



Things To Come: Week 13

Into Eternity

Audio & Notes at:

<http://www.htchurch.com/things-to-come>

Video at:

<http://www.htchurch.tv>

1. Introduction: The End of the Millennium

What happens next? Paul talks about it in terms of a transfer of authority.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all. (1 Corinthians 15: 24-28)

2. The Final Rebellion

7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. 9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. 10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Revelation 20:7-10)

3. The Great White Throne

This appears to be a final judgment which covers certain categories of people:

- Those who had a natural body during the Millennium
- Those who were was not raised from death previously, such as the wicked dead of the ages before the Millennium.
- Even death itself (as well as Hell or Hades) is cast into the Lake of Fire.

Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:14-5)

This is the last of the all the judgments we read about in the Bible.

4. A New Heaven and a New Earth

4.1. In the new creation there is permanent righteousness.

Peter says we're looking for a new heaven and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. At the moment, righteousness doesn't dwell here.

4.2. In the new creation, God is fully present with His People.

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. (Revelation 21:3-5a)

5. The New Jerusalem and our Eternal Blessedness: 7 Questions

"Eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, neither has it entered into the heart of men the things that God has prepared for those who love Him."

5.1. Where is the New Jerusalem now?

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Rev. 21:2)

5.2. Where will the New Jerusalem be situated?

Will the New Jerusalem rest upon the surface of the earth or land upon the Earth?

5.3. How big is the New Jerusalem?

Ezekiel says that the Millennial Jerusalem will be 4,500 measures on each side. This means that the earthly Jerusalem is about 50 square miles. However, the New Jerusalem dwarfs this. John tells us that the City is 12,000 furlongs on each side:

The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal. (Rev. 21:16)

A *furlong* is an old surveyor's measurement which was an eighth of a mile. The New Testament Greek says the City is 12,000 *stadia*. A *stadion* was about 600 feet, so we can suggest that the New Jerusalem is about 1400 miles on each side.

5.4. What is the shape of the City?

The fact that the city has the same length and breadth and height leads us to think that it can only be one of two shapes: a pyramid or a cube. Speculation abounds!

5.5 What is the construction of the City?

A few highlights from Revelation 21:

- The wall is 144 cubits, or over 200 feet.
- The wall is made out of jasper, which is possibly a diamond.
- There are twelve foundations, each one decorated with different precious stones.
- The city itself and the street are pure gold, so pure they are almost clear.

- There are twelve gates, each one made from a single pearl.
- It has no Temple, because God and the Lamb are its temple.
- It has no need for lighting, because the glory of God illuminates it, and the Lamb is its light.

5.6 Who is permitted in the City and who is excluded?

And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him... Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. (Rev. 22:3, 14, KJV)

...outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. (Rev. 22:15)

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, "Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth." "Yea," saith the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." (Rev. 14:13)

5.7. What are we going to see there? (Rev. 22)

- A pure river of the water of life.
- The tree of life.
- The face of God and Christ. In Revelation 22:4, John says, *And they shall see his face...*
- In 1 John 3:2, John wrote: *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

Last Things

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." 6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. 8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Rev. 21:5-8)

"Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." (Rev. 22:7)

12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last." (Rev. 22:13)

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." (Rev. 22:16)

*He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."
Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! (Rev. 22:20)*

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