

## Our New Home

Revelation 21:1-8

**Review:** Isaiah 66:17-22

**Introduction:** Life after death in this world is not in a heaven that is out in the sky; it's life on this earth in a place that is fully recreated as the New Heaven and New Earth.

Replacing what was ruined (21:1-2) - Every spiritual dynamic that existed in the old is replaced in the new heaven and earth because, Satan and his influence are removed.

The Creator and His creatures (21:3) - Heaven becomes God with us in a new way and has a very specific blessing in our text—sorrow and death—will flee away

A Transformed Relationship (21:4-8) - The newness of this place and our relationship with God is not because of anything that we will do, it is all because of what God will do. One commentator describes it this way, "there will be no entropy, no atrophy, no decay, no decline, and no waste."

God's children have been 'spiritually adopted' into his family but at this moment they will experience physical adoption; all of God's children will come home and find their eternal rest.

**Conclusion:** Isaiah 51 was a precursor to this moment and prophesies this moment of adoptive relief and a permanent eternal status for the people of God.

"The dwelling place of God is with man" (3) should remind us that God always intended to dwell with his people; but our sin got in the way of that bliss. This is wrapped up in the Greek word translated "dwelling place" or "tabernacling". This effort began in the Garden of Eden, was stopped because of sin, moved forward carefully at God's initiative battling man's sin; was fully manifested in the incarnation of Jesus Christ, and the Pentecostal gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit and is complete when our adoption brings us physically home!

There is a single hint of what is coming (21:9-27) and it is found in verse 2, 'the holy city, new Jerusalem' and she will be adorned like a bride ready to meet her husband. This is the next topic, but first some important preparations: first, God moving in in a different kind of way; second, God removing the evidence and cause of all grief and suffering and of course death; third, the water of eternal life provided for all those who have been inherited in this unbelievable spiritual blessing.

As believers we can sometimes think this scene is what happens after physical death; but that is not the case. We are in God's presence but not in our resurrected bodies. In these verses we are in new resurrected bodies, like our Lords, and this is reality. Home!