

Lesson 6 | October 10, 2021

The New Creation

Study Text

Revelation 21:1 through 22:21

Central Truth

God will make a new heaven and a new earth where there will be no sin or sorrow.

Key Verse: Revelation 21:3

I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God (KJV).

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them” (NLT).

Learning Objectives

- Students will understand that God has promised to bring about a new creation at the end of this age.
- Students will develop a growing awareness that this age and creation is not the ultimate reality for the believer in Christ.
- Students will live as people of hope who are in the world, but not of the world—those whose lives anticipate the coming of God’s new world and everlasting kingdom.

Introducing the Lesson

Say: The world in which we live today is far from the state that God created it to be.

While in Genesis the description “very good” was quite accurate, **now creation is suffering under the corruption of sin.** However, **the time is coming when He will bring a new creation, no longer marred by sin and its consequences.**

Opening Activity—Out With the Old; in With the New!

Ask: *What material possessions have you owned that became so worn or broken that they could no longer be used and had to be replaced— whether you owned them a long time or a short time?* Examples include cars, furniture, clothing, etc.

Say: We live in a broken world, but for believers this is not our final destiny. God has a plan for a totally new creation to replace the brokenness of this world. **And He desires every person to share in that new creation.** (Share your highlights from the following text.)

There is no plan B. God’s plans never fail.

One of the most fascinating questions humans ponder in life is, “Where are we going?” Knowing our destination can make the journey meaningful and enjoyable. **The Bible teaches us that at the end of this age there is an age to come. This promise for the future brings hope into this life, despite current painful trials and uncertainties. In this lesson we look to the “End of the Book,” the Book of Revelation, to observe a new creation and a new beginning. The time of its arrival is not given to us in the Bible, but the assurance that it awaits us is strongly asserted in the closing chapters of Revelation. We even know something about what to expect at our journey’s end. While many of the details are unknown, we are treated to the good news of our heavenly destination.**

[Rom 11:25 KJV] 25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

[Rom 11:25 NLT] 25 I want you to understand this mystery, dear brothers and sisters, so that you will not feel proud about yourselves. Some of the people of Israel have hard hearts, but this will last only until the full number of Gentiles comes to Christ.

Greg Laurie shared this in his weekend devotion: Last year as part of the US Millennial Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Survey, researchers randomly polled millennials and Generation Z members from all 50 states. And they found a troubling lack of knowledge about the Holocaust.

Sixty-three percent of the people they surveyed didn’t know that six million Jews were killed in the Holocaust. And 11 percent of the group actually thought that Jews caused the Holocaust.

Yet in the aftermath of the Holocaust, Jews from around the world began returning to their homeland. And on May 14, 1948, a modern-day miracle happened. Israel, surrounded by enemies that wanted to destroy her, became a nation.

That started the prophetic time clock ticking.

Part 1—All Things Made New A New Heavens and a New Earth Are Coming

Revelation 21:1

[Rev 21:1-27 NKJV] 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.

Say: It is often said by Christians, “I read the back of the book and we win!” As we look around our world, it’s easy to become discouraged with the state of the earth and its inhabitants. But, we know that God has a better plan. The world as we know it will

eventually be destroyed and replaced by a new earth where sin will not exist. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The entry of sin into the world had a devastating effect on God's creation. However, at the end of this age God will create a new heaven and a new earth because the first earth will have passed away (Revelation 21:1). **Peter gave us some insight into how God will accomplish this. His description in 2 Peter 3:10 suggests that it, as a "day of the Lord" event, will involve a fiery, cataclysmic judgment that will destroy the first creation in preparation for a new replacement. We should note that the Old Testament prophet Isaiah also perceived this coming event (see Isaiah 65:17; 66:22). Like John in Revelation 21, Isaiah also described it as a replacement of the old or first creation, which will no longer even cross anyone's thoughts (Isaiah 65:17). The new creation will bring joy and gladness for the inhabitants of the New Jerusalem and for all humanity.**

[2Pe 3:10 KJV] 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

[Isa 65:17 KJV] 17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

[Isa 66:22 KJV] 22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

Discuss

? Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 in several translations. How does Paul describe what has happened to us by becoming someone who is now "in Christ"?

