

Discussion Guide (January 28, 2024):

Joe Boerman

Message series: *Things To Come* Message: *All Things New*

PRIMARY PASSAGE: Revelation 20, 21

Revelation 21:1-5 (NLT): *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new."*

MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS

New Jerusalem, New Heaven, New Earth

Interpreting Scripture (a guideline): "If the literal sense can make sense, seek no other sense."

Example of allegory, metaphor (these words are tip-offs from Ezekiel 1): *as it were, like, as*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Using the guideline for interpretation (above) read Revelation 21 and 22. What parts of these chapters seem to be allegorical? What do you base that on? Point: Just because something defies imagination does not mean it is allegorical. Take the literal sense unless there is a clear reason you cannot do that.
2. As you read over Revelation 21, what catches your eye? What does it stir in you?
3. What do the open gates of the New Jerusalem indicate to you?
4. In the "Things to Come" series, what remains unclear to you? Discuss.

PRAYER: *He who is the faithful witness to all these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon!" Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!*

RECOMMENDED READING FOR FURTHER STUDY

Are We Living in the End Times? (Dr. Robert Jeffress): This recent publication is easy to understand and answers many questions simply.

The Rapture and Beyond (John C. Whitcomb): Recommended if you only purchase one book

Things to Come (Dwight Pentecost): A classic, thorough overview of our future and world from a dispensational point of view

A Basic Guide to Eschatology (Millard J. Erickson): A good comparison of Tribulation and Millennial viewpoints

Be Victorious (Warren Wiersbe): A simple, but excellent, commentary on Revelation

The World of the End (David Jeremiah): How Jesus' prophecy shapes our priorities

TO HELP YOU FURTHER

YouTube: a 20-lesson podcast teaching through Revelation from John Barnett, Excellent and free.

Visit the Billy Graham Museum (near Wheaton College). Tour the History of Evangelism, and then walk through the death/burial/resurrection of Jesus, ending up in **heaven**