

Sunday, 08-07-22

A New Home

Bible Background: Revelation 21:1-8
Printed Text: Revelation 21:1-8 KJV/NLT
Devotional Reading: Revelation 15:1-8

Aim for Change (Page 562):

1. **EXAMINE** the unique genre of “apocalypse” that characterizes Revelation in order to discern how to understand its message
 2. **CONTEMPLATE** the creation of a new heaven and a new earth for the hope that this vision holds for the faithful
 3. **EMBRACE the peace of God that begins in this life with Jesus** and continues in God’s new creation
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In Focus (Page 562):

- What is it like to begin anew? How can Robert’s testimony demonstrate the hope of a new beginning to others?
 - When was the last time you shared your testimony from something you were struggling with?
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The People, Places, and Times (Page 564):

- **John** – Hebrew for “Jehovah is gracious;” “Graced by God;” “Yahweh provides protection”
 - Part of Jesus inner circle (James/Peter) and the Only disciple at Jesus crucifixion – **John 19:25-27**
 - Who’s part of your inner circle? Will they be there until the end and be with Jesus?
 - **Bride**
 - OT – description of the people of God who committed repeated adulteries and unfaithfulness, but with the promise of being restored – **Isaiah 61:10; Jeremiah 3; Ezekiel 16; Hosea 3**
 - NT – description of the Church and their relationship to Christ – **Matthew 9:14-17; 2 Corinthians 11:2-3, 14-15; Ephesians 5:25-27; Revelation 19:6-10**
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Background (Pages 565):

- Revelations is broken into four visions: **Revelation 1:12-3:22** - Jesus and His message to the seven churches; **Revelation 4:1-13:18** - Jesus Christ at the Throne of God, the opening of the seven seals, and the seven trumpet blasts; **Revelation 14:1-16:21** - Christ on Mount Zion
 - Ultimate fulfillment of God’s promise in Christ – the Holy City, the New Jerusalem
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In Depth (Pages 565-566)

1. **The Presentation (Revelation 21:1-2)**
 - a. What kind of images and feelings does “*bride*” bring to mind? Why are those helpful in understanding the relationship between Christ and the church?
 2. **The Proclamation (Revelation 21:3-4)**
 - a. Previously whenever a follower of God saw Him or was in His presence, it was a fearful thing. What has changed that God dwelling with His Bride now is joy? – **Fearful: Exodus 20:18-19; Isaiah 6:5; Joy: Ezekiel 37:26-28; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18**
 3. **The Promises (Revelation 21:5-8)**
 - a. In what ways can the water of life be read figuratively or literally? In what ways is the lake of fire figurative or literal? – **Ezekiel 47:1-12; John 4:1-26; 7:37-38; Revelation 20:11-15**
 - b. How are you quenching your spiritual thirst to be in right relationship with Jesus? – **1 Thessalonians 5:16-28**
 - c. Does your faith reveal obedience to God’s word produced by your works? – **James 2:17-26**
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Liberating Lesson (Page 566):

- What would it be like to begin anew? Do you not begin anew because of fear or comfortability? How is the current way of doing things working out for you? Are you growing spiritually or an idol worshipper? – **Romans 7:14-25; 2 Timothy 2:14-26**

Note – **Bold/Italicized scripture(s) are additional scriptural reference(s) that may be read during class**

Note – Page reference(s) are out of the Precepts for Living w/Commentary 2021-2022

<https://store.urbanministries.com/collections/precepts-for-living/products/precepts-for-living-commentary-2021-2022>