? Can you imagine a world so wonderful that it would remove all memory of the only world you have ever known? How would you describe it?

Blessings and Judgment

Revelation 21:2–8

[Rev 21:2-8 NKJV] 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."

Say: We are looking forward to a new heaven and earth filled with blessings beyond our imagination. Yet note that this great passage, Revelation 21:2–8, concludes with a reminder of judgment that will come upon those who do not follow Christ, because sin and corruption cannot exist in God's presence. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

John described in vivid details the blessings of the new heaven and earth, noting that this new existence will be free from the corruption and subsequent limitations of this world. Humanity will enjoy the everlasting presence of God. His home will be among us; that is, God himself will dwell with us (Revelation 21:3). Christians in this age know that humanity experienced a foretaste of this in the person of Jesus, the incarnate God (John 1:1,14), as He promised to be with us "always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20, NLT). However, in the age to come a greater reality awaits the people of God in the new creation.

Another blessing of the new creation is the absence of the sorrows and pains that attend the first creation marred by sin and death (Revelation 21:4). John described a world without death, sorrow, crying, or pain—all things belonging to a fallen world that will have passed away.

A third blessing is a renewed promise and reassurance of renewal by the One who sits on the throne and who is true and faithful (verse 5). Jesus himself, the "Alpha and Omega" (see also 1:8; note that these are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet), is making all things new and promises to freely give the living water of everlasting life to all who come (see 22:17; Isaiah 55:1). With this blessing comes the assurance of God's relationship with believers: "I will be their God, and they will be My children" (Revelation 21:7, NLT).

In the letter to the church at Ephesus in Revelation 2, Jesus warned them about leaving their first love. He then said this at the close of the letter.

[Rev 2:7 KJV] 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

The alternative John described in verse 8, however, is a somber one. “But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death” (verse 8, NLT). Unbelievers, having not received redemption and cleansing from Christ, will experience God’s judgment. Sin and uncleanness cannot exist in God’s presence. **We can rejoice, then, in knowing that we have been redeemed, forgiven, and cleansed, making the promises of Revelation 21 real to us.**

Discuss

? Which of the blessings above are you most looking forward to in the new heavens and earth?

? Do you think most believers take God’s judgment seriously? How will taking this reality seriously impact our lives?

Resource Packet Item 1: Does It Really Matter?

Distribute the case study and divide your class into small groups. Ask students to read the case study and answer the questions. Then have several groups share their responses, and discuss the study as a class.

Part 2—The New Jerusalem

The Heavenly City

Revelation 21:9–14

[Rev 21:9-14 NKJV] 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. 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.

Say: John had the privilege of seeing a vision of the future New Jerusalem coming down from heaven. Have you ever seen a sight so beautiful that it defied words? John described the Holy City as being like a “bride beautifully dressed for her husband”

(Revelation 21:2, NLT). The glory of such a scene continues to give us hope for the future yet today. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

John saw “the holy city, the new Jerusalem coming from God out of heaven”

(Revelation 21:2, NLT). His description in verse 10 is similar. **The emphasis is that the New Jerusalem is not of this earth, but given “from God.” The New Jerusalem is part of the new creation, not the present earth, and not even what is known as the millennial kingdom described in Revelation 20:1–5.**

