

Revelation 21-22 – 18 July 2019

You in the New Heaven & Earth w/ New Jerusalem

Introduction –

JOKE – Two men who love baseball, is there baseball in heaven. One dies...

We talk about “dying & going to heaven”...

Today we’ll talk about 3 aspects of your eternal existence. Let me tell ya, it’s N.E.W.

Read 21:1-8 – All things are made NEW and given to us!

1. Vs 1

- a. Paul told the Corinthians, “I knew a man in Christ about 14 yrs ago (whether in body...) such a one was caught up to the 3rd heaven”.

- i. In the beginning, in Genesis, God created the heavens & the earth. God's abode already there.
 - ii. God's abode is a spiritual reality described as heaven.
- b. Rev 21 shows physical reality changing.
 - i. (II Pet 3:10) – Earth passes w/ great noise.
 - ii. (Col 1:17, Heb 1:3) – By Jesus all things consist & are keep together by His Word.
 - iii. All He has to do is let go of the Universe!
 - iv. (Isa 65:17) – The former heaven & earth won't even come into mind.
- c. “No more sea” – sea was separation (flood)

2. Vs 2

- a. New Jerusalem seems inextricably linked to the church, the bride herself.
 - i. Jeru describes as a place, Bride is a person.
 - ii. This is a new reality, hard to describe.
 - iii. Temple placement
 - 1. OT – Men meet God at Temple.

2. NT – Men are the Temple.
3. Eternal State – Men & whole city are one.
 - b. New Jeru is about 1500 miles in each way.
3. Vs 3-4
 - a. There's no physical weakness (imperfection) at all.
 - b. (Jhn 17:3) – We'll have eternity to continually be blown away by learning of God.
4. Vs 5
 - a. Everything you've ever known will take on a new reality.
 - i. Hyperdimensional
 1. We're 3D and we can understand 2D
 2. (Eph 3:18) – Paul prayed they would comprehend the B, L, D, H of Christ.
 - ii. Each color may have a beautiful smell.
 - iii. May have personal time to spend with each loved one...all at once.
 - b. Too good to be true? So God says write.

5. Vs 6-8

a. ALPHA & OMEGA

- i. (Heb 12:2) – Jesus is Author and Finisher of our faith.
- ii. He began our purpose and pursuit.
- iii. He will be there beyond the end of time sustaining us all w/ His water life.

b. WATER

- i. (Jer 2:13) – 2 evils [fountain/broken cistern]
- ii. (John 4) – “...you will thirst again.”
- iii. (John 7:37) – Come to Me, My water will empower you to live.

Read 21:9-21 – All things are EXACT for our care and relation to God!

1. We won't be purposelessly harping on a cloud forever!
2. Vs 9-11
 - a. The bride, the church, is centered at the New Jeru or is the New Jeru.
 - b. Light is a key ingredient of life w/ Jesus.
3. Vs 12-14 & 19-21
 - a. 12 Gates for the wall to New Jeru
 - i. Named after the 12 tribes of Israel
 - ii. 3 gates on each of the 4 sides.
 1. Notice that it's cube (vs 16)
 2. But we don't come in from above or below, but just the four sides.
 - iii. Each gate has an angel by it.
 - iv. Each gate is a pearl
 1. See vs 21
 2. The saying, "the pearly gates".
 3. Pearls were not kosher

- b. 12 Foundations for the wall to New Jeru
 - i. Named after the 12 apostles of Jesus
 - ii. Each foundation was made of a different precious stone.
- c. Gates and foundations
 - i. (Gal 3:23-24) – OT Law was a schoolmaster to lead us to Christ as a gate would.
 - ii. (I Cor 3:11) – No other foundation can be laid than that of Christ in the NT.
- 4. Vs 15-18
 - a. Vs 15-16 – The city was miles each side.
 - b. Vs 17-18 – The wall was 216 feet high.
- 5. Everything about this city is precious, planned and EXACT, just the way God intends!
 - a. The value system is totally different.
 - i. The value is in relationships not relics.
 - ii. The value is in people not possessions.
 - iii. The value is in God not gold.

Read 21:22-27 – All things are to show WORTH to God!

1. Vs 22
 - a. The doings are now done.
 - b. The rituals are now retired.
 - c. The sacrifices are now satisfied.
 - d. The reasons are now revealed!
2. Vs 23
 - a. Notice God and Jesus used completely interchangeably. They are the center.
3. Vs 24-25
 - a. God's glory in the city is the center that all people flock to!
4. Vs 26-27
 - a. God's glory; always open, always available.

Read Chapter 22 – As a prayer and as a hope!

Conclusion –

Today we've seen 3 aspects of your eternal existence and it's N.E.W.

1. **All things are made NEW and given to us!**
 - a. “New” is so much broader than when you first start thinking about it!
2. **All things are EXACT for our care and relation to God!**
 - a. Does God know how to give you the perfectly right eternal future down to the fine details?
3. **All things are to show WORTH to God!**
 - a. Are you preparing now to have Him be the center of it all?