



## Today's Message

Date: September 21, 2014  
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas  
Title: *New Jerusalem*

Text: Revelation 21:1–8 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

<sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

<sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup> And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup> The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. <sup>8</sup> But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

Introduction: Chapters 21 and 22 of Revelation give us a glimpse of the great future God has planned for his people. Verses 1-8 introduce the recreation of the universe that God has planned.

**I. The Bible story moves from creation to recreation. 1-2**

- A. Christ will create a completely new order. 1a
- B. This “groaning” creation will be gone! 1b
- C. At the center of the new order will be a new city. 2
  - 1. A city of utter holiness.
  - 2. A city of radiant beauty.

**II. This new order is our great hope and expectation. 3-4**

- A. It is a place of God’s universal glory . . . 3
- B. and our eternal good. 4

**III. Christ calls us to this hope. 5-6**

- A. He declared that the new order is his purpose. 5a
- B. He recorded this for our benefit. 5b
- C. He assures this with his sovereignty. 6a
- D. He promises life to all who trust his word. 6b

**IV. Christ challenges us to consider two destinies. 7-8**

- A. The faithful shall dwell in New Jerusalem and inherit all the joys that God has promised. 7
- B. The faithless remain in “Babylon” and inherit eternal condemnation. 8

**Today’s take-home truth: One day God will make a perfect world; to inherit it, you must embrace his promises with enduring faith.**