

Revelation Week 9

All Things New

The Purpose of the Book of Revelation is to strengthen your faith and embolden your confidence for this life no matter what comes our way.

How does it do that? **Media 3 new points and 2 verses**

- 1) **It is a Revelation OF Jesus Christ.** (note: today is Palm Sunday when churches celebrate Jesus and His triumphal entry into Jerusalem)

Rev. 1:1 ESV "The revelation of Jesus Christ..."

- a) **This is the Revelation of Jesus Christ about Jesus Christ.**

He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

- b) **If you want to go further, do a study on every image, description, title or name that is given solely to Jesus Christ in the book of Revelation.**

- 2) **It is a Revelation of Eternal Unseen Realities.**

- a) **The vision was given to us to help set us in the present moment of our troubling environment by showing us the unseen realities in the spiritual world.** Things are not as they seem in the natural

- (1) **In the natural we see our culture spiraling further and further away from God into the evil of secularism.** The nation is dividing now over how early our elementary age children should be taught about their transgender options.
- (2) **In the natural we are facing the reality of a global pandemic spreading and continuing. What's next?**
- (3) **In the natural we are facing a global threat of a possible WW3 this time with nuclear weapons.**

- b) **2 Cor. 4:17- 18 NIV Paul says, ("don't lose heart...") For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary (transient), but what is unseen is eternal.**

Revelation unveils for us, unseen realities for our future and the unseen realities in the present.

Our job is to settle in and live by assignment in our present days of chaos.

Fix your eyes on what is eternal... which is our ultimate reality!

- 3) **It is a Revelation of Conclusions and New Beginnings.**

Revelation 21:1-8 NIV Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. **2** I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his

people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. **4** 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the **old order of things has passed away.**" **5** He who was seated on the throne said, "**I am making everything new!**" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** He said to me: "**It is done.** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the **Beginning** and the **End**. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

7 Those who are victorious will **inherit all this**, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Here is our word inheritance once again.

In the book of Revelation, we find the final acts of our Redeemer reclaiming and restoring for Himself and for us, all that Adam lost at the beginning in Genesis.

Correction Ephesians 1:11-14 (Darby) In him we have obtained an **inheritance**, having been predestined according to the **purpose** of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, **12** so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. **13** In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is the guarantee of our **inheritance** until we **acquire possession** of it, to the praise of his glory.

What John is seeing is our inheritance being fully acquired by Jesus and the promise that we will **fully and physically acquire** was God's purposed for us to have.

- **New heaven and a new earth unmarred by sin and untouched by Satan.**
- A new city in which to dwell together with God and the fullness of His presence.
- **There God will be our Father and we will be His children.**

8 But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

Catch Up (Rev. 20)

- **Millennial Period when Satan is bound.**
 - Literal 1000 yrs. or symbolic? Landon discussed this last week
- **After 1000 yrs Satan will be released for one last short confrontation.**
 - What purpose does this serve?
 - I am not sure but there seem to be some legal actions taking place that we are not privy to.
 - We know there are final actions taking place as our Redeeming God reclaims all of creation for himself.
 - He will remove the Dragon (Satan) forever.
 - **Rev. 20:10 NIV** And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.
- **The White Throne Judgment** (Rev. 20:11 John saw a Great White Throne)

Rev. 20:13-15 NIV The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. **14** Then death and Hades were thrown

into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. **15** Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

- The purpose of establishing the great white throne is to judge the **unbelieving dead**. John wrote that **the dead, great and small, stood before the throne**.
 - From other Scriptures it seems that all the **righteous dead** have been raised.
- The statement “**death and hades gave up the dead**” means that the physical bodies of the wicked unsaved will be joined with their spirits which have been in Hades and they will be judged.

Now having finally dealt with all our enemies, the glorious renovation or reclamation begins!

All Things New

What will it be like? In the New Heaven and New Earth who will be there what will be there?

What will not be there? The “**old order of things has passed away**”.

1) No Sea

21:1 Then I saw “a **new** heaven and a **new** earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea

- a) The sea across biblical time was scary and mysterious. It represented chaos, danger and division. Most people were terrified of the sea and the people who lived beyond it.

In this new place there will be no chaos, no dangers and no division on the earth.

