Book of Revelation – A New Heaven and A New Earth Series REV-67 - Revelation 21:1-8 Part I

REVELATION 21 - A New Heaven and A New Earth

We have come to the last two chapters of the book. As it was in the beginning, so shall it be in the end. Genesis 1-2, records the Creation of our solar system and little world. Revelation 21-22, records the Re-Creation of our world, after sin and sinners are no more. This is the reward of the saints and of all them that love His appearing. Below we find inspiration recording these words from *The Story of Jesus:*

God created the earth to be man's home. Here Adam dwelt in that garden of delight which the creator Himself had beautified. Though sin has marred God's work, yet the human race has not been abandoned by its Creator; nor His purpose for the earth set aside.

To this earth angels have come, with the message of redemption, and its hills and valley have echoed their songs of rejoicing. Its soil has been trodden by the feet of the Son of God. And for more than six thousand years, in its forms of beauty and gifts for sustenance, the earth has borne witness of the Creator's love.

This same earth, freed from the curse of sin, is to be man's eternal home. Of the earth the Scripture says, that God "created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited." Isaiah 45:18 And "whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever." Ecclesiastes 3:14...

The fires of the last day are to destroy "the heavens and the earth, which are now;" but there shall come forth "new heavens and a new earth." 2 Peter 3:7, 13. The heavens and the earth will be made new.

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love." 1 Cor 2:9.

No human language can fully describe the reward of the righteous. It will be known only to those who behold it. We can not comprehend the glory of the Paradise of God.

Yet we have glimpses of that land even now; for God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit." 1 Corinthians 2:10. Precious to our hearts are the pictures of that country which the Bible gives. — SJ 183-184

The Holy Spirit has taught us much in the study of this great Masterpiece—it could be said, the greatest book in the greatest Volume ever written. As we explore these faithful and true words which are still for our admonition, though describing our future home once cleansed and purified by fire, the Lord has more for us to learn to inspire us and encourage us to press on "unto that perfect day."

Vs.1 – And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

This is what Peter referred to when he said, "we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." (2 Peter 3:13)

And John, "...there was no more sea."

[Remember, John has been banished on the island as punishment from the emperor.] He longs for that day, no more separation, no more sea, no more isolation from family and loved ones.

Vs.2 – John sees the holy city coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

How fitting of God. The Bible opens with a marriage—Gen 2 and closes with a marriage—Rev 21, the literal gives way to the spiritual.

The New Jerusalem with the saints and Jesus returns to earth actually at the end of the 1000 years (Rev 20:7).

Q. Have you wondered why John waited stating this fact until after the destruction of sin and sinners? He could just have easily slipped it in after vs.7 of the prior chapter. "...Satan shall be loosed out of his prison," as the New Jerusalem descended from heaven. Share your thoughts—

Read again vs.2 and vss.9b & 10. You will notice a matching parallel thought and in reverse order, so you know what that means re. the verses in between?

It is quite interesting that these last two chapters, not only of the book, but the Bible, contain a # of closing themes. We especially note this in chp.21—

- We've already noted about (vs.2) the marriage of God & New Jerusalem.
- o In vs. 3, we see the "tabernacle of God" bringing a closure to the passage in Ex 25:8.
- o God shall wipe away all tears verse 4 tells us. Where is John under the Spirit's direction getting this info from? (i.e. where else in the Bible).

Wipe away all tears
There shall be no more death
neither sorrow
neither any more pain

There also are closing themes in the book. [Notice these items mentioned above are listed after chapter 20.] Its not until God actually creates a new heaven and earth, that these things truly apply.

Vs. 5 - And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me. Write for these words are true and faithful.

Look up the three other occurrences in the book, where these words 'faithful and true' are mentioned. Note the setting of each. Note also that the other three have something in common, but not so with this verse above. Why? [this may require a little thought. Hint: think chronology].

Vs. 6 – And He said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

It is done! (It is finished) {Click here} Seven times in Salvation history has Divinity spoken these words. We first see it spoken at end of Creation week, then Gethsemane and Calvary, with the last time here in chp 21. Notice every time Christ speaks these words (the Father speaks 6th time), it marks a major moment in salvation history. The first and the last are interesting to ponder--one prior to sin, the other post sin. The other five—Gethsemane, Calvary, private interview, COP and at the VOG. {The Lord has some 'icing on the cake' for us to see in these five. We will discuss in our Mon night study—power is coming.}

Vs. 7 – He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

He that overcometh. This is the 8th time in the book of Revelation this term is used. This is a summary statement of the first seven, found at the end of each of the 7 churches. The Saints WIN—they will inherit all things. What one church receives as a reward, all the rest receive. That's what this verse states.

Verse 8 reveals 8 things (no pun intended), characteristics which will not be in the kingdom, but the lake of fire. There are several eights we will see in this chapter. We will go over in our study together.

Truly, the best is left for last, OUR ETERNAL HOME

That is what the Lord of Heaven has prepared

for those who overcome at last

Part 2 - Next Week