



**“We Believe...”**  
**Great Truths of the Christian Faith**

Follow the Cove on Facebook for weekly updates, podcasts or post a question. Search for CRB Cove and “like” it to share with your friends!

**“The Final Restoration”**

April 28, 2019

**Dr. Jeannine Brown**

**Theme:** The story of God and God’s creation, including humanity, is a story of God’s thoroughgoing commitment to restore of all things from the powers of sin and death. In the end, God will redeem humanity in Christ—body and soul and will renew all creation. God’s benevolent rule will extend over a renewed humanity in a new heaven and a new earth.

**Outline:**

1. Old Testament: Humanity’s Problem and God’s Solution

a. Genesis 1-2: The creation of the world, humanity as its caretakers, and all of it “good” and “very good” (1:31)

b. Genesis 3 and 12: The fall and its initial reversal in the call of Abraham (also Exod 19:5-6; Isa 49:5-6)

c. Old Testament texts foreshadowing of the restoration of all things: e.g., Isa 65:17-25; Amos 9:11-15

## 2. New Testament: A Final Vision of a New Humanity in Christ and a Renewed Creation

- a. 1 Corinthians 15:20-28: Paul's "end times timeline"
  
- b. Romans 8:18-30: God's Children and creation groan for final (physical) restoration
  
- c. What about 2 Peter 3: Isn't it all going to burn?
  
- d. Revelation 21:1-4, 22-27; 22:1-5: A vision of the renewed creation

## 3. What does eschatology—the "then"—have to do with the now?

**Takeaway:** What we believe about the way God will wrap up all things impacts deeply how we live today. How we live in this time and in our embodied lives matters! How we treat God's creation in the present matters. And we are invited to live into "the freedom and glory of the children of God" even in our present lives that often include suffering. God will make all things new, on that we can count.

### **Next Cove:**

Date: May 5, 2019

Title: A NEW STUDY BEGINS!!!