

The Hope of Heaven

Revelation 21:1-22:7

January 23, 2022



Introduction

The book of Revelation was written to encourage believers to stand firm. In the end, Christ and His church will be victorious. All that is evil will be judged. All who believe will be brought into His presence forever.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Read Revelation 21:1 – 22:7

In the book of Revelation, the Apostle John wrote down all that God allowed him to see. In this passage, John sees a new Heaven and a new earth. It's not just an upgrade. It's a glorious transformation. It will be a spectacular place. It is a place that is perfectly fit for the holy city – the New Jerusalem – which is clean, pure, and spotless. The city is perfectly made, perfectly inhabited and perfectly secure. It is a place where God will dwell with His people. There will be no separation. In this life we will experience loss, rejection, and trauma. The problem of evil leaves real scars and heartache. Not all wounds heal with time, but they will heal with God.

He is the beginning and the end, and He determines the beginning and the end. Nothing can alter His plans. It is certain and sure. It will happen. If you are in Christ, He will bring you to that place. As God's people, we will reign with Him and worship Him for all eternity.

Are there situations in your life now that are causing you to be discouraged, anxious, or depressed? Have you ever felt that God wasn't near? Have you called out and felt that He was silent? The call is not to buck up and get it together. The call is to wait. But what makes waiting so hard? Are you struggling with sin or tempted to give in because you think change will never come?

When will Jesus return and usher in the new heaven and the new earth? Soon ([22:7: 12](#))

If you think that Jesus' coming will happen decades or centuries from today, how would you view difficult circumstances? If you believe He is coming soon – how does that change your view difficult situations, trials and suffering? Does that give you hope? Does this scripture increase your longing for heaven?

Additional Reading: 2 Peter 3:3-12; Philippians 1:6; Romans 8:18-25

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to com.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

***Next week's sermon text:** we turn to [Genesis 2:1-17](#) "Welcome to Paradise"