

Title: Heaven Yes!

Text: Revelation 21

Target: Focused on Heaven, Faithful on Earth

- I. **Heavenly Place:** “new heaven and new earth” ...* “passed” (Vs. 1, 2 Peter 3:10-13)
 - A. **It’s about Transformation:** “new-Kainos” used in 2 Cor. 5:17
 - B. **It’s about Relocation:** “saw the Holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.” (Vs. 2)
 - C. **It’s about Presentation:** “prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.” (Vs. 2)
- II. **Heavenly Person:** “and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold the dwelling place of God is with man” (Vs. 3)
 - A. **He Centers Us:** “he will dwell with them” (Vs. 3)
 - B. **He Claims Us:** “they will be his people” (Vs. 3)
 - C. **He Completes Us:** “God himself will be with them as their God” (Vs. 3)
- III. **Heavenly Promise:** “he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away” (Vs. 4)
- IV. **Heavenly Provision:** “Behold, I am making all things new.” (Vs. 5)
 - A. **Our Confidence:** “It is done!” I am the Alpha and Omega and the beginning and the end” (Vs. 6)
 - B. **Our Contentment:** “To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.” (Vs. 6b)
 - C. **Our Covenant:** “I will be his God and he will be my son” (Vs. 7)

DISCUSSION QUESTION: I don’t know about you, but I am overwhelmed with joy by just reading this passage. To know that He, Creator God, will make all things new! And not only that, but He Himself will live with us. Verse 3 says, “...He will dwell with them, and they will be His people.” This is powerful and timely as we head into the Christmas season and we reflect upon how Jesus came and dwelt among us. John 1:14 says, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.” How should the knowledge of Jesus being with us for a time and the Holy Spirit with us now impact how we live today with an eye toward an eternity in the presence of God?

- V. **Heavenly Prohibition:** “But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.” (Vs. 8)
- VI. **Heavenly Perspective:** “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” (Vs. 9)
 - A. **Dominion:** “showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God” (Vs.10)
 - B. **Distinctions:** “having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.” (Vs. 11)
 - 1. **12 Gates = 12 Tribes of Israel & 12 Angels** (Vs. 12)
 - 2. **12 Foundations = 12 Apostles** (Vs. 14)

- C. **Dimension:** *"The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width. And he measured the city with his rod, 12,000 stadia. Its length, width and height are equal."* (Vs. 16)
- D. **Description (Vs. 18-21):** *And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass."* (Vs. 21)

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Mercy Me wrote a song in the late 1990's titled "I can only imagine." The song describes the singer's thoughts of what it will be like when he sees Jesus for the first time. Take a moment to close your eyes and visualize all that John has described here. Then share with the group all that you imagine it will be like when you get to see Jesus and New Jerusalem for yourself. With whom will you reunite? Who do you know that needs to see this as well?

- VII. **Heavenly Perfection:** *"And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb."* (Vs. 22)
 - A. **Always Available: No Temple:** (Vs. 22)
 - B. **Always Aflame: No Sun or Moon:** (Vs. 23-24)
 - C. **Always Accessible: No Locks:** (Vs. 25-26)
 - D. **Always Accountable: No Sin:** (Vs. 27)

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Can you imagine? No temple? No sun? No night? The glory of God will illuminate everything. Discuss verses 22-27 amongst your group.

Take Away: There are many questions that will be answered in Heaven, but the biggest question on earth that must be answered is...is your name in the Lamb's book of life?