

## **All things New Revelation 21:1-22:5**

I would like you to turn in your Bibles today to Revelation 21

A) Title of the message today is - All things New - looking at Revelation 21:1-22:5

B) Begin by looking at 21:1-8

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

**PRAY**

William Gladstone who served as the British Prime Minister 4 times during the latter half of the 19th Century.

A) Gladstone was a committed Christian

B) One day Gladstone was approached by an admiring college student -

Gladstone asked, "What do you hope to do when you graduate from college?"

The young man replied, "I hope to attend law school, sir, just as you did." - Gladstone. Replied, Noble goal - then what?

"I hope to practice law and make a good name for myself defending the poor and the outcasts of society, just as you did."

Gladstone. replied "That's a noble purpose," "Then what?"

"Well, sir, I hope one day to stand for Parliament and become a servant of the people, even as you did."

GS- "That too is a noble hope. "Then what?"

"I would hope to be able to serve in the Parliament with great distinction, evidencing integrity and a concern for justice - even as you did."

Gladstone asked OK "Then what?"

"I would hope to serve the government as Prime Minister with the same vigor, dedication, vision, and integrity as you did."

Gladstone. Asked - then what?"

"I would hope to retire with honors and write my memoirs - even as you are presently doing - so that others could learn from my mistakes and triumphs."

"Gladstone, said - All of that is very noble," but then what?"

The young man thought for a moment. "Well, sir, I suppose I will then die."

Gladstone said, "That's correct. And then what?"

The young man looked puzzled. "Well, sir," "I've never given that any thought."

A) This was Gladstone's response: "Young man," "the only advice I have for you is for you to go home, read your Bible, and think about eternity."

B) Today we are continuing our series - What's Next - Rev. 19-22 what awaits this world and the followers of Jesus Christ

C) The Answer - Eternity! - Long time!

D) So far we have seen - After the Rapture - Wedding Celebration in heaven - Jesus and his Bride

Then Jesus is going to return to planet earth - we come back with him

A)Set up his kingdom and rule and reign for 1,000 years

B)Restore planet earth to former conditions / Satan is bound

C)Animal kingdom will be tamed - people will live longer/ incredible time here on planet earth

D)Then we saw last week - at the end of the 1,000 years there is an event known as the Great White Throne Judgment.

1)Unbelievers stand before God to be judged - Satan is cast forever into the lake of fire - all who followed him

E)After that - the big question is THEN WHAT?

That my friends is what the passage we are looking at today is about!

A)New Heaven - New earth

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

God has revealed them to us but not in great detail.

A)I think if he did we would be SOO consumed with where we were going that we would be worthless here.

B)Like with your kids - going on a special trip - How many days to we go! So excited

1)They can't think of anything else.

C)Get's closer - is it time yet? Go play - do your chores -

1)Nooo I want to go - when are we going to go. So I think God keeps it a little vague because he knows we wouldn't be able to handle it

Well here in the book of Revelation God gives a glimpse of what our forever is going to be like.

A)Look at that in Chapter 21-22

### **Our Eternal Home.**

#1 A New Creation

#2 A New Communion

### #3 A New Community

#### **B)Begin -#1 A New Creation - A New Heaven and a New earth V.1**

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

A)All the Surfers and ocean enthusiast just panicked - What no sea?

B)Chill out it is going to be ok - I will explain in a minute.

C)Begin by pointing out -There are two words the Bible uses for the word New - one is Neos

➤ Neos = New chronologically - new in time - like a new day

D)But it is a new day, yesterday was the 12<sup>th</sup> today is the 13<sup>th</sup> - same surroundings as last time - Neos

Then there is the word Kainos = It's completely different.

A)Kainos is the word used here - Completely different -

B)Brand new Design - Like nothing we have ever seen before.

C)God is an artist - we are reminded of that with every new Sunset -

1)Exotic plant or animal - Snorkel- sea life -

D)All of that reminds me of the artist that God is!

After the Millennium - God is going to create something unlike anything that we have ever seen before.

A)Isaiah 65, God said, "Behold, I create new Heavens and a new Earth. And the former shall not be remembered nor come to mind."

B)That is an incredible statement - the New is going to be so much more incredible than the old

1)The Former things will not even come to our minds

C)Like If you used to have a flip phone - now iPhone

1)No comparison -

D)You never think about the flip phone again -

1) I wish I had that old flip phone again

God is going to make a new heaven and a new earth that is so incredible

A) We will never even think about this place

B) God has an endless capacity for creating so that everything is ever and always new.

