throughout Scripture, the throne of God represents His supreme sovereignty, absolute authority, and divine government over all creation.
 - 1. The promise of making all things new is guaranteed by the authority of the One seated upon the throne.
- C. This powerful declaration from the one with absolute final authority **shouts that He will have the last word**, not satan, sin, the flesh, pain, death, or even man.
- D. John is instructed to write down what He is hearing because they are sure to come to pass.

VII. VRS 6

- 1. ***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."***
- B. This verse contains three extraordinary declarations from God that reveal the glorious fulfillment of His redemptive plan:
 - 1. **The Completion of His Redemptive Plan** – Through the victorious leadership and finished work of Jesus Christ, God's eternal purposes have been brought to their glorious fulfillment.
 - 2. **His Eternal Sovereignty** – As the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, God possesses the absolute authority and power to accomplish everything He has promised.
 - 3. **His Gracious Invitation** – God freely invites all who thirst to partake of the water of life and experience everlasting satisfaction in His presence.
 - a. **The verse says "freely drink" but it was costly to God**

VIII. THREE PROCLAMATIONS IN THE PROGRESSION OF THE REDEMPTIVE STORY

A. AT THE CROSS

- 1. ***"So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, 'It is finished!' And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit."-Jn 19:30***

- a) Jesus is saying the sin has been paid for, scripture was fulfilled, satan was defeated, a new way into God's Presence was established.

B. COMPLETION OF GOD'S RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENTS OF THE NATIONS

- 1. ***Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"-Rev 16:17***

C. THE GLORIOUS CONSUMMATION OF THE STORY

- 1. ***⁶And 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.***

IX. VRS 7

- 1. ***²He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.***

B. The word overcome(overcame) is a major theme in the book of revelation being mentioned ten times.

C. Earlier, in Revelation chapters 2–3, Jesus exhorts and charges the seven churches to overcome specific spiritual temptations and challenges. These same dangers have confronted believers throughout Church history and will become increasingly intense as we approach the return of Jesus Christ.

D. SEVEN TEMPTIONS WE MUST OVERCOME TO INHERIT ALL THINGS

- 1. Leaving our first love because of business and distraction
- 2. Fear in the midst of persecution
- 3. Compromise
- 4. False teachings
- 5. Spiritual passivity
- 6. Weariness under life's pressures

7. Luke warmness

- E. Jesus promises 18 eternal rewards that are connected to the inheritance mentioned in verse 7 of our reading. They include: The right to eat from the Tree of Life, Protection from the second death, Hidden manna, a new name written on a white stone, The name of God written upon us, The name of the New Jerusalem written upon us

X. VRS 8

1. ***⁸But 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.***

- B. The same God who promises to make all things new in verse 7 also has a promise and warning to humanity in verse 8 of the eternal consequences to those who remain in sin and reject the gospel.

1. He who is born once will die twice(second death) and he who is born twice will only die once.

XI. HAVE YOU BEEN BORN ONCE OR TWICE?

1. ***Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water(born once) and the Spirit,(born twice) he cannot enter the kingdom of God. -Jn 3:5***