

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

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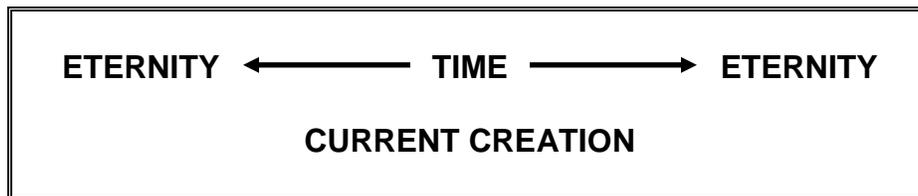
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PART 32: THE NEW JERUSALEM

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

The Bible gives us very little information about the eternity which is to come after the end of the present age we are now living in. This is the only chapter where God gives us a glimpse of what it will be like. Let's begin by looking at this overall picture:



God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit have always existed as one and yet God is able to divide himself into three persons. The current creation exists between an eternity going backwards forever and an eternity going forward forever. **Genesis 1:1-27**

VERSE 1

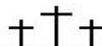
This verse tells us that the entire current universe will be destroyed.

Details of this destruction are found in **2 Peter 3:1-14**. This passage by the Apostle Peter was written around 66 A.D., which means that this information was revealed to Peter some 24 years before the Revelation was given to the Apostle John.

The term for the destruction used by Peter is "dissolved," which means the physical material making up this creation will cease to exist in its current form. If we compare this with **Hebrews 11:1-3**, it tells us that the physical material we call atoms, electrons, neutrons and other atomic particles are nothing but energy frozen in time. We are told that Jesus Christ is upholding or maintaining all created things by the word of His power. The moment Jesus turns off this power, the universe and all it contains will dissolve and return to its original form of energy.

It is important to note that man has learned through science that energy is indestructible; it just converts itself to a different form.

When the Bible tells us that believers in Christ have been taken to the third heaven, it should become clear that the third heaven (**2 Corinthians 12:1-6**) is not part of the creation, but it is a place existing throughout eternity where God has always dwelt.



During the destruction of the current creation, believers in Christ will reside with God in His dwelling place.

The Lake of Fire is the only portion of the current creation that will not be destroyed. This place will become a sealed unit which will be placed somewhere by God. It will be an eternal prison that for eternity will burn and torment the Devil, his fallen angels and all the people who did not accept Christ on this present earth. **Revelation 20:10**

VERSES 2, 9-27

In the new creation, there will be a new planet earth, but it will be different with no oceans. This is a very interesting revelation, because if you think about it, most planets in our current universe do not have any oceans.

As far as I understand, the New Jerusalem is a pre-fabricated city which has been built in the third heaven and then flown down to the new planet earth. This city will be anchored on the surface of the new earth, and will be in the form of a cube that is 1,333 miles wide, long and high. The distance from San Francisco to Denver is approximately 1,333 miles.

VERSE 3

This is the first time in the book of Revelation that we are told that we will now have a personal face-to-face relationship with God the Father! In other words, the redeemed in Christ will now be able to exist in the very presence of the fullness of God with no restrictions. Compare this with **1 Corinthians 15:20-28**

VERSE 4

I believe that at this time, God will remove all memories of the terrible Great White Throne Judgment, and the memories of those loved ones and friends who were cast into the Lake of Fire. How much memory from the old earth we will retain is not mentioned, but from this day, we will never again grieve or be hurt. The testing and all the trials are over and we will now begin to do the great things of God in this new creation.

VERSE 5

This verse confirms that all the new things are finished as God had promised.

VERSES 6-7

This is an affirmation that those who have been born again will inherit all of this.

VERSE 8

This is a final warning given to the people, who prior to the return of Jesus Christ, will know that unless they are born again and have the changed nature of Christ in them, they will have no part in the New Creation.

VERSE 24

As far as I am concerned, this is a mystery verse to me. On this new earth, there will be nations ruled by kings. The Bible does not say who these nations will be.

Before the creation of Adam and Eve and Lucifer's rebellion against God, there were nations and kings on this earth. We are never told in the Bible what really happened at that time, we just know there was a civilization. **Isaiah 14:12-19; Ezekiel 28:14-19**

All we do is appreciate that we have been created, saved, and sanctified. It is a privilege to be a living human being and it is still a greater privilege to be born again and a joint heir with Jesus Christ! Romans 8:14-18

Do you appreciate your life?

Do you have an ear to hear with?