

**Human history began in paradise and it
will also end in paradise...
the New Jerusalem.**

**The New
Jerusalem**
Rev. 21:1-8

- † V. 5 – “Behold I make all things new.”
- † V. 6 – “He said unto me “it is done.”
- † What began in Genesis is brought to completion in Revelation.

GENESIS

1:1 - heavens & earth created
1:16 - Sun created
1:5 - Night established
1:10 - The seas created
3:14-17 - The curse announced
(Satan, serpent, soil)
3:19 - Death enters history
3:24 - Man driven from paradise
3:17 - Sorrow & pain began

REVELATION

21:1 - New heavens & earth
21:23 - No need for the sun
22:5 - No night there
21:1 - No more seas (exiled on Patmos!)
22:3 - No more curse
21:4 - No more death
22:14 - Man restored to paradise
21:4 - No more tears or pain

1. Heaven is a Real Place

- † Liberals deny its existence, but Jesus said “I go to prepare a PLACE for you, that where I am, there you shall be also” (John 14)
- † Heaven is described in detail by what John SAW...with his own eyes.
- † v. 1 - “saw” v. 2 - “saw”
- † Heaven is as real as Wright City! (Actually, more real!)
- † We will have real, glorified bodies! Jesus rose from the dead in His glorified body. He could pass thru walls, but yet he could touch people, sit down and eat.
- † It will be a different existence, but as real as it gets!

2. Heaven is a Remaining Place

- † V. 1 - “passed away”
- † Nothing you see on this earth is going to last. We should enjoy nice things, but don't get too attached, because they are not permanent. In the end, all we have left is our soul! All we will have in eternity is the treasures we send ahead.
- † Jesus said we send ahead of ourselves treasures--by how we serve, how we give now. Some folks sure don't have much “laid up in Heaven!”
- † Every stain of sin and every evidence of evil will pass away when the earth is destroyed! All that will be left is our souls and our spiritual investments, which are stored up for us.
- † One of the most precious experiences we will have in heaven is being approached by someone who says, I got saved because of your witness, your testimony, your missions giving, your prayers, etc.!

3. Heaven is a Readied Place

- † V. 2 - “prepared”
- † It takes the bride a long time to get ready, sometimes hours!
- † The Lord has spent a lot of time and is sparing no expense in readying heaven for us.
- † 2,000 years compared to six days of creation!
- † R.G. Lee—“Heaven is the most marvelous place the wisdom of God could conceive and that the power of God could prepare.”
- † There is nothing here, that can compare with the beauty there!
- † 1 Cor. 2:9 – “...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”

4. Heaven is a Place of Relationship

- † v. 3 – “And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.”

- † This is what makes heaven, Heaven! If the streets were not gold but gravel, if the walls were particle board and not jasper, if mud was knee deep and weeds over our heads, it will still be heaven because Jesus is there!
- † For the lost, the thought of never seeing Jesus face to face should be terrifying and not just that you would go to a fiery hell, but that you would go somewhere cut off from God! But being face to face with Him is a precious contemplation for the believer, and that's what Heaven is!
- † There we'll see the only "man made" thing in heaven: the nail-scarred hands and feet of Christ! A constant reminder of how we got there!
- † Heaven is not a reward for those who are faithful—we can't work our way to heaven.
- † We'll be elated, yes, but only because we're RELATED!
- † Heaven is a place of relationship!

5. Heaven is a Place of Relief

- † v. 4 – "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."
- † No more crying, sighing, or dying! No hospitals or graves!
- † No masks or social distancing required – No experts, no doctors, no reporters needed!
- † No politicians! – ("no liars" v 8)
- † Satan will not be able to get a passport. He will be in the bottomless pit and all the fallen angels will be chained up.
- † There will be no aging, wrinkles. The fountain of youth will be there. One drink from the river of life and all signs of age gone. Nothing will ruin, rot, or rust.
- † There will be no thirsting, or hungering.
- † No itching, no blindness, no deafness, no diabetes, no cancer, or heart attacks, or scars,
- † No thermometers, ice packs, toothpaste, or Preparation H!
- † No cell phones, or watches (time won't matter) or weapons needed (v. 8 takes care of that!)
- † No drugs, no alcohol, no tobacco! (Smoking is still allowed in hell!)
- † No divorce, child abuse, no accidents...and no more bills! No taxes! (Jesus sets us free!)

A five-year-old girl had never spent the night with a friend before—

- † She was nervous, but gave it a try. She did fine during the daytime, but when it got dark she got nervous in a strange place. The friend's mother perceived this and said "Honey, are you getting homesick?" With childlike innocence she replied, "No ma'am, I'm getting here sick!"
- † I don't know about you, but I am getting "here sick", too! (I'm not talking about coronavirus.) The more you may go thru down "here", the sweeter heaven will be for you!
- † Romans 8:18 – "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."
- † Some call it heaven / new Jerusalem / pearly white city / Glory / I call it "home"!

Verse 6 says, "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely."

- † That is not only the deal of a lifetime, that is the deal of an eternity!
- † A forever promise. A forever home. A forever relationship. A forever salvation.
- † Jesus died so that we might live!
- † "Athirst" means you have a desire for what Christ offers. He is the Living Water, the water of life. Freely means, by faith, not works, not perfection, for all have sinned.
- † Repent, be truly sorry for your sin, and have a true faith and trust in Jesus for salvation.
- † Jesus died, rose, and is preparing a place for you and me today.
- † Do you want to go to Heaven? Jesus is the only way!