

Biblical Theology and Christian Worldview (Part 4)

Revelation 19:11-21:7

March 1, 2015

Introduction 4

In the light of what God has done for us in taking away our sins, what do we have to look forward to? And the answer is that it should motivate us to live holy. It should motivate us to do good works.

1 John 3:2-3 *Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

Too often we have people focused on this world which is without hope. Or in other words, when we try to create hope in this world, it dies. Solomon says that everything under the sun is vanity or soap bubbles. Every dreams, desires, plans all are created and then died. That is because there is nothing in this world that is sustaining or everlasting.

What do we as Christians have? Peter calls it a living hope.

1 Peter 1:3-5 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Peter introduces himself to suffering Christians who are experiencing persecution in the name of Christ. After introducing himself in **verses 1 and 2**, he then jumps into a doxology of praise to God for an inheritance that we will receive, not now. He says that it is a living hope, but it is secure in the future, not now. That inheritance will never be ruined. It a treasure in heaven as Jesus said that would never be ruined or stolen because it is safeguarded in heaven. For Peter, we should be living in joy in the light of that glorious hope. Paul says the same thing.

Ephesians 1:3, 13-14 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. 13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of His glory.*

What I want to talk about today is that attitude of our future. We should be living in the light of the future. We should rejoice in the future and stop being so concerned about what happens now and all the trivialities of life. What happens in the future? It is glorious!

IV. The End That Is the Beginning

- Return of the King (**19:11-21**)
 - Kingdom of God
 - Sovereign rule of God manifested directly on earth through the person of Jesus Christ
 - Lord Jesus Christ
 - His Name
 - His Appearance

- His Actions
- His Army
 - We will come down with Him and His angels

1 Thessalonians 3:13 *May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all His holy ones.*

- He will destroy all ungodly
 - Removes the Antichrist and his false prophets
 - Removes the sinners to establish His government
- Setting up His government
 - Establish the kingdom of righteousness

Note: Where will the people come from into the Millennial Kingdom? The godly who hold out to the end (the believing Jews and those in other nations (believers) will enter the Millennial Kingdom.

- Absolute rule

Isaiah 9:6 *For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

- Righteous rule

Isaiah 11:1-10 *A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD— 3 and He will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, or decide by what He hears with His ears; 4 but with righteousness He will judge the needy, with justice He will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth; with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness will be His belt and faithfulness the sash around His waist. 6 The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. 7 The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. 9 They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. 10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His place of rest will be glorious.*

- Garden of Eden is back—worldwide

- Removal of Satan (**20:1-3**)
 - Abyss
 - Place where demons are bound, chained (prison)

2 Peter 2:4 *For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment;*

- No sin?
 - No, the fallen nature is still present in man during the reign of Christ of 1000 years
 - What Satan's removal means—no false religion or government corruption
 - Sin is swiftly dealt with by Christ
- Reign of Believers (**20:4-6**)
 - Who are the believers that will reign with Him?
 - Old Testament saints

Daniel 7:18 *But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever—yes, forever and ever.'*

- Us with our glorified bodies

1 Corinthians 6:2 *Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?*

Note: This is the first resurrection where all the OT saints and all the believers who have died or raptured out.

- Return of Satan (**20:7-10**)
 - Those living (notably those born) during the Millennium will join with Satan
 - Incredible, even with our Lord Jesus ruling the earth with perfection!
 - Even with people seeing Lord Jesus Christ in all His glory in Jerusalem
 - Satan will be bound to hell for all eternity (as with all the demons)
 - Those who believe in Jesus will be with Him
- The Final Judgment (**20:11-15**)
 - The last resurrection—of the unbelievers from creation to the last destruction
 - All earth and heaven (universe) will be destroyed

2 Peter 3:10 *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.*

- Behold I make all things new! (**21:1-7**)
 - Glorious reality!

1 Corinthians 2:9 *However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him"*

- Our New Home

John 14:2 *In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.*

- Completely different from what we know right now
- New Jerusalem is our eternal home
- No more tears, sorrow, sin

Note: What is Jesus talking about the "no more tears"? What He does not mean is that we will enter heaven weeping because of our sins. Our sins have been taken care of at

the cross (all sins) (**Romans 8:1**—no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus). What about our works and how we have failed to serve Him the best we can? What about Him burning up our works as if wood, hay or straw? What Paul says is that once those have burned up, what are left are gold, silver, and precious stones, and we will receive praise from God (**1 Cor 4:5**).

- No memories of our past!

***Isaiah 65:17** Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.*

Coram Deo

Let us be heavenly minded. Let us dwell on the glories of heaven! Let us chew on the thought that the new heaven and earth will be ours. Let us chew on the thought that we will be with the Lord face-to-face forever without any interruptions or separation! Let us dwell on the fact that we are going home! This earth is only temporary. Let us not get so caught up with the things on earth that we think are so important which they are not. When we are in heaven, all of the saints will be the closest to us—we will spend eternity with one another. Let us cultivate our relationship in the church with the thought that we will be spending eternity together—with joy, gladness, love. Unceasing fellowship. This is our glorious hope. This is the hope that anchors our soul!

Come quickly, Lord Jesus!