

Christ and the Future Class 12 -- Feb. 26, 2017

The New Heaven and New Earth

We hesitate to speak too much about a reality so wonderful we can hardly conceive of it now. We are like stammering children trying to describe nuclear physics! We must be careful not to fill in by our imaginations beyond the mere foretastes of what Scripture presently makes plain to us.

1 Cor. 2:9-10 2 Cor. 5:4-5 1 Cor. 13:12

How does the Bible use the term 'HEAVEN'? It is not 'Cloudland!'

All New Things? Or, All Things *made New*? Sin brought the curse even to impact the earth itself. God's last act will be to recreate, wash and renew what our sin has served to damage and pollute.

Psalm 102:26

Romans 8:18-25

2 Peter 3:5-13

Revelation 21

Analogy to believers' resurrection bodies: a familiar setting: recognizable but gloriously re-made!

Specific Blessings Promised: Perfection in Holiness and conformity to Christ

Unbroken fellowship with God and Christ

Eternal life

Freedom from fear of death; freedom from frustration, sickness, dishonor, disease, tears

Pleasures like banqueting or a wedding feast are lifted to the highest level; Human fellowship enjoyed in the finest ways

Biblical Promises about glories of the EARTH and Saints inheriting it will come true

Genesis 17:8

Hebrews 11: 13-16

Acts 3:19-21

WORSHIP will become the Centerpiece of our existence: To Enjoy God Forever!

Isa. 66:22-23

Revelation 22

Nothing within this eternal existence can possibly be found 'boring'!

A Quote to ponder: "The world in which we shall dwell after the Return of Jesus Christ and his final judgement is completed is not another world; it is THIS world! This heaven; this earth; though transformed and renewed. It is these forests, these fields; these cities, these streets these people that will be the scene of redemption. At present they all are battlefields, full of strife and sorrow. But then they will be field of victory; fields of harvest...where out of seed that was sown with tears, the everlasting sheaves will be reaped with great joy and brought home at last!" (Edward Thurneyson)