

February 4, 2024

Holiness Completed

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God will bless his people with a new creation and a new city.

Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. Revelation 21:1-2 NIV

For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:19-23

God will dwell with his people in the new Jerusalem.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:3-5

Those who thirst and overcome will inherit life with God in the new creation.

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. Revelation 21:6-7

Accept the invitation.

We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. 1 John $4:16\ \mathrm{NLT}$

Extend the invitation.



Discipleship Guide

February 4 - 10

Let's Connect

• Share a time when you longed for something. What was it? Did it happen?

Let's Talk About It

We all face temptations, trials, and difficulties as we press toward living a life of holiness. God gives us a beautiful and compelling vision that motivates our hearts to persevere through challenges and anticipate everlasting life with Him. God will bless His people with a new creation and city, and He will dwell with His people in the new Jerusalem. Those who thirst for Him and overcome opposition will inherit life with God. Let's accept the invitation to be with Him and extend it to others so they may be welcomed into God's holy presence for all eternity with us.

Revelation 21:1-7; John 4:14; 1 John 5:4-5; 1 John 4:16 NLT

- Which part of the message impacted or challenged you?
- Register on the app to take the Purple Book challenge starting February 18!
- Read Revelation 21:1-7. Can you remember a time when you were pursuing a prize? How did envisioning obtaining the prize and making it your focus, help you fight through temptations, trials, and challenges to achieve it?
- Have you ever longed to see our current world as a better place? How does knowing and envisioning the new Jerusalem as written in Revelation 21:3-4, increase your desire to be in God's presence in a world like that?
- Read 1 John 5:4-5 and 1 John 4:16. Have you received God's invitation of salvation? If not, what's holding you back? What do these scriptures tell you about God's love and care for you? How does that give you confidence regarding your future?

Take a Step

Take time this week to accept God's invitation to spend time with Him through reading the Bible and prayer. Write down names of friends, family members, coworkers that you can share God's love with. Take five minutes a day to pray for them and extend the invitation to spend time with them.

Here's My Prayer

Thank You, Lord, for giving me the beautiful and compelling picture of the age to come, where I get to be face-to-face with You in Your peaceful presence. I look forward to the day I can be with You, together with victorious believers, in Your peaceful, joyous presence, where there will be no more death, mourning, crying, or pain, and You will wipe every tear from our eyes. Until then, may You lead me to extend the invitation to those far from You so they may put their trust in You and be welcomed into Your family for all eternity. In Jesus name. Amen.