- b) No drama? Are you kidding? What will that be like?
 - i) No drama in our family?
 - ii) No drama on our vacation?
 - iii) No drama at the office or school or hospital?

2) No Heartache

21:44 ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the **old order of things has passed away.**”

- a) No tears, no death, mourning, crying or pain.

Try to imagine a reality where no one is sick, no one is in danger of dying, no pain and no crying?!

- i) Have you ever been touched by disease and death?
- ii) I have held my babies in my arms while we buried their mother. **There was no pain like that pain.**
- b) Nothing to Mourn and **Nothing to regret!**
 - i) All these things are gone forever! and we will remember them no more!

3) No Enemy

21:8 But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death

a) The list begins with “cowardly” and ends with “liars”.

Remember who he is writing too. Christians were under the pressure of horrific persecution. And all they had to do to escape was confess “Caesar is Lord”. If they could not, there were hauled into court where they would be pressured to be unfaithful to the truth

b) In 19:11 John saw a white horse and a rider who’s name was **Faithful and True**. There is no room in the New Reality for anyone who is not faithful and true!

c) God will have for Himself a people who are **Courageously committed to the Truth!** Let these unseen realities set you in place.

4) **No Temple**

21:22 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

a) If we were living in 90AD and we heard this we would be so confused.

- i) The temple was the place where you went to meet with God.
- ii) It was the place where you worshiped.
- iii) It was the place where you offered sacrifices for sin.

(1) In the Temple there was a cubed shape holy of holies where the High Priest went once a year to make atonement for the sins of God’s people.

b) In the New Heaven and New Earth, the whole world has become the Holy of Holies.

5) **No Darkness (21:23)**

a) John does not say there is no sun or moon he simply said its light is not needed because God dwells everywhere in that city and His light illuminates creation.

6) **No Closed Gates**

Rev. 21:25 On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there.

a) The New City is not a jail.

b) And there are closed borders, no fear of foreigners...

c) The nations are invited in and they enhance its glory.

i) 21:24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it.

ii) Think about it: **Palestinians, Syrians, Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, Americans, Iranians, Russians, Koreans, Australians and the Chinese** and the list goes on and on.

Rev 5:9,10 NIV And they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and **with your blood you purchased** for God **persons from every tribe and language**

and **people** and **nation**. **10** You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and **they will reign on the earth.**” Adam’s calling to reign is finally fulfilled in his ancestors.

7) Nothing Cursed

Rev 22:3 NIV No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

- a) After Adam and Eve disobeyed God’s one command, do not aspire to gain the knowledge that makes you independent of God by eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Eden and all of creation came under the curse of sin.
- i) Satan the serpent/dragon thought he won!
- ii) Think about it:
- (1) The ground was cursed with thorns and thistles, growing fruit for food was filled with toil and sweat. Men sought to dominate women, women suffered in the pain of childbirth.
 - (2) Relationships were cursed with insecurity, shame, jealousy, and violence.
 - (3) In a cursed world people did not inherit the blessing they inherited pain.
- b) In this new Redeemed Inheritance of ours the curse of Adam and Eve’s sin has been cancelled! No trace of sin and no hint of Satan’s destructive nature.

A renewed creation... so beautiful that it makes the things that take our breath away now look like an empty shell.

Romans 8:18-23 NLT Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. **19** For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. **20** Against its will, all creation was subjected to God’s curse. But with eager hope, **21** the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God’s children in glorious freedom from death and decay. **22** For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. **23** And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us.

After reading this I started thinking about the things that I have seen on this earth that have taken my breath away.

- The Himalaya mountain range in Nepal
- I’ve been to the Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe where I felt so small and God felt so BIG!
- Snorkeling in the pristine waters of Aruba where I saw the most amazing underwater work of art. The vivid colors and diversity of the marine life seemed unreal.

Yet it says that all these things have been subjected to the curse of decay and death. If it is so breathtaking now, what will it be like when the curse of sin is lifted and creation is finally free?

The next time you see a sunset or look over a mountain range or watch the birth of a baby. I want you to take it in. But do yourself a favor and just think, as beautiful as this is, it doesn’t even compare to the glory of creation that waiting to be revealed on that day!