

What Was, What Is and Is to Come

A Biblical End Times and Prophecy Study

XIII. Eternity - New and Improved

Jesus has returned! Satan is defeated. Those who rejected Christ have been sentenced to their punishment. Let's now take a look at how those, who are faithful, will spend eternity.

1. A Lot of New Stuff (Revelation 21:1-8)

A. *Revelation 21:1.* The present heaven and earth are destroyed and replaced by new ones. (See II Peter 3:7-12) There is no longer any need for water, so the oceans are not even re-created. (Question: Are there any animals left?)

B. *Revelation 21:2-5.* A city, the New Jerusalem, descends out of heaven. An announcement is made that God will now dwell with men. God will eliminate all pain, suffering and death. The old is done, everything is new.

C. *Revelation 21:6-8.* God announces that those who love Him will inherit eternity with Him. Those that don't will inherit the lake of fire - or the second death...and eternal separation from God.

2. The New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:9-27)

A. **Descent.** *Revelation 21:9-10.* This eternal city, also referred to as the bride and the wife of the Lamb and the Holy City, descends from heaven. It will shine with the brilliance and glory of God.

B. **Description.** Revelation 21:11-14. It has 12 gates and 12 foundations with the names of the tribes of Israel and the apostles written on them.

C. **Dimensions.** *Revelation 21:15-17.* It is roughly 1500 miles square



(and high). Its walls are 200 feet thick (some translations say 200 feet high).

D. **Decorations.** *Revelation 21:18-21.* The walls, gates and foundations will be decorated with precious metals and gems.

E. **Delights.** *Revelation 21:22-27, 22:1-5.* There will be no need for a temple or light - God will be both. The tree of life will once again be accessible. Those who believed will serve and reign forever.



3. Closing Remarks (Revelation 22:6-21)

A. **Blessings.** *Revelation 22:6-17.* Blessed are those who 1) keep the words of prophecy in Revelation and 2) wash their robes. Jesus declares that he is coming soon. He refers to Himself as the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End, the Root and Offspring of David, and the Bright and Morning Star.

B. **Beware!** *Revelation 22:18-19.* Warnings are given to anyone who adds to or deletes any portion of these prophecies.

C. **Benediction.** *Revelation 22:20-21.* "He is coming soon!" Amen.