

Proclaimed

PROCLAIMED IN THE CONSUMMATION—REVELATION 21:1-8
DECEMBER 24, 2017

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new...” “It is done! I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.” - **Revelation 21:5-6**

I. GOD WITH MANKIND

- God’s great declaration of life in the new Jerusalem:
 1. God will dwell with mankind — they will be his people.
 2. He will wipe every tear away.
 3. Death will be no more.
 4. No mourning, crying, nor pain anymore.
 5. Former things will pass away.
 6. The thirsty will drink from the spring of life.
 7. “Conquerors” will be sons of God.

II. ALL THINGS NEW

- Heaven, although demonstrating much continuity with life on earth, will have a profound “newness” to it (vs. 5; Luke 24:13-39; John 20:14-15; 21:4; 1 Cor. 15:35-44).
- Vs. 6: “It is done!” has a ‘now and not yet’ aspect to it currently, but will eventually speak of absolute completeness (John 19:30; Rom. 8:30).
- Eternality describes both God the Father and his Son. He is the Alpha and the Omega (Rev. 1:8; 2:8; 21:6; 22:13).
- Those who conquer in Jesus (persevere) will have an eternal heritage as sons of God (vs. 7; Gal. 3:26-29).
- The Bible speaks truth in love. The reality remains that not everyone will experience the new creation (vs. 8; Dan 12:2; Matt. 8:12; 13:14; 25:41; Luke 13:28).

MAIN POINT: The good news of the gospel has a terminal goal. It is pointing somewhere. Jesus not only proclaimed the gospel, he also made it possible, and will bring it to its consummation.

KNOW: God’s eternal plan of salvation will come to fruition. God will one day right all wrongs and bring all things to their consummation.

DO: Respond to the gospel and experience its fullness.

Recommended Reading:

God’s Big Picture, by Vaughn Roberts (LifePoint Library #220.6 ROB)
From Eden to the New Jerusalem, by T. Desmond Alexander

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read Revelation 21:1-8

1. Describe some of the things that John sees in his vision recorded in Rev. 21:1-8. How does this vision make you feel about the future?
2. What do you think God means when he says in verse 3 that he will be “with” his people? How will that be different than how he is with us now?
3. What is so important about drinking freely from the spring of the water of life without payment?
4. Knowing what awaits us in glory, why do you think most believers still fear death so much?
5. Verse 8 is a hard one to read. Why is it important that it is included in all that God says from the throne?
6. What changes, if any, have you made during Advent 2017?