

Biblical Theology, Lesson 14

New Creation: The End

Read Rev. 21:1-8

Summary of the Bible's Storyline:

1. Creation
2. Fall
3. Redemption
4. New Creation/Consummation

The main themes of the story:

1. God is the main character, not Us
 - Story centers on GOD's Glory Revealed Through Plan of Redemption, Revolving Around the Person and Work of Jesus Christ
2. God's People
3. God's Place
4. God's Covenants

We've traced out this story through God's covenants, climaxing in the glorious person and work of Jesus Christ.

So, how does the story end? It ends with God fulfilling all of His promises of redemption for His people and Creation.

I. Christ's Victory: God's Covenant Promises Complete (Rev. 19-20)

A. Christ's Final Victory over Sin, Satan and Death

- Rev. 19:11-16
- Rev. 20:7-10

B. Final Judgment: True Salvation and Judgment will come at last

- Rev. 20:11-15
- Eternal Judgment - Hell
- Eternal life - Salvation; Christ's people are redeemed and raised!

II. Christ's Glory: Final Salvation and Judgment will Result in Worship and Glory

- Phil. 2:6-11 - every knee will bow, as God is glorified in Christ forever, by all; at that's exactly what we see happening at the end of the story, in Rev.

- Rev. 7:9-12 - A great multitude
- Rev. 14:

III. Christ's Bride - Christ will Glorify His People

- 19:6-9
- 21:9-11
- We will be completely redeemed from sin. We're already saved from our sins in Christ; Christ has already purchased our redemption with His blood. The second we believe we are justified. But we still await the complete consummation of our redemption. When Christ returns, we will be raised and glorified with Him. Our sin nature will be no more. Christ will remake us to be sinless; we will be a restored humanity - but even better than Adam and Eve were! We will be unable to sin. This means there will be no more sin, or any of it's consequences in our lives. No more evil, no mor suffering, no more pain, no more sorrow or tears. No more death! We will live forever!
- And we're not going to live as disot going to live as disembodied spirits forever, just floating on clouds. No, we will get to live in a New Creation, even better than all the good things about our physical life now...

IV. Christ Redeems Creation: New Heavens, New Earth - New and better Eden (Rev. 21-22)

- Rom. 8:19-22
- Rev. 21:1-2 - New Heavens, New Earth
- Our world was broken, corrupted, and stained by sin; Christ is going to remake the world, renewing it - in the New Heavens and New Earth, there will be no more sin, and that means, Creation itself is redeemed from sin! No longer broken, corrupted, or stained. No more weeds, thorns, and thistles. No more natural disasters, hurricanes, tornadoes. No more famine nor drought. No more food or water shortages. Nor more sickness, plague, or illness. Every consequences of sin and evil will be removed from this fallen world - Creation will be redeemed! Heaven will come down to Earth. The world will be restored, remade. This world will be made into God's place once more - we see a return to the Garden of Eden, the perfect paradise, that we saw at the beginning of the story!
- But's it's not just a return to the Garden. It's actually a New and Better Garden of Eden!

V. God's People in God's Place Forever

- Rev. 21:3-5
- Rev. 22:1-5
- In a new, better Garden of Eden, as God's perfect (unable to sin) people, forever
- All the glorious blessings of salvation
- The End: Christ's work finished: slays the dragon, gets the girl, New Adam/priest-king reigning on the throne with dominion over the whole world. God's people will be fully redeemed, drawn close to God to live with Him, in paradise, forever. We will live with God, worshiping, enjoying, and glorifying Him forever, as *truly human* - truly restored to the image of God in a way that is even better than Adam and Eve had it! We will be unable to sin. We will enjoy perfect relational intimacy with God in our relationship with Christ. We will live in paradise, in the Garden-City of God! We will truly be Kings over creation, reigning with Christ over the New Creation forever. We will truly be Priests, living in the Temple-City of God, where Christ dwells on the throne! The mission will be complete: Eden will have expanded throughout all of Creation, as a great multitude from every tribe, nation, and tongue is redeemed to gather around the throne and glorify God in Christ forever.

Concluding Application:

Therefore, let us keep our eyes on this glorious hope and be about this mission: of expanding Eden through all the Earth now, by sharing the gospel, making disciples, and building the church, working towards that day! Let us strive to make disciples of all nations, as we all cry, "Come, Lord Jesus, Come quickly!" Amen.