After God’s judgment—the “second death” (Revelation 21:8)—one of the angels who had held the plagues of God’s judgment led John on a journey to behold the New Jerusalem. John was carried away by the Spirit to a great and high mountain, wording that indicates John was receiving a heavenly vision. John beheld its splendor like that of shining gold and precious jewels (verse 11). [Verse 16 also notes that the structure of the city will be mammoth. **It takes the form of a cube, each side measuring 12,000 furlongs (the Greek word stadia; in our terms, a total of 1,400 miles)**]. The twelve gates of the city bear the names of the twelve tribes of Israel (verse 12). Each wall sits atop twelve foundation stones on which are inscribed the names of “the twelve apostles of the Lamb” (verse 14, NLT). As we read these numbers, it is helpful to recall that the number twelve in Scripture is often used as a number signifying completion. **Thus, the various features depict a place that represents the completion of God’s plan. No need for plan B.** Furthermore, the description underscores that the New Jerusalem is the universal provision for followers of God from all time.

Discuss

? In John’s day, and throughout Bible times, kings built elaborate and ornate palaces and cities to showcase their wealth, power, and victory. How might this description of the new creation have been seen by its original readers? What can we learn from this description?

A Place of Light and Purity

Revelation 21:15–27

[Rev 21:15-27 NKJV] 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. 18 The construction of its wall was [of] jasper; and the city

[was] pure gold, like clear glass. 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. 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. 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.

Say: In a spiritual sense, this world has become increasingly dark as a result of the Fall. But the New Jerusalem will be lit far brighter than the sun or the moon could ever make the earth. The light there is the glory of God. The city is also completely pure, for no sin will be allowed there. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

John observed the angel measuring this enormous city, and heard the description of its walls and the exotic materials used to make up the foundation, walls, and gates (Revelation 21:15–21). The adornment of precious gem stones and gold speak to the awesome splendor and glory of the heavenly city. So brilliant is its appearance that John could say the whole city was of “pure gold” and the street was made of gold so pure and shiny that it was like transparent glass (verse 21), able to reflect any image clearly. Such a description depicts great victory and prosperity, which in turn reminds us of the strength and security found in the Lord, who has made this city.

Note that there are two omissions when comparing the New Jerusalem with the old. First, there is no temple in the heavenly city, and for good reason. For Israel, the temple was the place of divine presence, where God’s glory was revealed to His people on numerous occasions (e.g., 2 Chronicles 7:1; 5:14; Leviticus 9:24; 1 Kings 8:11). With God dwelling there, no temple is needed. Moreover, there is no need for a light source. Instead, the glory of God illuminates the heavenly city. It radiates directly from the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb (Revelation 21:23).

John also gave one final detail: The city will experience and enjoy perpetual light. Unlike the old Jerusalem, the gates will be always open, providing access for all nations who will bring their glory and honor to God. Open gates also speak of safety from those who would do evil under the cover of darkness (verse 25).

The New Jerusalem will know nothing of sin or impurity (verse 27). Imagine a place where nothing impure ever enters, where no one marked by shameful or deceitful deeds is ever allowed in. **All the inhabitants of the New Jerusalem are those whose “names are written in the Lamb’s book of life” (NLT). They have been freed from their sins (see 1:5) and like the martyrs of the tribulation have “washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white” (see 7:14, NLT). What a glorious future for believers in Christ!**

Discuss

? Can you think of examples of where John used light as an illustration in his Epistles? (You may want to access a concordance.) How is light a powerful depiction of spiritual realities?

? What is meant by purity, both in our lives and in the new heaven and new earth? (Take a moment to ponder Matthew 5:8.)?

Resource Packet Item 2: Isaiah’s Prophecy and John’s Vision

Distribute the work sheet and give students a few minutes to respond, either individually or in small groups. Then have several share their answers.

Part 3—Invitation to New Life

Everlasting Life

Revelation 22:1–13

[Rev 22:1-13 NKJV] 1 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. 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. 6 Then he said to me, "These words [are] faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. 7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed [is] he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." 8

Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. 9 Then he said to me, "See [that you do] not [do that]. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God." 10 And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. 11 "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still." 12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward [is] with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, [the] Beginning and [the] End, the First and the Last." 14 Blessed [are] those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. 15 But outside [are] dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. 16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. 18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book. 20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! 21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [be] with you all. Amen.

