

January 30, 2022

“Will You Be There? Jesus Revealed: A Study Through Revelation”

Chapters 21 & 22

“Heaven: A Forever Place”

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth...” Revelation 21:1a

A. The heaven God created...

“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.”

1. The first two chapters of Genesis and the last two chapters of Revelation deal with the creation of heaven and earth.

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Genesis 1:1

2. The first heaven is the atmosphere above us.

“Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.” James 5:18

3. The second heaven is the stellar heaven; the sun, moon and stars.

“Immediately after the anguish of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will give no light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.” Matthew 24:29

4. The third heaven is where God resides.

“I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell.” 2 Corinthians 12:2-4

B. God gives us a picture of our future...

“Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope... Therefore encourage each other with these words.” 1 Thessalonians 4:13,18

1. When we die, we will immediately go to a place of heaven or hell.

“We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 5:8

2. When we die, there is a separation and some type of judgment to determine our place of residence.

“The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. In hell, where he was in torment...” Luke 16:22,23

3. When we die, we will not go to heaven where we will live forever.

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth...”

4. When we die, we will live with Christ forever.

“Jesus answered him, ‘I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise.’” Luke 23:43

C. A new heaven and a new earth are formed, then a New Jerusalem appears...

“I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem...”

1. The only eternal city will appear!

“I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.”

2. This new city will be the capital of Heaven!

“...the Holy City...”

3. A dwelling place for all those who have trusted Christ by faith and have been overcomers!

“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.’”

4. The city will be a place of eternal beauty!

“...No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9

D. The Holy City will...

1. Have a brilliance like a very costly stone as clear as jasper.
2. Have a great and high wall, with 12 gates guarded by an angel at each one.
4. Have the names of the 12 tribes of Israel will appear on the gates.
4. Have three gates on each of the four sides of the city.
5. Have walls of the city with 12 foundation stones, and on them are the names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb.
6. Have a cube measuring 1500 miles wide, 1500 miles long, and 1500 miles high.
7. Have a wall made out of jasper.

8. Be pure gold, like clear glass.

9. Have foundation stones of the city wall that are made from the following precious stones; jasper, sapphire, chalcedony, emerald, sardonyx, sardius, chrysolite, beryl, topaz, chrysoprase, jacinth, and amethyst.

10. Have 12 gates that are 12 pearls; each one of the gates is a single pearl.

E. Heaven will be much more...

“...No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9

1. Heaven will be a restoration of the Garden of Eden.

“Then the angel showed me...”

2. We will all be equipped with our glorified bodies.

“He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like His own, using the same power with which He will bring everything under His control.” Philippians 3:21

3. There is no longer any curse so the consequences of the curse are forever gone.

“No longer will there be any curse...”

4. The glory of God will be our complete light and there will be no darkness.

“The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light and the Lamb is its lamp.”

5. Jesus will be our Alpha and Omega or our A-Z.

Everything we need, will be forever satisfied.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

"If Heaven is truly our home, we should expect it to have the qualities we associate with home. Home as a term for Heaven isn't simply a metaphor. It describes an actual, physical place... a place we'll share with loved ones; a place of fond familiarity and comfort and refuge; a place of marvelous smells and tastes, fine food, and great conversation; a place of contemplation and interaction and expressing the gifts and passions that God has given us. It will be a place of unprecedented freedom and adventure."

Randy Alcorn in “Heaven”

F. God’s final appeal...

1. Jesus makes one more appeal to the water of life!

“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

2. Because only believers will make it to heaven.

“But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.” Revelation 21:8

3. Everyone must have their name written in the Book of Life.

“Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.” Revelation 21:27

4. So, Jesus says, “Come!”

“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.” Revelation 22:17

Revelation Summary:

Chapter 1 – A Picture of Jesus Christ

Chapters 2/3 – Letters to the Churches

Chapters 4/5 – A Look into Heaven

Chapters 6/7 – Judgments Begin

Chapters 8-10 – Judgments Continue

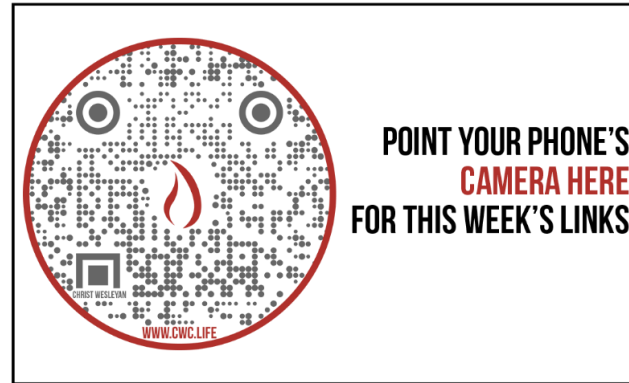
Chapters 11-13 – Three Key Figures

Chapters 14-16 – Angels and the Final Set of Judgments

Chapters 17-19a – Coming to the End with a Mighty Cheer!

Chapters 19b-20 – The Victor’s Return and the Thousand Years!

Chapters 21-22 - Heaven



Giving & Attendance Update

Giving last Sunday: 62.7% of goal

Giving year to date: 87.9% of goal

Attendance last Sunday: 1,822

Salvations to date: 179 | Baptisms to date: 25

To begin a relationship with Jesus...

Text: I Choose Jesus to 570-273-0088