I love the joke about the scientist who looked up to heaven and one day very smug and he said, "God, you must feel a little bit outdated now that we scientists can do everything you can do. And we can keep the universe running without you."

So God said, OK, I'll challenge you to a contest. So God reached down, took a handful of dirt, blew on it, and out flew a flock of beautiful exotic birds.

Scientists thought, no problem our modern technology we have mastered the principles of soil manipulation and genetics. So reaches down to pick up a handful of dirt.

God stops him and says, hey, hey, get your own dirt.

God created this world out of nothing!

A) When he creates the new heaven and earth - going to use new elements - Entirely different

B) In Hebrews 1 we read that God will fold up the heavens and the earth like a cloak.

C) In Matthew 24 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away!

1) 2 Peter 3 - Elements burn up w/ fervent heat

So our Eternal Home is going start with a New Creation -

A) The Lord is going to create a new heaven and a new earth!

B) But no sea? Pastor Rob please explain

C) Few ideas here - The world now is watery. 3/4 of the surface of the Earth is ocean. 75%

D) Do you know that your body is mostly water? 90% of your blood is water.

1) 65% of your flesh is water. If you don't drink water, you will die.

So I think the first thing that John is telling us - when he says there will be NO SEA - is this:

A) The make up of this new earth is going to be designed incredibly different from this one

B) The new world will not operate on this system any longer. It won't be a water based system!

C) Completely new bodies in new climatic conditions.

1) Life on the new Earth will be completely different from what we know now.

Something else about seas, seas divide people.

A) Oceans divide people. Our continents are separated by oceans

B) There won't be any sea. There won't be any separation.

1) Greater Unity - You will have continuous access to everyone.

But note this it doesn't say no Water

A) There will be lakes - there will be bodies of Water

B) But the world is not going to be separated by Oceans -

C) But the God Spoke this world into existence and will create this new world -

1) Will be able to make waves? -

I don't know if we will have sports and hobbies in the New world -

A) If we will even be interested in those things

B) God will make waves - Always a perfect Swell - perfect waves

C) Or maybe Sky surfing - I don't know.

D) I wonder if the challenge will be gone - always a perfect ride. Golf - always a hole in one - boring

1) Not worried about it AMAZING!!

Now Why New Heaven?

A) Well Job 15:15 says, "the Heavens are not clean in His sight"

B) Many Bible scholars would suggest that the current heaven - was marred by Satan's rebellion -

C)And by the fact that he still has access to heaven - he comes accusing us

D)So God is going to make a new heaven- so more memory

1)or by-product of what happened in the current one.

So the first thing that John wants us to consider about our eternal home is this:

A)It will be a New Creation - a New Design

**B)The 2<sup>nd</sup> thing - #2 there will be a New Communion**

2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God

The Focal point of this new earth is the Capital City - The New Jerusalem

A)John saw a city coming down out of heaven a city that has been prepared by God.

B)The fact that it comes down and is prepared means that it already exists

1)Planned and prepared.

Recall what Jesus said, John 14 "In my Father's house, there are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."

A)Now God spoke this world into existence in 6 days

B)He has been working on the New Jerusalem for over 2,000 years

C)This city is given an interesting description: prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

What does that mean: The New city is described as a bride because it takes its character of its occupants.

A)Because of the life of who is living there.

B))In a Similar way: My house to anyone who knows us is not known as an address -

1)No - that is the Salvato's house- Going over to the Salvato's house -

C)Grand kids - Mimi and Poppi's house - the location is described by who dwells there

1)The Salvato's live there / Mimi and Poppi

Cities are Given Nick names

A)Las Vegas - Sin City / Chicago - the Windy City  
LA - City of Champions

B)Nashville - Music City - well the New Jerusalem is going to be known as Bridesville - The bride city

C)Jesus is going to be there with his Bride the church

D)It's pure, gleaming, bright, beautiful, graceful, breathtaking.

E)Marriage is supposed to be the closest possible relationship that we can experience on earth.

1)Intimate relationship

There is an intimacy about this city because of the relationship of its inhabitants to their God.

A)V.3 "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God

B)There is an intimacy - no separation- Here on this earth - we see dimly -

C)Not in the new Jerusalem - face to face - God is in the midst of us -

D)Told in the Psalms in his presence of fullness of Joy - we will Experience the Ultimate in Communion

1)We only get a glimpse of that here - in the New world - intimacy with God like we cannot even imagine

V. 22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

A)In Bible times - the city of Jerusalem always had a temple - it was the place where people went to worship God and meet with God

B)But in this New Jerusalem there is no temple, there is no need of a temple -no churches, no cathedrals

1)Jesus and God the father are ever present with their people! - heaven is where God is intersection of ....

