

Theme: The new heavens and the new earth are our eternal home, and those who love and serve God will experience the removal of the curse and the consummation of God's original purposes for mankind.

I. Intro – Symbolism and Limits of Language

- A. Experiences words can't express
- B. Imagine getting a vision of new H&E
- C. John uses a lot of symbolism
- D. Still points to the reality – it will be great!

II. The Glory of the New Heavens & Earth

- A. The curse is removed!
 - 1. Rev 21:4; 22:3
 - 2. Genesis & Revelation – removal of curse
 - a. Pain – Gen 3:16 & Rev 21:4
 - b. Unproductive – Gen 3:17-19 & Rev 22:2-3
 - c. Tree of Life – Gen 3:22-24 & Rev 22:2-3
 - d. Death – Gen 3:19 & Rev 21:4
 - 3. The prophetic hope fulfilled (Is 25:8; Is 11)
 - a. Is 25:8 – death swallowed up
 - b. Is 11 - Man right with God, mankind, animals

B. God's original plan is consummated

- 1. Fulfillment of covenant motto
 - a. Rev 21:3,7 – God & people
 - b. Gen 17:7-8; Lev 26:12; Jer 30:22;
- 2. God dwells with us
 - a. Rev 21:3, Lev 26:11-12; Ezek 37:27
 - b. Ezek 48:35; Jn 1:14; Rev 21:22
- 3. Completion of creation motifs
 - a. Heavens & earth (Gen 1:1; Rev 21:1)
 - b. Sea/no more sea (Gen 1:2ff; Rev 21:1)
 - c. Gold, stones (Gen 2:11-12; Rev 21:18-21)
 - d. River (Gen 2:10; Rev 22:1-2)
 - e. Tree of life (Gen 2:9; Rev 22:2)
 - f. Garden has become a massive city!

III. The Certainty of New Heavens and Earth

- A. "Write this down – trustworthy and true" (v5)
- B. God Himself will make all things new (v5)

IV. Preparing Now for New Heavens & Earth

- A. Not all will enter (Rev 21:8 – fight against God)
- B. Christ offers waters of life – come drink! (v6-7)

V. Application – Communion

- A. Christ offers New Heavens and Earth to us
- B. This meal is a token of Wedding Supper of Lamb
- C. Glory of that meal far outweighs this one
- D. Glory of new creation far outweighs this one
- E. Come and eat

The New Heavens and the New Earth (Part 1)

Revelation 21:1-8
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Communion
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8 He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.

Isaiah 25:8

7 I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. 8The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."

Genesis 17:7-8

12 I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.

Leviticus 26:12

22 "So you will be my people, and I will be your God."

Jeremiah 30:22

11 I will put my dwelling place among you, and I will not abhor you. 12 I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.

Leviticus 26:11-12

27 My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Ezekiel 37:27

35 "The distance all around will be 18,000 cubits. "And the name of the city from that time on will be: THE LORD IS THERE."

Ezekiel 48:35

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14