

## ***New Heaven & New Earth pt 1***

### **Revelation 21:1**

During the 1000 millennial--we reign w/ Christ **Ch 20**—perfect environment, earth repopulated, no choice but to serve Lord...Satan loosed after to now give choice... *rebellion follows...final judgment takes place*--rebels cast into lake of fire along w/ death, hell, Satan, Beast & False prophet...*Earth & Heaven fled away 20:11*...We now **pass** from the realm of time into that of timeless eternity where God **creates** a new heaven & new earth.

***Rev 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.***

We all like **new things**...Lowes, Home Depot...Ikea...Mall-clothes...Toys R Us-kids... New home.... God likes new things as well. **21:5 I make all things new**...Future....but gives a preview now.

**New creation**—*2 Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man is in Christ he is a new creation old things passed away behold new things have come.* **New mind**—*Rom 12:2 Be transformed/changed by the renewing of your mind.* **New you**—*Eph 4:24 And put on the new self which in the likeness of God has been created in R and holiness and truth.* **New body**—*Phil 3:21 Jesus Christ will change our vile body into conformity w/ the body of His glory.* **New name** (character)—*Rev 2:17 To him who overcomes I will give him a white stone & an new name written on it which no one knows but he who receives it.* **New song** (attitude) *Rev 5:9 They sang a new song unto God. (garment of praise for spirit of heaviness from singing Blues to songs of Joy-)* **New covenant** (relationship w/ God not based on our performance but Gods) *Heb 12:24 Jesus the mediator of a new covenant...cup poured out for you is new covenant in my blood.* *Lk 22:20*

Ultimately & finally—our text--New heaven & New earth. Presently our world as God created it is pretty spectacular but a paradox—pristine yet polluted; good people but bad sinners; moral & immoral; people who love & those who hate. We have polluted planet earth morally, spiritually (false gods or no god) to the point where God is going to cleanse & make all things new. Destroying the old and creating the new

At the Hayden Planetarium in NY thousands of visitors gasp as they watch the thousand eyed Zeiss star projector portray the 5 astronomical catastrophes that sky scientists now think may befall earth. High on the vast blue planetarium sky dome our own particular star, the sun suddenly does precisely what more than 30 stars in the firmament do each year, it blows up releasing incredible amounts of heat & energy under which the earth shrivels in a sudden, molten death. Spectators shiver under the 2<sup>nd</sup> possibility as they watch the dying sun go into a long period of cooling, until arctic chill grips an unfamiliar earth, & every vestige of life dies. The 3<sup>rd</sup> great disaster involves a hit & run star from space; it collides w/ our own sun resulting in a super atomic explosion that destroys the entire solar system. 4<sup>th</sup> is similar to 3<sup>rd</sup> w/ the approach of a wandering comet toward the earth, which crashes w/ terrible impact into the shuddering world. The 5<sup>th</sup> catastrophe is the return of the moon. Slowly it moves closer & closer to the earth until finally it fills half the sky. With the moon's advance, ocean tides grow into mountains of water that spill over continents & obliterate cities. Molten matter from deep under the earth's crust spews from every crater & crevice, oceans atomize w/ hissing roars, & cities crumble, engulfed in a sea of liquid fire. At last, w/ an astronomical crash the moon itself explodes, unable to w/stand the tremendous gravitational pull.

Our text says the 1<sup>st</sup> heaven & 1<sup>st</sup> earth are passed away--Lit. 'gone'. Peter describes this phenomenon *2 Pet 3:10-14* ***But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away w/ a great roar and the elements will melt w/ intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning and the elements will melt w/ intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless...***

**Dr Wilber Smith** observes *'Peter is using the language of atomic fission when he speaks of melting elements, dissolution, a great roar and intense heat.'*

**Hal Lindsey** *Men could not understand this verse until the advent of nuclear science. But we know now that the building blocks of our universe are atoms. The force that holds the protons & neutrons together in the nucleus of the atom is so great that when neutrons are released in a chain reaction we have an almost incomprehensible explosion*

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But God will not allow man to annihilate himself thru nuclear war but will Himself intervene bringing about the termination of the old & bring the new.

***Ps 102:25,26 Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will endure; yes, they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will change them and they will be changed.***

Jewish Rabbi's taught that God would renew the heavens & earth after 7000 years of man's history. 6 & 1--bondage then freedom (mill) then 8 new beginning. According to ***Is 65:17 For behold I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.***

**Our earth is actually a giant bomb. The crust of the planet upon which we live is only 40 miles thick. Beneath that thin crust (in relation to the 8000 mile diameter of the earth) is a fluid lake of exceedingly hot molten rock. The intensity of the heat is tremendous; just below the crust it has been measured to be 2732 degrees fahrenheit, and farther down the temperature is so great that it has never been measured. One day God will give permission for this vast fiery ocean to break thru its envelope to consume everything upon the earth, so that the entire mass, w/o the loss of one single particle of matter now existing, will be melted.**

Scholars differ as to heaven & earth being wholly new or renovated. Will God take what exists & purge & renew or start all over again. Gen 1:1 ***Bara*** something out of nothing or ***Asah*** refashion existing elements.

Nonetheless New means fresh, unused, unworn, of a new kind.

***No more sea***—Donald G Barnhouse 'sea a symbol of gentile nations in rebellion to God..***Is 57:20 The wicked are like the troubled sea for it cannot be quiet. Antichrist*** came out of the sea 13:1. Meaning: No unbelieving nations & people polluting & perverting Gods name & creation.

***If*** literal no sea--now  $\frac{3}{4}$  earth is under water, in Johns day sea meant storms, fear and danger...***ultimate separation*** but not in New...no fear, danger or separation.

***:4 and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.***

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Here the emphasis is on the comfort of God not the sorrow of the saints.

Tears wiped away by God that we shed on earth not in heaven-**Job had sorry comforters**. *Ps 56:8 You have taken account of my wanderings; put my tears in Thy bottle; are they not in Thy book?* No death—never again separated from loved ones.

No mourning, crying or pain—one seems to follow the other-builds to intensity (**I try to avoid all**) *Ps For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning. Ps 7:11 God is a just judge, And God is angry w/ the wicked every day.*

Scientist predict an ending---The Bible tells us it is coming & what to do about it....

*2 Pet 3:11 Seeing all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for & hastening the coming of the day of God...:14,15 since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation;.....:17,18 be on your guard lest, being carried away by the error of unprincipled men, you fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity.*

Verse 8 tells us who won't be there..... :8 ***“But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”***