



SUNDAY MORNING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: Life in the Heavenly City

Passage: Revelation 21:1-23

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: Every person here today has wondered about Heaven. What will it be like? Deep in the human heart is a longing for home, a recognition that this world, with all its brokenness, is not our final destination.

"If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world." —C.S. Lewis

Revelation shows us that Christ's thousand-year reign will give way to the New Heaven and New Earth—the eternal home of all the redeemed.

"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison" (Revelation 20:7)

Even after Christ's perfect reign, Satan's final rebellion ends instantly as God defeats the deceived nations that rise against Him.

"...and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them" (Revelation 20:9)

Once sin, Satan, and death are forever dealt with, God wipes away the old creation and bring forth a brand-new heaven and earth that will last forever.

I. The Vast Dimensions of the City (Verses 15-17)



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A. There is room for you

Don't ever think Heaven is too crowded. The gates are not shut to keep people out, but to welcome all who have been washed in the blood of Christ. If you are saved, you have a guaranteed place reserved.

B. There is room for others

The city is vast enough to hold every sinner who repents. That ought to motivate us in evangelism— there is still room at the cross and still room in the city.

C. God's plan is bigger than your imagination

When life feels small and cramped, remember the vastness of your eternal home. You are not made just for this world—you are made for a city with dimensions beyond comprehension.

"When you get to Heaven, don't look for a little cottage down a back alley. Jesus said there are many mansions, and I'm going to have one of them!" — D.L. Moody

II. The Rich Description of the City (Verses 18-21)

When we walk through those gates, we will be reminded that our entrance into Heaven was purchased through suffering—not ours, but Christ's. His wounds produced the pearl. His agony opened the way. Heaven is free to us, but it cost Jesus everything.

Jesus not only saved you—He built a city that will never be shaken. The very foundations of your eternal home are already laid and glowing with the glory of God.

The world chases after gold and jewels here, but in Heaven those things will be construction materials. What men prize most highly here is mere pavement there

III. The Distinctions of the City (Verses 4, 22-23)



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Perhaps the most precious truths John records are not about what is in the city, but about what is not:

- No more funerals — There will be no more death in heaven.
- No temple — Worship will no longer be confined to one place— we will live in His presence continually.
- No need of the sun or moon — Jesus Himself will be our eternal light.

Conclusion: Heaven is not a dream to be dismissed—it is a destination to be embraced. The gates of that city stand open to all who will come by faith in Christ, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life will enter in. Friend, eternity is certain, and your future address is being written even now. Will you receive the Author's gracious invitation and claim your place in that new and more glorious edition? The city is prepared, the promise is sure, and the Savior is calling. Will you be there?



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