C)There is a New Communion:

Jesus described eternal life in this way John 17:3 -  
<sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.  
A) Know = Ginosko - know in an intimate relationship

B) Some people know about God - about Jesus - don't know him

C) Eternal life is knowing him intimately -  
1) Eternal life = Quality not just a longevity

Eternal life begins here - knowing Jesus walking with Jesus - -

A) But our relationship with Jesus now is limited?  
Can't see him - touch him - hug him -

B) But in the New Jerusalem - we will experience a New Communion  
1) Intimacy - Fullness of Joy!

C) New Creation - A new Communion -

### #3 A New Community

Sometimes the best way to describe something new is to contrast it with something else.

A) That is what John does here:

B) He is going to contrast the life in the new world with life in this world by telling us what is MISSING

C) In the New World - the New Jerusalem - there is no more tears <sup>4</sup> And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying.

D) NO Kleenex in the new community! No crying

No death

A) Death Scars life.

B) It scars our human existence, not in the New City - not in this new community - NO DEATH

C) No Funeral services, no cemeteries - no funeral homes - no gut wrenching goodbyes

D) Not only will there be no death - there will be no fear of death -

1) I was talking with a brother in the church - physical issues -

"I am not afraid to die - my fear is for my wife being taken care of"

D) The fear of death is the fear every parent has for their children-

1) Some of you have experienced that - it is heart breaking

Not in the New Community - the New Jerusalem - No death

A) No sorrow - no depression - sadness

B) No pain - no heartache - Padre fans! ☺

C) Phrase: No pain no gain will not even be a concept in the new Community

D) NO RELATIONAL PAIN - We all have experienced the pain of relationships -  
1) even in the church

E) People who are no longer a part of our lives - Trust broken - or some unresolved conflict -  
1) Every time their name is brought up - painful

Not in the New Community There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new."

A) All those things that can separate us from each other here in this life

B) All that divides us - not remembered - put away for the former things have passed away."

C) Another thing - No Thirst And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." <sup>6</sup> And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

D) Fully and continually refreshed in every way - Jesus is the one who fills the longing of the soul!

Note: Who is this for V.7 <sup>7</sup> He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Who are the Overcomers? - That is us- <sup>4</sup> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

<sup>5</sup> Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 John 5:4-5

Lastly -NO EVIL

8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

A)Every evil influence that plagues us in this world will not be a part of the NEW WORLD -

B)None of that in THE NEW COMMUNITY

C))So that is what is Missing -

### **Now let's consider what is Magnificent about our Eternal home - New Jerusalem**

A)I will be honest - what John describes here is really hard to describe - or even imagine

B)Do you ever like to look at Travel Brochures ? -

1)Ever notice there are some places - don't make a travel brochure for - Barstow?

Most of the time the Travel brochure looks way better than the reality -

A)Photos are edited - photo shopped -

B)You get there - the water isn't as clear - the room is smaller -

1)the food always looks better in pictures

In the case of Our Eternal home - Our new world - the New Jerusalem - The opposite is true

A)The travel Brochure doesn't even come close to how incredible the reality will be

B)John is limited to our human language to describe what this is going to be like -

1)Really have to use our imaginations

C)For that reason I am Not going to spend a lot of time on this - make some quick observations

### **What is Magnificent:**

#### **➤ The Glory**

9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, “Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife.” 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 having the

glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

The Word Glory is the word Kabod - Speaks of a weightiness

A)The Presence of God is thick in that place - see it feel it where ever you are

B)The opposite of Kabod is Ichabod = the Glory has departed

C)That is what we are experiencing on planet earth now - the Glory of God has departed -

1)Wickedness is rampant

We get little glimpses of it here from time to time -

A)But in the New Community - The Glory will be thick ---The Glory of God will be prevalent

B)The glory of God is like light flashing into all places. There is a brilliance about it!

### **The structure**

12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

So this is sort of a general description. It had four sides

A)It has Walls - and Gates - V.25 Tells us the gates are never shut !

B)The Gates would indicate that we are coming and going -

1)there is a world outside of the city that we get to explore.