Say: John's vision in Revelation 22:2 mentions a tree of life, reminding us of Genesis 3—the fall of Adam and Eve. Although Adam and Eve had sinned and were expelled from the Garden, the new heavens and earth will be an everlasting home for God's people. Those who have been redeemed "will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life" (Revelation 22:14, NLT). (Share your highlights from the following text.)

This closing chapter of Revelation carries a grand and glorious promise, an assuring comfort, a gracious invitation, and a somber warning. The language overlaps portions of chapter 21 as John continued to describe what was shown

to him by his angelic messenger. As you read this chapter you may find yourself recalling similarities with Genesis and images found in the prophets.

John saw a vision of God's provision of eternal life. Flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb is a pure river—the source of life-giving water. **We are reminded of the life-giving river in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:10), and of Ezekiel's vision of the river of healing water flowing from under the temple (see Ezekiel 47:1–12). In Revelation 22, the river runs down the center of the main, or great, street in the New Jerusalem (verse 2). On each side of the river grows the tree of life that provides healing for the nations. This, then, describes the reversal of sin's curse.**

John again mentioned the throne of God and of the Lamb (verses 1–3) to emphasize that, unlike the first human pair in the Garden, God's servants will serve Him in obedience. **In contrast to Adam and Eve, who hid their faces in shame (Genesis 3:10) and were driven from the Garden (verse 23), God's people will “see His face, and His name will be written on their foreheads” (Revelation 22:4, NLT). Verse 5 reiterates that there is no need for a light source (see 21:23) because the Lord God will supply all the light that would ever be needed.**

The angel assured John that his words were trustworthy (22:6), and also reminded John that these things would happen soon. This urgency indicates that we need to be prepared and watch for Christ's coming. And if we heed the words of John's prophetic exhortations, we will be blessed (verse 7).

The meaning and magnitude of the vision was so overwhelming that John fell to his knees in worship before the angel, an act for which he received a sharp rebuke (verse 9). The angel reminded John that worship belongs to God alone.

Verse 11 can be challenging to understand, but many scholars feel that the angel is emphasizing that the time for the Lord's coming is at hand. People, both vile sinners and the righteous, continue in their deeds as the Judge is “coming soon,” when He will bring both rewards and punishment to all according to their deeds (verse 12). The Judge is Christ—the Alpha and the Omega (verse 13; see 1:5–8).

Discuss

? What assurance does the angel give John that the events of this prophecy will come to pass? Read Revelation 22 and compare to 2 Corinthians 1:18–20.

? How do believers prepare for Christ's return?

An Invitation and a Warning

Revelation 22:14-21

[Rev 22:13-21 NKJV] 14 Blessed [are] those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. 15 But outside [are] dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. 16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. 18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book. 20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! 21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [be] with you all. Amen.

Say: God desires that all would come to know Him (2 Peter 3:9). In the closing verses of this final chapter of God's Word, we find yet another invitation for people to come to Christ and drink of the water of everlasting life. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The Book of Revelation closes with an invitation to “drink freely from the water of life” (Revelation 22:17, NLT). Those who have been cleansed will enter into the city—the New Jerusalem—and there access the tree of life (verse 14). Outside the city lies the destiny of the unrepentant sinner (verse 15). This is a tragic statement of everlasting separation from the holy presence of God Almighty.

In verse 17 we see Jesus speaking to His people, issuing a gracious invitation to “come” and “drink freely from the water of life” (NLT), which John elsewhere identified as the Spirit himself (John 7:39). This invitation is open to “anyone who is thirsty” (NLT), similar to words used in Isaiah 44:3, which also identifies the water as God's blessing, linked to the bestowal of the Spirit.

Strikingly, the close of the New Testament parallels the close of the Old Testament in Malachi 4:6. Both conclude with a warning of judgment. John's warning in Revelation 22 speaks against tampering with the content of this scroll of prophecy, either by addition (verse 18) or subtraction (verse 19). The violation is so severe that it warrants exclusion from the Holy City and removes access to the tree of life.

