

Nov 06, 2016



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
Living for the future puts today in perspective

POEM FOR THE WEEK:
Let us then be true and faithful,
trusting, serving every day; just
one glimpse of Him in glory will
the toils of life repay. When we all
get to heaven, what a day of re-
joicing that will be! - Eliza E.
Hewitt

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
*Set your mind on things above, not
on things on the earth*
(Col 3:2 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Mar 22, 2016)

NEXT WEEK

Bro. Jose Cisneros

Making All Things New Rev 21:1-8

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson examines conditions and actions of Jesus in His **Making All Things New**. The **study's aim** is to understand and look forward to the time when Jesus Christ will make all things new. The **study's application** is to contrast aspects of the old creation with those of the new creation and to appreciate the new things we will enjoy in eternity.
(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

Following the final judgment after Christ's millennial reign (Rev. 20:11-15) and the destruction of the old order (2 Pet. 3:10), the new heaven and new earth will appear, with the New Jerusalem as the centerpiece (Rev. 21:1-2). This is the eternal home of all believers. The Apostle John saw the new heaven and new earth in a vision, and he described it in great detail in Revelation 21. The glorious eternal home of Christ's followers is first described in negative terms. The absence of certain features of the present order were immediately noticeable to John—and noteworthy. John said, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Some have taken this to mean there will in fact be tears in heaven but that God will quickly wipe them away. This does not seem to be the meaning, however, for the verse closes by saying "the former things are passed away." Rather, the expression is simply a way of saying that tears of sorrow or regret will not be present. "The emphasis here is on the comfort of God, not on the remorse of the saints. The tears seem to refer to tears shed on earth as the saints endured suffering for Christ's sake, rather than tears shed in heaven" (Walvoord, The Revelation of Jesus Christ, Moody). Because God Himself will be present (Rev. 21:3), there will be no tears and no cause for tears. There will be no death, sorrow, crying, or pain. In Christ, death has been conquered, and there will be no place for it in God's presence. The inhabitants of the new earth will possess immortal bodies uncorrupted by sin, for sin itself will have been finally dealt with at the Great White Throne judgment of God (20:11-15). In the absence of sin, the effects of sin will not be present, and thus there will be no sorrow or crying. The Greek word for "sorrow" here is used particularly for mourning over the dead and is a grief that "takes possession of the whole being" (Trench, Synonyms of the New Testament, Baker). With death removed forever, there will be no cause for such grief. Likewise, crying will be unknown there. Crying is the "vocal response to sorrow, in contrast to tears which are a silent response" (Walvoord). Pain also will not be present in the eternal state, for there will be nothing in God's presence that will cause suffering of any kind. The "former things," as John noted, "are passed away." By God's grace, we can and do experience joy in this life, but we also experience difficulties, hardships, pain, grief, and suffering. Such experiences are so much a part of our present world that it is almost impossible to imagine life without them. The absence of these negative aspects of our current world are a major factor in what sets off our eternal home as truly new and different and desirable. This world is temporary. Yet here we are being prepared to inhabit a glorious new world that has been lovingly prepared for all who follow Jesus Christ.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

New Universe (Rev 21:1)

New heaven and earth

A new heaven and earth where the former things will be gone (Isa 65:17-18)

A new heaven and earth that will endure (Isa 66:22-23)

A new heaven and earth that will be the home of the righteous (2 Peter 3:13)

A new heaven and earth replacing the one destroyed by fire (2 Peter 3:7)

A new heaven and earth renewed from the one that will be laid bare (2 Peter 3:10)

No more sea

No more sea that was created by God (Gen 1:9-10)

New Jerusalem (Rev 21:2)

Holy City out of Heaven

A Holy city because the defiled will not be allowed to enter (Isa 52:1)

A Holy city because it has been built by God (Heb 11:10)

A Holy city because it is where God lives (Heb 12:22)

A Holy city because it came from God (Rev 3:12)

Prepared as a bride

A bride who belongs to the bridegroom Jesus (John 3:29)

A bride whose husband is Jesus (2 Cor 11:2)

A bride who is loved and cleansed by Jesus (Eph 5:25-27)

A bride who is fed and cared for by Jesus (Eph 5:29)

A bride who prepares by putting on righteousness (Rev 19:7-8)

New Status (Rev 21:3-4)

Communion

Communion through walking with God (Lev 26:11-12)

Communion through God making His home with us (John 14:23)

Communion through being the temple of God (2 Cor 6:16)

Communion with the faithful God (Zech 8:8)

Joy

Joy through receiving the crown of joy (Isa 35:10)

Joy through the oil of gladness (Isa 61:3)

Joy through God making us a joy (Isa 65:18)

Joy through God turning sorrow into joy (Jer 31:13)

Life

Life because Jesus destroyed death (1 Cor 15:26)

Life because of being clothed with immortality (1 Cor 15:54)

Life because Jesus destroyed Satan who holds the power of death (Heb 2:14-15)

Life through Jesus (Rom 5:17)

Life through the resurrection of Jesus (1 Peter 1:3-4)

New Inheritance (Rev 21:5-7)

Faithfulness fulfilled

Faithfulness fulfilled through eternal fellowship (1 Cor 1:9)

Faithfulness fulfilled because God always does what He promised (1 Thess 5:24)

Faithfulness fulfilled through Jesus being faithful over God's house (Heb 3:6)

Faithfulness fulfilled through hope (Heb 10:23)

Faithfulness fulfilled by the creator (Rev 3:14)

New Separation (Rev 21:8)

Separated by a second death

The second death is being thrown into the lake of fire (Rev 20:13-15)

The second death brings God's fury (Rev 14:10)

The second death is for those who worshiped the beast (Rev 19:20)

The second death has no power over those in the first resurrection (Rev 20:6)