C)There are Angels at the gates - not posted as guards but more like greeters -

1)they are welcoming us as we come in and out

Where you going today? Oh I'm going to go out to this galaxy

A)Going to explore another part of this new world

B)Ok great - Have fun!

The twelve gates have the names of the tribes of Israel. Why? Because that's our heritage.

A)We are connected to the God of Israel

B)Notice the foundations of the Walls also have 12 names - the names of the 12 Apostles -

1)Paul no doubt has replaced Judas

C)All of these names remind of us our heritage - The Foundation our faith is built on

1)The OT pointed to what Jesus would do when he came

D)Apostles wrote the NT - focused on what Jesus did when He DID COME - OUR HERITAGE

But all of those names - the patriarchs and the apostles

A)Are also reminders of the wonderful and infinite grace of God

B)Because the men represented by all of those names were incredibly flawed individuals

1)Just like us

### **The measurements - It is Ginormous**

15 And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. 16 The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal. 17 Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.

A)The city is laid out as a square;

B)The Greek word square is a tetragon---four-sided.

1)It's a perfect cube is probably the best way to look at it.

C)And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. A furlong is 600 feet

1) That would make the city 1500 miles wide, 1500 miles deep, and 1500 miles tall.

D)That means the streets just don't go horizontal like they do in this world -

1)but they go vertical -that means will be able to hang on in space

E)That means the city would be 2 million 250,000 square miles or 150,000 times the size of London today.

Dr. Henry Morris - a scientist from S. California,  
A)Said this city could house well over 20 billion people if only 25% of the city was given over to residents

B)And every person would have 75 acres in every direction

### **The colors**

A)You look around and you know that God loves beauty.

B)In eternity, God will demonstrate His beauty by these kinds of things that only tickle the imagination. 18 The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass Gold is opaque - but this is a different kind of gold it is Transparent - Everything is reflective -

19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. 21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

C)To me this sounds like every day is going to be like the Northern Lights - or incredible sunsets

D)Lights and beauty reflecting everywhere - - Hard to imagine -

### **The gates are the most incredible part of the walls**

A)Pearly gates - Not a bunch of pearls - but each made of one Giant pearl

B)Significance of that? . John Phillips can help us: All other precious gems are metals or stones, but a pearl is a gem formed within the oyster—the only one formed by living flesh.

The humble oyster receives an irritation or wound, and around the offending article that has penetrated

or hurt it, the oyster builds a pearl. The pearl . . . is the answer of the oyster to that which injured it.

C)The pearl is born out of pain.

So it is with the New Jerusalem. It will be born out of the pain of Jesus.

A)Throughout eternity as you and I pass in and out of the Holy City,

B)the pearly gates will remind us of our Savior,

C)who took on the sin of the earth so we can experience the glory of heaven.

### **The illumination**

22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

"The city had no need of the sun or the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light."

So rather than the moon having the reflection of the sun, rather than the sun generating light by combustion, the source of light is THE GLORY JESUS .

Ch.22:4 4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. 5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. 25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). 26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. 27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

The most glorious thing about this new world is not going to be the colors or the structures

A)Or envy what we get to do - **the most glorious thing is going to be - JESUS IS THERE**

B)AND WE WILL BE WITH HIM!

C)Does your heart long to be with Jesus ? He longs to be with us.

D)Morning by morning -

### **The life.**

22 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him

City marked by Life - a River of Life - and a Tree of life

A)The River flows from the throne of God - symbolic of the life of God flowing to all the occupants

B)Giant River - and on both sides of the river is this enormous tree - the tree of life - Eden

C)not one fruit - 12 different fruits - Variety

➤ Bears fruit all the time. Always in Season

D)Leaves are for the Healing for the nations - Wait a minute," you say, "if the leaves are for healing, does that mean there will be sickness in the new Jerusalem

No. The Greek word translated "healing" is literally *therapeia*,

A)from which we get our word "therapy."

B)It doesn't mean healing from sickness, but rather a maintaining of health. - Spa day

C)In fact, the original language implies exhilaration and invigoration.

1)Are you getting excited about our eternal home.

This is just the travel Brochure - the best is yet to come

A)No wonder Paul said: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."



Close:

A)Samuel Morrison Missionary 25 yrs

B)You are not home yet

Listen the Bible says - that God has put Eternity into  
the hearts of every human being

A)The reality that there is more beyond

B)Ready?

**C)Two choices - Eternity with God or eternity  
separated from Him**

Jesus offers new start - new life today

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new  
creation; old things have passed away; behold, all  
things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17