

# APOCALYPSE: Finally...We're Home! PT 2

## Revelation 21:4-8

Pastor Jason's Notes

**NKJV** - "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." 6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. 8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

*When I was growing up, I called the state of Idaho my "home". However, ever since I joined the military in 1996, moved away for good, and especially now that I've been a Christian for 20 years, my concept of what "home" is, has completely changed. I know longer think of that place as home, and year by year it is less and less of a sentimental kind of a feeling.*

*I now call Puerto Rico my "home" as this is where the Lord has called my family to serve Him, and we'll continue to do so indefinitely. But even my home here won't last forever because, in the biblical sense, I'm not truly home yet. And you're not home yet either my friend. Where is home, you may ask? Jesus' house is your true home.*

- **John 14:1-3** - "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. 2 There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? 3 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am."

I. What Heaven **WON'T** Be Like (v.4)

II. What Heaven **WILL** Be Like (v.5-6)

III. Who **WILL** Live In Heaven (v.7)

IV. Who **WON'T** Live In Heaven (v.8)

I. What Heaven **WON'T** Be Like (v.4) - "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

- **#1 - There will be no more TEARS or CRYING** - There are memorable occasions in our lives filled with tears...Life is painted with tears---with sorrow. There are tears of loneliness, tears of misfortune, tears of poverty, tears of sympathy, tears of remorse, at this point all gone forever. He'll wipe away every tear.
- **We cry now for a number of different reasons, either by gain or by loss.** We're never satisfied this side of heaven completely. We're never meant to be. God set eternity in our hearts.
  - **There's a story of two teardrops that were floating down the river.** One said to the other, "Who are you?" The teardrop said, "I'm a teardrop from a girl who loved a man and lost him...who are you?" The other teardrop said, "I'm a teardrop of the girl who got him!"
- **I don't think that means we're going to get to heaven crying, wailing, mourning,** the point is this: there's nothing to cry about. There will be no more tears. Why? Because the former things that have passed away.

- *Eric Clapton wrote a song called "Tears in Heaven". He wrote it because his son, Connor, fell to his death from a high rise in New York City. In grief, Eric Clapton penned these words: "Time can bring you down, time can bend your knee, time can break the heart, have you begging 'please', beyond the door there's peace I'm sure, and I know there will be no more tears in heaven."*
  
- **#2 - There will be no more DEATH, or SORROW, or PAIN** - The death rate in the world is 9 per 1,000 annually. So if you take the present population of the earth at 5 billion 776 million 740 thousand, roughly that's just under 52 million people a year that die. That's 1 million people per week.
  - *There are many memorable times in my own life, when I've been confronted with the finality and the sadness of death...my grandfather; my step-brother; church..*
  
- **It's hard for us to imagine life without death.** But there will be no more death in the Eternal Heavens. Listen to what Paul wrote about Death's destiny:
  - *1 Cor 15:54-55 - "So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"*
  - *Rev 20:14 - "Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire."*
    - *"Man comes into the world with a cry; and goes out of it with a groan, and all between is more or less intoned with helpless wailing . . . But the Alleluias of the renewed world will drown out the voice of sorrow forever." - Seiss*
  
- **When the Eternal Heavens comes...Death will die! There will be no more death.** You'll never have to go to a cemetery again. You'll never have to be at a funeral again. Death will be no more. There will only be eternal life!!
  - *When Dwight L. Moody, the evangelist from Chicago, was on his deathbed and his family was gathered around him, he was coming in and out of a coma-like sleep. And towards the end, he said earth recedes and heaven opens before me. If this is death, it is sweet. There is no valley here. God is calling me and I must go. And then he went into a sleep and he came out and they said, we think you're dreaming. He said I'm not dreaming and his last words are: "This is my triumph, this is my coronation day---it is glorious!"*

## II. What Heaven WILL Be Like (v.5-6) - *"Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." 6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts."*

- **"Behold, I make all things new."** - This is the Greek word "*kainos*" meaning "something that is completely new and unprecedented, never before seen." It seems biblically that things won't just BE new, but they will also STAY new, in the Eternal Heavens.
  - *"Presumably this means not only that everything will be made new, but also that everything will stay then new. The entropy law will be 'repealed.' Nothing will wear out or decay, and no one will age or atrophy anymore." - H. Morris*

- **"Write, for these words are true and faithful."** - It's almost as if this description is too good to be true, so the LORD has to remind John to write it down because it is "true and faithful" and will come to pass! We must remember to always stand on the truth of the Word of God, and believe in it's reality and veracity.
  - **John 17:17** - *"..Your Word is Truth."*
  - **John 8:32** - *"..the Truth shall set you free."*
  
- **"It is done!"** - *Though this reminds us of the words spoken by Christ in John 19:30, the Greek language here is very different. This is the word "γίνομαι" or "ginomai" meaning "to become, i.e. to come into existence, begin to be, receive being."*
- This statement is in the present tense, **"I am making everything new."** This is the consummation of God's work of renewal and redemption, having begun here and now in our present time. Paul saw this transformation at work on this side of eternity:
  - **2Cor 5:17** - *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."*
  
- **This is a brief glance at the thinking behind God's eternal plan** – To temporarily allow sin and its destruction into our universe, but only in order to do a much **GREATER** work of making all things **completely** new. At this point in His plan of the ages, the plan will finally be accomplished.... all things are now new!!
  - *"Our instinct is to romantically consider innocence as man's perfect state, and wish that Adam would have never done what he did. But we fail to realize that **REDEEMED** man is far greater than **INNOCENT** man. We gain more in Jesus than we ever lost in Adam. God's perfect state is not one of innocence, but rather **REDEMPTION!**" - David Guzik*
  
- **"I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts."**
- Drinking and thirst are common pictures of God's supply and man's spiritual need.
  - **John 7:37** - *"On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."*
    - *"What does a thirsty man do to get rid of his thirst? He drinks. Perhaps there is no better representation of faith in all the Word of God than that. To drink is to receive-to take in the refreshing drink - and that is all. A man's face may be unwashed, but yet he can drink; he may be a very unworthy character, but yet a drink of water will remove his thirst." - Spurgeon*

### III. **Who WILL Live In Heaven?** (v.7) - **"He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son."**

- **This is yet another "overcomer" promise**, along with those listed in Revelation 2-3. This is the 8th promise, and speaks of being a son of GOD, who *inherits all things* as His child.
  - *"Whenever you talk about Heaven, let your face light up with glory...But when you speak about hell, your normal face will do." - Spurgeon*

#### IV. Who **WON'T** Live In Heaven (v.8) - ***"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."***

- ***"..the cowardly.."*** - Those who are too cowardly to stand/live for Jesus.
- ***"..unbelieving.."*** - Those who refuse to trust in Christ.
- ***"..abominable.."*** - Those habitually practicing disgusting/gross lifestyles to God.
- ***"..murderers.."*** - Those who wickedly take human life unjustly.
- ***"..sexually immoral.."*** - Those habitually practicing unclean sexual acts.
- ***"..sorcerers.."*** - Those habitually practicing the use of drugs. (*"pharmakeus"*)
- ***"..idolaters.."*** - Those habitually replacing GOD with lesser things.
- ***"..and all liars.."*** - Those habitually calling Jesus "Lord", but denying Him in practice.
- ***"..shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*** -