

The Eternal State

Part 4

"Heaven"

Rev. 21:6-10

Sept. 29, 2019

I. Name that view:

1. Christ will return after the Millennium and things will continue to get worse in the world up until His return.

Amillennialism

2. The Rapture will occur before God pours out His GREAT wrath during the Tribulation.

Pre-wrath or Mid-Tribulationalism (Mid-Trib)

3. Christ will return after the Millennium and things will get better as Christians take dominion over all areas of society and culture.

Post-millennialism

4. The Rapture will occur after the Tribulation.

Post-Tribulationalism (Post-Trib)

5. Christ will return before the Millennium.

Pre-millennialism

6. The Rapture will occur before the Tribulation.

Pre-Tribulationalism (Pre-Trib)

7. All prophetic events took place in 70 A.D.

Full Preterism

8. Some prophetic events took place in 70 A.D.

Partial Preterism

Quiz

- 2. T or F The book of Revelations was written in 85 A.D.
 - F Revelation 95-96 A.D.
- 3. The year when Revelation was written is important because:
 - A. It helps us determine the date of the Rapture.
 - B. That was the year the island of Patmos was colonized.
 - C. A late date dismisses any reference to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.
 - D. A date earlier than 95 A.D. would have made John and the Emperor Domitian contemporaries.

C

Rev 21:6-21

- 6 Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.
- 7 "He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.
- 8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
- 9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."
- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

"I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost."

Benefit #1 – You will never thirst.

- "I'll give you complete eternal satisfaction if you thirst."
- God was the fountain of our life in creation, and he will be the fountain of our life in glorification.

Isa 55:1

- 5 "Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters;
- And you who have no money come, buy and eat.
- Come, buy wine and milk
- Without money and without cost.

Matt 5:6

6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

John 4:13-14

- 13 Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again;
- 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

John 6:35

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst.

John 7:37-38

- 37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.
- 38 "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'"

Ps 42:1-2

- 1 As the deer pants for the water brooks,
- So my soul pants for You, O God.
- 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God;
- When shall I come and appear before God?

Rev 22:17

17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

Application

- The fountain is God and the water is what is promised to all who are thirsty. The water of life is God's gift freely given - it cannot be bought.
- Money given in any way to purchase salvation is an infinite insult to the grace of God, devalues the life of the Son of God, and declares His purchase paid for by His blood, inadequate.
- Those who thirst for salvation, those who seek its satisfaction are the ones who receive it.
- In Heaven someday you will never desire anything but to please, serve, and glorify God you will totally be filled and satisfied with all of God's goodness and glory.

This is amazing! Think about it . . . The only qualification for you to obtain eternal life is that you be thirsty. Nothing on earth satisfies - wealth, fame, pleasures, cars, houses, iphones -- none will satisfy that deep thirst of the soul. That is why the rich, the wealthy, the beautiful people of this world, all are always looking for something more. They are never satisfied. But the Bible offers the promise to satisfy that thirst.

"Does the world satisfy you?

Then you have your reward and portion in this life.

Make much of it—for you shall know no other joy."

- Charles Spurgeon

Rev 21:6-21

- 6 Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.
- 7 "He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.
- 8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
- 9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."
- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

"He who overcomes . . "

Benefit #2 – You will inherit all that God owns.

Everything that God owns will be at your disposal.

Remember who the overcomer is:

1 John 5:4,5

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Rev 2:7,11,26-28

- 7 To him who <u>overcomes</u>, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'
- 11 He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.'
- 26 'He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS;
- 27 AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON,
- 28 and I will give him the morning star.

Rev 3:5

5 'He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments;

Rev 3:12

12 'He who <u>overcomes</u>, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

Rev 3:21

- 21 'He who <u>overcomes</u>, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne,
- "I'll give him heaven. I'll give him rule. I'll give him righteousness. I'll give him power. I'll give him authority. I'll give him the paradise of God. I'll give him the Tree of Life."

"will inherit these things"

Acts 26:15-18

- 15 "And I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.
- 16 'But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you;
- 17 rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you,
- 18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

Col 1:12

12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

Titus 3:7

7 so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Eph 1:13-14

- 13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,
- 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

Eph 1:18

18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Col 3:23-24

- 23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,
- 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance.

Heb 9:15

15 those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Rom 8:16-17

- 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,
- 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ,

Acts 20:32-33

32 "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Matt 25:34

34 "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

What do we inherit?

- 1. a new body.
- 2. a new <u>place</u> in the eternal state.
- 3. a new <u>home</u> in the New Heavens and the New Earth.

1 Peter 1:3-5

- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable (never allow spoilage) and undefiled (never admit corruption) and will not fade away (never lose its freshness) reserved in heaven for you,

Rev 21:6-21

- 6 Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.
- 7 "He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.
- 8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
- 9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."
- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

"and I will be his God and he will be My son. "

Benefit #3 – You will be God's son.

