

All Things Have Become New – Part I

Revelation 21:1-8

July 23, 2023

I. Introduction

- A. Verses 1-8: who will be in heaven
- B. Verses 9-22:5: what heaven will be like
- C. All judgment is past but so is the opportunity to change
- D. Time as we know it is past
- E. The number 12 occurs often
 - 1. 12 gates
 - 2. 12 Apostles
 - 3. 12 tribes
 - 4. 12 kinds of fruit
 - 5. 12 foundations walls are 144 cubits high (12 x 12)
- F. “new” appears approximately 58 times in New Testament

II. The New Heaven, Earth and Jerusalem. Who Will Be There?

- A. The new heaven and earth – v. 1
 - 1. “Then I saw” – John’s old eyes had seen a lot; this was a pleasant sight
 - 2. A new heaven and earth are necessary because Satan and sin have defiled them.
 - 3. Heaven and earth “passed away” (two thoughts)
 - a. “that it is a totally new heaven and a new earth and not the present heaven and earth renovated . . .” B.K.C.
 - b. “The newness of heaven and earth shall be like our own. We shall be the same persons and have the same body and the same soul that we now have. But these made entirely new . . . The same shall be true with regard to the new heaven and the new Earth.” (Lenski as quoted by D.J., p. 223)
 - 4. Other passages that speak of a new heaven and earth
 - a. Isaiah 65:17; 66:22
 - b. Matthew 24:35; II Peter 3:10-13
 - 5. No sea!
 - a. One continent?
 - b. Rivers, lakes? Yes.
 - 6. The passages that talk about the Millennium mention the sea; thus, not be confused with the new heaven and earth.

- a. Psalm 72:8; Isaiah 11:9; Ezekiel 47:8-20; 48:28
- b. Zechariah 9:10; 14:8
- B. The Descent of the new Jerusalem – v. 2
 - 1. This city may have two opening days
 - a. During the millennium at which time, it will hang in space
 - b. After the destruction and recreation of heaven and earth.
 - 2. Galatians 4:26; Hebrews 11:10; Hebrews 12:22-24 all speak of this city
 - 3. Jesus may have had this city in mind in John 14:2
- C. God will dwell there – v. 3
 - 1. I.E., the Godhead
 - 2. This makes heaven – heavenly
 - 3. You can experience this (in part) now.
 - a. Ezekiel 18:30-32 (on earth, a battle); 36:26 (in heaven, automatic)
- D. The old versus the new – vs. 4, 5
W.W.W. illustrates that what began in Genesis is brought to completion in Revelation

Genesis: Heavens and earth created 1:1
Revelation: New heavens and earth 21:1

Genesis: Sun created 1:16
Revelation: No need of sun 21:23

Genesis: The night established 1:5
Revelation: No night there 22:5

Genesis: The seas created 1:10
Revelation: No more seas 21:1

Genesis: The curse announced 3:14-17
Revelation: No more curse 22:3

Genesis: Death enters history 3:19

Revelation: No more death 21:4

Genesis: Man driven from the tree 3:24

Revelation: Man restored to paradise 22:14

Genesis: Sorrow and pain begin 3:17

Revelation: No more tears or pain 21:4

- E. Those from the earth who will be there – vs. 6, 7
 - 1. Sons – free: 1:5; 7:14; 22:17
 - 2. Mature sons – costly: (*huios* = mature son)
 - a. 2:1-6 versus 7
 - b. 2:14-16 versus 17
 - c. 2:18-23 versus 24-29
 - d. 3:1-3 versus 4-6
 - e. 3:11 versus 12
 - f. 3:14-19 versus 21
- F. Those from earth who will not be there – v. 8
 - 1. See also 22:15
 - 2. Three views of “Overcomers”
 - a. Believers who persevere to the end; if you do not persevere, you lose your salvation.
 - b. Believers who persevere to the end; if you do not persevere it proves you were not a believer.
 - c. Mature believers, healthy believers.