[Mal 4:6 KJV] 6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Given everything John had described in chapters 21 and 22, he was emphatically underscoring the loss of everlasting life and fellowship with God.

Revelation ends (verses 20–21) with the closing admonition and promise of Jesus, “Yes, I am coming soon,” (verse 20, NLT) to which John responds, “Amen. Come Lord Jesus” (NLT). May we, too, share John’s desire for the return of our Savior in glory.

Discuss

? How do you understand the phrase “the water of life” (Revelation 22:17)? What does the phrase “the tree of life” (verse 19) mean to you?

? How would you respond to someone who asked you why you believe in Jesus’ soon return when He has not returned in 2,000 years? See also 2 Peter 3:3–9?

Resource Packet Item 3: Don’t Change Scripture

Distribute the work sheet and give students a few minutes to respond to the first three questions in small groups. Have students ponder the application questions on their own.

What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: God calls upon us to remember that this earthly life is not the end. We will continue to worship and serve Him forever. There is a vital connection between our lives on earth and the life to come in the new heavens and new earth.

Living It Out

Ministry in Action

- Identify at least one person in your life who does not know Christ. Pray for that person and look for an opportunity to discuss eternity with him or her.
- Evaluate your goals, ambitions, and values and compare them with the will of God and His kingdom.
- Give priority to God’s Word in every area of your life..

Daily Bible Readings

Monday:

Promised Messiah Renews Creation.

Isaiah 11:1–10

[Isa 11:1-10 NKJV] 1 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. 3 His delight [is] in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the

hearing of His ears; 4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist. 6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. 10 "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."

Tuesday:

New Heavens and Earth Promised.
Isaiah 65:17–25

[Isa 65:17-25 NKJV] 17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. 18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem [as] a rejoicing, And her people a joy. 19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, And joy in My people; The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, Nor the voice of crying. 20 "No more shall an infant from there [live but a few] days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner [being] one hundred years old shall be accursed. 21 They shall build houses and inhabit [them]; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. 22 They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; For as the days of a tree, [so shall be] the days of My people, And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. 23 They shall not labor in vain, Nor bring forth children for trouble; For they [shall be] the descendants of the blessed of the LORD, And their offspring with them. 24 "It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear. 25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust [shall be] the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD.

Wednesday:

God Will Restore Creation.
Hosea 2:14–20

[Hos 2:14-20 NKJV] 14 "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, Will bring her into the wilderness, And speak comfort to her. 15 I will give her her vineyards from there, And the Valley of Achor as a door of hope; She shall sing there, As in the days of her youth, As in the day when she came up from the land of Egypt. 16 "And it shall be, in that day," Says the LORD, "[That] you will call Me 'My Husband,' And no longer call Me 'My Master,' 17 For I will take from her mouth the

names of the Baals, And they shall be remembered by their name no more. 18 In that day I will make a covenant for them With the beasts of the field, With the birds of the air, And [with] the creeping things of the ground. Bow and sword of battle I will shatter from the earth, To make them lie down safely. 19 "I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, In lovingkindness and mercy; 20 I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, And you shall know the LORD.

Thursday:

Creation Awaits Redemption.
Romans 8:18–25

[Rom 8:18-25 NKJV] 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy [to be compared] with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected [it] in hope; 21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. 23 Not only [that], but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. 24 For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for [it] with perseverance.

Friday:

New Creations in Christ.
2 Corinthians 5:17–21

[2Co 5:17-21 NKJV] 17 Therefore, if anyone [is] in Christ, [he is] a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things [are] of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore [you] on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin [to be] sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Saturday:

Reconciled Through Christ.
Colossians 1:20–23

[Col 1:20-23 NKJV] 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the

blood of His cross. 21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled 22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight-- 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.