- You have moved from being thirsty, to being an overcomer with an inheritance, to being adopted, and now being called a son of God. Amazing!
- You have moved from being a wretched, vile, wicked, evil, condemned sinner, an enemy of God, dead in your sins, to a son of God.
- The phrase son of God describes those who are of direct descent from God.
- 4 groups or individuals that are called **sons of God**:
 - 1. The **angels** were created directly by God and are the sons of God (Gen. 6:2, 4; Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7).
 - 2. **Adam** was created directly by God and is called the "son of God" (Luke 3:38).
 - 3. In His humanity, being born of the Holy Spirit, **Jesus** is the Son of God (Luke 1:35).
 - 4. The redeemed, born of God's Spirit, are the sons of God.

John 1:12

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

Rom 8:14-17

- 14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
- 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"
- 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,
- 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ,

Gal 4:6-7

- 6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
- 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

1 John 3:2

2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

Eph 1:3-6

- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
- 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love
- 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,
- 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace,

Heb 2:10

For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory,

2 Sam 7:14

14 "I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me;

Sonship is an eternal relationship.

Those who are changed by God's grace are forever his sons.

Rev 21:5-8

- 5 And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true."
- 6 Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.
- 7 "He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.
- 8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

 For those who take the road of unbelief, they will meet the eternal Omega in judgment for their sin.

John gives us a list of 8 categories of people:

1. "cowardly" - δειλοσ – timid, lacking faith.

Matt 8:26

26 He said to them, "Why are you afraid, you men of little faith?"

Mark 4:40

40 And He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

2. "unbelieving" - απιστοσ - refusing to believe.

- 3. "abominable" $\beta\delta\epsilon\lambda\nu\sigma\sigma\omega$ to stink, those who are disgusting, despicable, committing abominations.
- They love the stench of there own sins.
- They feed their minds with vile books, movies, music, they have vile speech, & a vile lifestyle.
- Abominable activities under the Law of Moses include:
 - partaking of unclean animals (Lev. 11:10-42)
 - homosexual behavior (Lev. 18:22; 20:1)
 - bestiality (Lev. 18:23-26)
 - improper consumption of an offering (Lev. 19:7)
 - idol worship (Deut. 7:25, 26)
 - child sacrifice (Deut. 12:31; Deut. 18:10)
 - offering an imperfect sacrifice (Deut. 17:1)
 - worshiping other gods, including astral bodies (Deut. 13:13-14; Deut. 17:3-4)
 - sorcery, witchcraft, soothsaying, interpreting omens (Deut. 18:12)
 - cross-dressing (Deut. 22:5);
 - money given in offerings in the house of the Lord gained through sinful practices (Deut. 23:18)
 - taking a woman back after having divorced her and she remarried (Deut. 24:4)

- **4. "murderers"** φονευσ one who commits intentional homicide.
- 5. "immoral persons" $\pi o \rho v o \sigma$ to sell, a male prostitute, a harlot, a fornicator.
 - **6. "sorcerers"** ϕ αρμακευσ drugs, witchcraft, and spirit involvement, and drunkenness, and demon worship.
- 7. "idolaters" $\epsilon \iota \delta \omega \lambda o \lambda \alpha \tau \rho \alpha \sigma$ an image worshipper. Someone who doesn't come to Christ because they value something more than Christ.

8. "liars" – ψευδησ – false, deceitful.

John 8:44

44 "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

1 John 2:22

22 Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ?

Rom 1:18

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Other lists of unbelievers . . .

1 Cor 6:9-10

- 9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,
- 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

Gal 5:19-21

- 9 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,
- 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,
- 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Tim 1:9-10

- 9 realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers
- 10 and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,

- "their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
- 2 consequences for those who reject Christ and die in their sin –
- Their place is in a burning lake.
- They die a slow death where the dying never ends.

"Eternity to the godly is a day that has no sunset; eternity to the wicked is a night that has no sunrise."

- Thomas Watson

Rev 21:6-21

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- 8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
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- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

- "Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying,"
- This goes back to the Bowl Judgments.

Rev 17:1,3

- 1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you . . .
- 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness;
- This angel now has a different assignment. Notice the variation in jobs. That will also be true for us in Heaven.
- So the Holy Spirit is drawing a contrast between the Harlot, the wicked city of Babylon in Rev. 17:1-3, and the Bride, the holy city which is the New Jerusalem in Rev. 21:9,10.

"Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

• So here the bride (New Jerusalem) contains the Bride (both the Church and Israel).

Rev 21:6-21

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- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

"And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain,"

Rev 1:10

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,

Rev 4:1,2

- 1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."
- 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.

Ezek 40:1-3

- 1 In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was taken, on that same day the hand of the Lord was upon me and He brought me there.
- 2 In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain, and on it to the south there was a structure like a city.
- 3 So He brought me there; and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, with a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand; and he was standing in the gateway.

"and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,"

- John saw the city as it was in the process of descending.
- This is the place Christ has prepared (Jn. 14:3) for His Bride (the Church) and God has prepared for His wife (Israel).

Next week we will see the New Jerusalem described from the outside.

The following week we will enter the city and see it described from the inside.