

**HEAVEN #2: WHAT WILL HEAVEN BE LIKE?
REVELATION 21–22**

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All Saints 50+

MAIN IDEA: Heaven is the New Heaven and New Earth in God’s presence in which we and all of creation are fully complete as God intended.

WHAT METHOD SHOULD WE USE TO ANSWER THE QUESTION “What is heaven like?”

1. Literal Words (single meaning)
2. Equivocal Words, words with double meaning
3. Analogies and Metaphors

THE BOOKENDS OF CREATION AND RE-CREATION (Gen 1-2; Rev 21-22)

1. First bookend – the original Creation spoken from the Mind of God in Genesis 1-2.

God’s pronouncement over His creation? _____

2. Second bookend – Re-Creation in Revelation 21-22.
 - Isaiah 65:17-18; 66:22.
 - 2 Peter 3:10-13.
 - Revelation 21:1-2
3. The bookends compared – Revelation 21-22 as the consummation of God’s original creation.

See next page.

WHAT STIMULATES OUR LONGING TO BE THERE?

1. A Place of Freedom
- 2.. A Place of Satisfaction
3. A Place of Glory

REVELATION 21-22 AS THE CONSUMMATION OF GOD'S ORIGINAL CREATION

Gen 1:1 "In the beginning . . ."

➔ Gen 1:1 "...God created the heavens and the earth."

| ➔ Gen 1:2 Chaos: "formless and void . . . surface of the waters"

| | ➔ Gen 1:3 "Let there be Light"

| | | ➔ Gen 1:4-30 Details of creation, order out of chaos

| | | | ➔ Gen 1:26-27 Man and woman created in innocence

| | | | | ➔ **Gen.1:28 They will rule over the earth (The Cultural Mandate)**

| | | | | | ➔ Gen 2:9 The Tree of Life planted in the Garden

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➔ Rev 21:1 "I saw a *new* heaven and a *new* earth ..."

Rev. 22:5 "Forever and ever"

IMPLICATIONS

1. "Heaven" (The New Heaven and the New Earth) is a three-dimensional space-time place.
2. It will be organized and have purposeful activity.
3. We will have specific roles (worshiping and reigning).
4. Notice Rev 21-22 never says that we go UP to Heaven. Heaven comes down to us.
5. The New Earth consummates God's plan throughout redemptive history – to restore His creation to its perfect and intended order where humans serve as prepared stewards over this new earth.

HOW DO YOU THINK REVELATION 21-22 STACKS UP TO GOD'S ORIGINAL DESIGN?