

Theme: Our God is One Who renews and restores that which has been broken and marred by sin, and Who proclaims "I make all things new!"

## I. Our Throwaway Culture

- A. We live in disposable culture
- B. Many things cost more to repair than buy new
- C. But people and relationships are not disposable
- D. This is why God is a restorer - not a disposer
- E. We see this especially as we look at the end of the story

## II. A Glorious Ending - All Things New

- A. Revelation 21-22 is the glorious completion of the story
  - 1. Like any good story, the end fulfills the purpose
  - 2. This is clearly meant to remind us of the story line
  - 3. Here all of the problems are resolved!
- B. The curse is removed

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. Revelation 21:4

No longer will there be any curse. Revelation 22:3

  - 1. The curse and its effects are removed from creation
  - 2. We see specific curse motifs reversed
    - a. Pain - no more pain!

I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth. Genesis 3:16

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.. Revelation 21:4

- b. Futility of unproductivity - all is wildly productive

"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you...By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food..." Genesis 3:17-19

"On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse...." Revelation 22:2-3
- c. Tree of life removed - now restored

After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life. Genesis 3:22-24

On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Revelation 22:2-3
- d. Death - no more death!

"for dust you are and to dust you will return." Genesis 3:19

There will be no more death... Revelation 21:4
- 3. He is removing the curse and making all things new!
- C. God's purpose for His people is fulfilled

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. **They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.**" Revelation 21:3

1. Covenant motto - I will be your God; you my people  
**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.** <sup>8</sup> The 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

I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people. Leviticus 26:12

So you will be my people, and I will be your God. Jeremiah 30:22

2. God will dwell with us  
And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, **“Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them.** They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.” Revelation 21:3

I will put my dwelling place among you, and I will not abhor you. <sup>12</sup> I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people. Leviticus 26:11–12

My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. Ezekiel 37:27

3. Since the Garden God had not walked among us
4. But His purpose will be fulfilled - He comes to us
5. He restores our relationship with Him!
6. He comes to us and makes all things new!

#### D. The marriage of God and His people

I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, **prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.** Revelation 21:2

1. God’s dwelling with us is so full - marriage is a picture
2. Paul tells us the same thing in Ephesians 5  
“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” <sup>32</sup> This is a profound mystery— but I am talking about Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. Ephesians 5:31–33
  - a. Note that marriage is really about Christ & Church
  - b. God’s intent for His people is prior and foundational
  - c. Marriage is merely given to be a picture of the intimacy God desires with His people
3. God is making all things new - we can dwell with Him again

#### E. The cost of making all things new

He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. Revelation 21:6

1. All of this is free to us - but at great cost to Christ!
2. To make all things new He had to sacrifice Himself
3. Husbands - this is our call in marriage!  
Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her Ephesians 5:25

4. Passion of the Christ - He is bloodied - but making all things new!

### III. Applying the Word

- A. Do we know God is working to make all things new?
  1. Do not think you are ever beyond the grace of God
  2. Do not ever think God can not restore and renew!
  3. God is on mission to make all things new
  4. Christ has worked redemption to do this!
  5. Receive His renewing work today!
- B. Do we rejoice as God renews & makes all things new?
  1. We have all made a mess of things - all of us!
  2. We should rejoice as we see God restoring that which has been marred by sin
  3. A religious spirit sometimes wants to be unforgiving
  4. But God is so gracious and restores - and we must celebrate!
- C. The wedding celebration of Mike and Rebekah

The Lord bless you and keep you; <sup>25</sup> the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; <sup>26</sup> the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. Numbers 6:24–26

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Revelation 21:1–5

#### All Things New

Revelation 21:1-5

June 14, 2015

Mike and Rebekah Wedding

Numbers 6:24-26

Teaching keywords: redemption; fall and curse; eschatology; God's character