

The Apocalypse

Chapter 21, part 2

I. Introduction

- a. In our previous lesson, we only covered the first 4 verses of Chapter 21
 - i. Today's lesson won't move much more quickly
 1. We will only cover the next 4 verses today
 - ii. We learned in the first part of this chapter about the eternal ages
 1. Today's lesson will continue that thought

II. Commentary

a. Verse 5

- i. The Lord promises that all things will be made new to begin the eternal ages
 1. Nothing of today's world will remain
 - a. One must wonder why believers, knowing this is true, are as guilty as unbelievers at laying up treasures in this life
 - b. Nothing will ever be marred by sin again (**Isa. 65:17**)
 2. In this age, nothing is really "new"
 - a. We enjoy things that are made from other things
 - b. Many things that we use have been in use for centuries
 3. John is instructed to write these words
 - a. Perhaps John was so overcome by what he saw that God had to remind him that he was to be writing
 - b. The words that John heard (those that we just read) are faithful and true
 - i. There is no need to authenticate God's Word
 1. However, we can look through history and see that the things God said would happen, surely did come to pass
 - ii. God Himself authenticates His Word here

b. Verse 6

- i. God declares, "*It is done!*"
 1. John foresaw all things that would lead up to the eternal ages
 - a. Now, he had gotten a glimpse of the eternal ages themselves
 2. These words must remind us of the sacrifice of Christ and the words that He spoke just before He gave up His Spirit
 - a. Once pardoned, a sinner can never be charged
 - b. Once the new heavens and new earth are complete, they will never be marred with sin again
- ii. God again declares that He is, "*the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End*"
 1. God is the Creator
 - a. He is the Great First Cause of all things
 2. All, at some point, will bow and declare that He is God

- iii. After all of the judgments God has foretold, He promises that all who are thirsty may drink of the *"fountain of the water of life freely"*
 - 1. This is an invitation to salvation
 - a. Now understand, the problem with the natural man isn't the availability of salvation
 - i. It's both his inability and lack of desire that is the problem
 - 1. It's like the old adage, "you can take a horse to water but you cannot make him drink"
 - 2. This is very similar to Jesus saying, *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"* (**Mat. 11:28**)
 - a. Those that labored in the Law and found it to be very *"heavy"* are bidden to come to Christ to find rest
 - i. Those that are *"thirsty"* are free to come to the water of life and drink
 - 1. Sadly, man is not naturally thirsty for Christ

c. **Verse 7**

- i. God again makes a promise to the overcomer
 - 1. Those that are born by God will overcome the world (**1 Jhn. 5:4**)
 - 2. The believer has been born by God (**1 Jhn. 5:5**) and is promised that he will overcome the world
- ii. The overcomer will inherit all things
 - 1. Jesus *"has been appointed heir of all things"* (**Heb. 1:2**)
 - a. We are *"joint heirs"* with Christ (**Rom. 8:17**)
 - 2. Surely, in this we see that we are more than conquerors in Christ (**Rom. 8:37**)
- iii. The overcomer will have the Lord as his God and he is declared to be the son of God
 - 1. God is going to dwell in our midst throughout eternity (**vs. 3**)

d. **Verse 8**

- i. Eight classes of sinners are listed here that will not overcome this world
 - 1. These will have their part in the Lake of Fire
 - 2. We may have fit into this class before we were saved (**1 Cor. 6:9-11**)
 - a. Thank the Lord, He has made a change in our lives
 - 3. We ought to fear these sins since the Lord here lists them as typical of those that have not been saved
 - a. This is not to say that some children of God haven't made these mistakes
 - i. However, this is not the pattern of the life of a child of God