

## The book of Revelation

### Chapter 21-Part 1

“This section is \_\_\_\_\_ to the one before it by the mention of the disappearance of the first heaven and earth at the beginning (21:1; 20:11) and the mention of the lake of fire and brimstone at the end (21:8; 20:14-15)...But its primary purpose is to prepare us to view the bride by giving us a glimpse of the home that her Husband has prepared for her.” (Johnson, 303)

#### 1. *The dwelling place of the Bride (21:1-4)*

-The first heaven and the first earth are declared by John to have passed away and the new heaven and earth are seen. Johnson writes, “In the new heaven and earth which God creates as a \_\_\_\_\_ for His bride, the ‘first things have passed away,’ and these first things are the woes that infected the first created order through human sin: death, mourning, crying, pain (Rev. 21:4). The ‘sea’ that no longer exists symbolizes that realm from which chaos and rebellion have emerged to ravage the first earth.” (Johnson, 303)

-“In the renewed universe-the new heaven and earth-all will be \_\_\_\_\_. The heaven and the earth and the sea as they now are shall vanish. The universe is going to be gloriously rejuvenated and transformed.” (217-218)

-John then sees “the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.” This is a symbol representing the \_\_\_\_\_ in glory. “This new and holy Jerusalem is very clearly the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, as is also plainly evident from the fact that it is here and elsewhere called the bride, the wife of the Lamb. Even in the Old Testament the Church is represented under the symbolism of a city (Isa. 26:1; Psalm 48).” (218)

-The bride is adorned for her husband. She is sparkling in the perfect righteousness of the \_\_\_\_\_. The filth and stains of sin have been washed and removed and she comes prepared for her husband.

-Then the Lord speaks. The Lord speaks beautiful words to His bride. He speaks words of comfort, security, assurance, and joy. The Lord first tells us that God will dwell with His people and He Himself will be with them. Never again will \_\_\_\_\_ come in between Him and His people. For all eternity they will be His and He will be theirs.

-“The voice proclaims the final fulfillment of the \_\_\_\_\_ (God with us) theme that runs throughout redemptive history.” (Johnson, 304)

-“So close is this eternal communion between God and His elect that He, as it were, dwells with them in one \_\_\_\_\_-His tent.” (219)

-The Lord then tells John about the joy of being in His \_\_\_\_\_. In His presence there are no more tears (for how can one mourn and cry when they are in the presence of Him in whom is found joy everlasting). In His presence there is no more death (for He is life evermore). In His presence there will be no more mourning, crying, or pain for the former things have passed away. All those things that were part of the curse are gone.

#### 2. *It is done (21:5-8)*

-The Lord declares that He is making all things \_\_\_\_\_. He former things have passed away. Then the Lord tells John to write this down because His words are “trustworthy and true.” This former world of sin, death, and despair will not endure forever. We can believe this with certainty because the Lord hath declared it to be so and He cannot lie.

-“Only God can make new...He \_\_\_\_\_ can restore and renew man and the universe. He does it now, though in a very restricted sense. He is going to do it by and by when Christ returns.” (219)

-The Lord then declare “It is done.” On that day the saints will enter the \_\_\_\_\_ rest of God and all of His glorious and good promises will be fulfilled and be enterally realized. The Lord reminds His Church that He is the “Alpha and Omega-the Beginning and the End.” The struggling church on earth can trust in these great and glorious promises because God stands behind them.

-The Lord declares that to the thirsty (those who thirst for Christ the Living Water) He will give them drink from the spring which contains the water of life (eternal life) and He will give them this drink “without payment.” (sola gratia) “The ‘water of life’ that is given freely refers to eternal life, which is salvation full and free...this water always proceeds from God, who is the \_\_\_\_\_.” (220)

-The one who conquers (through faith in Christ) will have this heritage-being known as the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. “That promise (of being adopted as a son of God)...it is the great promise, for it includes all other promises.” (220) “See what kind of love that Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God...” (1 John 3:1)

-However, not everyone enjoys the glory of enteral life with God. The harsh reality of enteral judgment closes out this section. Those who persist in wickedness and follow the lies of the enemy will suffer with the enemy in the lake of fire, the second \_\_\_\_\_.

-“The \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s promises to faithful overcomers shine all the more brightly when contrasted with the dire consequences of the last judgment for those who have been captivated by Satan’s appealing lies.” (Johnson, 308)