Scripture Reading: Revelation 21:1-8

Sermon Title: The People We Become: All Things New

The significance of the picture:

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. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. v1-2

7 Domains of Human Flourishing: Physical well-being—health

Emotional well-being—happiness

Cognitive well-being—meaning

Volitional well-being—character

Social well-being—relationships

Material well-being—financial security

Spiritual well-being—various.

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." v8

-St. Augustine. Confessions

We can't meet or deepest desires or needs, but Jesus can!

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." ⁵He 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." v3-5

Jesus is making all things new, healing what is broken & righting every wrong.

How Jesus is doing it **right now**:

He who was seated on the throne

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Revelation 5:12

v5

[&]quot;You stir man to take pleasure in praising you, because you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you."

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, <u>he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.</u>

Hebrews 1:3

Jesus is making all things new through His victory on the cross.

Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is **also interceding for us**. Romans 8:34

Therefore, <u>if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come</u>: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

Jesus is making all things new by people receiving & walking in new life.

Receive or walk in the new of life.

Matthew 5:1-2—Jesus the King calling His disciples and teaching them authoritatively.

Matthew 5:3-16—The identity of the kingdom's citizens, uncommon royalty.

Matthew 5:17-7:6—The practices & ethics of the kingdom, a transcendent life.

Matthew 7:7-29—The appeals of the kingdom, choose life.

Matthew 8:1—The King descending with His disciples who have been confronted and called to commitment.

The gospel of the kingdom is Jesus coming to make everything right through His presence and rule, now & forevermore.

your **kingdom** come Matthew 6:10

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. v5-7

Thirst for More.

Closing Considerations:

Beware of shrinking the cross

He who was seated on the throne
v5

Where do you need to believe that new is still possible?

Where does God need more of you?