## Mt Lebanon Church

Sunday School Lesson

4.20.2025

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word to share.

A New Heaven and a New Earth

## Revelation 21: 1 - 8

The Word of God encourages us as believers to desire to be in the presence of God, for God desires us to experience his presence. So, what does it mean to live in God's presence, and why is it so important. Spending time in the presence of God is essential to our spiritual journey as a believer. If we do not spend time with God, then how do we expect to come to know him. The more time we spend with the Lord, the more he reveals himself unto us by his word, through the guidance of the indwelling Holy Spirit. One of the greatest assurances that we have in our life in Christ is knowing that God is always accessible to us. No matter where we are, God is there also, and in his presence there we will find a fulness of his joy. There is nothing greater than being in the presence of the Lord, for where God is, that is surely where we want to be.

Jeremiah 29: 13,....and ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart....

It is of greatest importance to our life as a believer in Christ that we actively seek God. This promise given by God is one that will be found by those who seek after him wholeheartedly, knowing that God is not distant, but is readily available to those who sincerely, earnestly, and fervently seek after him. This message of hope is given as an encouragement, so that we might, as believers, remain faithful unto him even through what we believe to be the most difficult times in our lives. God wants us to face life with the assurance that he is with us now, and that he himself will one day dwell with us, and we shall be his people, and he will be our God, and there will be no more pain, for those former things shall pass away.

**Isaiah 65: 17,....**for behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind....

Herein signifies the complete restoration of our redemption, one where struggles and pain are no longer a part of life. It signifies a part of Gods plan that will bring about a state of righteous perfection, showing unto us the consistency and faithfulness of his promises to mankind. Only because of Christ and his redemptive work upon the cross is this restoration made possible and so comes the ultimate fulfillment of Gods plan of redemption, where all things are made new and brought into perfect harmony with Gods will. Therefore, through the work of Christ Jesus, we are encouraged to hold fast to his hope and his assurance, trusting in the faithfulness of God to bring us into the ultimate fulfillment of his redemptive purpose.

Revelation 21: 1-4,...I saw a new heaven and a new earth....the first heaven and the first earth were passed away....I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adaorned for her husband....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....God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes....there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away....

This heaven and this earth in which we live, created by God, but cursed because of man's disobedience and sinfulness will one day be replace by a new heaven and new earth, and at this time the curse of man's eternal separation from God will have been fully removed. Now, for those who have believed upon Christ, the one who paid such an incredible price for our sin, we will not perish but we will be united with him throughout time and eternity. This new heaven and new earth will be without turmoil or separation, both physically and spiritually, for the source of evil in the world will be gone, and there will be no opportunity for rebellion.

The word of God speaks of seven things that will be no more: no more sea, no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither....any more pain, (Revelation 21: 25, 22: 25,....no night), (Revelation 22: 3,....no more curse). This signifies that the relationship between God and humanity is in an eternal state where sin and suffering are no more, a relationship where we are in a constant living presence of God.

Revelation 21: 5-8,....behold I make all things new....these words are true and faithful....I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end....I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely....I will be his God, and he shall be my son....but the....unbeliever....shall have their part in the lake of fire and brimstone, which is the second death....

The eternity of Gods existence never had a beginning and will never have an ending. There was never a time when he was not present, and there will never be a time when he ceases to be. For the believer this is a truth that we will never fully comprehend, for if we could fully understand the mysteries of God, we would surely try to raise ourselves up to his level. Only Gods qualities and attributes our infinite, his love will never end, his mercy will never cease to exist, his truth will never expire, and his glory is eternal.

Isaiah 44: 6,....thus saith the Lord....I am the first, and I am the last, and beside me there is no God....

Exodus 3: 14,....God said unto Moses....I am that I am....

By his word, God reveals unto the believer his unchanging nature, and his dominion over all things. God exceeds our understanding because he wants us to pray, and to read and to meditate upon his word so that we might think about it and consider the lasting effect that it has upon our life in his Son Christ Jesus.

Psalm 145: 3,....his greatness is unsearchable....

Isaiah 40: 28,....there is no searching of his understanding...

Romans 11: 33,....how unsearchable are his judgements, and his ways past finding out....

Ephesians 3: 8,....that I should preach....the unsearchable riches of Christ....

A new heaven and a new earth, what a powerful message of hope and encouragement unto every believer, an ultimate reward for those who overcome life's challenges and remain faithful in their relationship with God, where he becomes a loving presence in the life of every believer, and we experience the eternal blessing of being one of his children.

1 John 5: 4 - 5,....what soever is born of God overcometh the world, and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith....who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God....

So, what is it that makes a new heaven and a new earth so important to our life as a believer? It is the fact that God will be with us, and we will be in his presence of perfection, and there will be no more sin. Everything will flow from the perfect presence of God, and we will dwell, and live, and reign forever with him in perfect harmony.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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