

G R O W T H N O T E S

Scripture Text: **Revelation 21:1-5**

SERMON SERIES: Words That Change Reality

Message:

“H O P E!”

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE TEXT

Revelation 21:1-5 (NLT): Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

³ I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

⁵ And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!” And then he said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.”

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Message: I saw Heaven and earth new-created. Gone the first Heaven, gone the first earth, gone the sea.

² I saw Holy Jerusalem, new-created, descending resplendent out of Heaven, as ready for God as a bride for her husband.

³⁻⁵ I heard a voice thunder from the Throne: “Look! Look! God has moved into the neighborhood, making his home with men and women! They’re his people, he’s their God. He’ll wipe every tear from their eyes. Death is gone for good—tears gone, crying gone, pain gone—all the first order of things gone.” The Enthroned continued, “Look! I’m making everything new. Write it all down—each word dependable and accurate.”

BACKGROUND OF TODAY’S MESSAGE

- Though we try to put a bold face on things—the human race is arguably not doing well.
- Take any of our vital signs and it becomes rather obvious the rate of antidepressant use has gone through the ceiling in the last 20 years;

- Suicide rates are skyrocketing—depending on the country it's the first or second leading cause of death among even our young people.
- In 2012, during the 20-year war in Afghanistan, we lost more of our soldiers to suicide than we did to combat.
- *We are suffering from a crisis of HOPE!*
- When millions of children are trafficked annually in the sex trade—and prostitution are billion-dollar industries.
- It's taking place loudly in politics and economies!
- It's taking place quietly in the hearts of millions at this moment—we're suffering from a crisis of HOPE!
- AND—by HOPE—I don't mean mere wishful thinking.
- Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, wrote in his books, "Celebrating Life," "It takes no courage to be an optimist—BUT—it takes a great deal of courage to have HOPE!"

- SO—I'm not talking about wishful thinking—positive thinking or holding a positive thought;
- BUT—when I say—“HOPE”—I mean the confident expectation that something good is coming to your life!
- A rock-solid expectation that we can build our lives on—NOT—the delicate and fragile wishes that most people use to get by.

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RELEVANT QUESTIONS

- ***“What would you say is the hope level in your life these days?”***
- ***How is God going to make everything wrong, right?***

In Matthew 19:28—Jesus Says—“Truly I tell you at the renewal of all things—when the Son of Man sits on His glorious throne—everyone who’s left houses or land—brothers or sisters—mother or father—wife or children—for my sake—will receive a hundred times as much—here’s the phrase—in this life—AND—will inherit eternal life.”

- Jesus taught that a day of great restoration—NOT—annihilation—is coming for the whole world—that’s the teaching of the text for today—out of the cryptic book of revelation!

In The Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 5—God announces—“Behold, I am making all things new. God is and God shall make all things new.”

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WHERE DO WE FIND HOPE?

REVELATION 21:1-5 TEACHES US:

1. “Hope is found in God’s promise to make all things new!”

Revelation 21:5—God Says—“I’ll make all things new!”

- The Greek word used here for renewal is “palingenesia”—which is derived from two root words—palen—meaning—“again”—AND—“geneica”—meaning beginning.
- Put it together—“God plans to do the beginning again!”

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2. How Will This Hope Be Revealed?—"Through A New Creation!"

Revelation 21:1: "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

² And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

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3. "Through A New Companionship!"

Revelation 21:3: "I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them."

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4. "A New Comfort!"

Revelation 21:4: 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.

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CONCLUSION

- *We live in a space, and we occupy a place of some more!*
- *BUT—in the new order—we're destined for a place of no more where God will make all things new!*

My Notes: _____
