

# END TIMES



**End Times (Student Lesson Six)– The New Heaven and Earth – End of Age of Man**

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## The New Heaven/Earth: End of the age of man

As previously stated, God will bring an appropriate end to the world of man in his own way and time. The presentation of a New Heaven and Earth is a signal of bringing an end to the age of man. The world will not end with the destruction of humanity but God's judgment of Creation.

The reference to a New Heaven/Earth emphasizes the shift of authority from man's dominion over God's creation, as assigned to Adam in Genesis 1:28, to the Creator retaining all dominion authority for Himself. It's not about changing or renovating the physical world but rather about the transfer of authority.

In today's world, mankind has largely escaped accountability for the decay of the physical and spiritual environment. A world that once existed in harmony with its purpose and provided natural sustainability to meet human needs has deteriorated. The imbalance and crisis dominating the world stage are often attributed to God or His lack of intervention. God's judgment on humanity and creation will resolve all outstanding accountability for the world's condition.

**Revelation 21:1** – And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

### He will establish a New Heaven and Earth:

The first Heaven and Earth, that existed from original creation are said to have “passed away” (parerchomai) [pa-rare-co-my] a term that means to call forth or beckoned to present, implying to stand before someone greater to be reviewed or judged. The former heaven and earth were both judged during the tribulation period, and the judgment concluded with “no more sea.” The sea is a reference used several times in Revelation to refer to mankind and is used here to indicate bringing an end to the age of man. The new heaven and earth will not appear until the first heaven and earth are judged (passed away).

**Revelation 21:2** – And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

### He will present the new holy city, New Jerusalem:

John sees the (new) Jerusalem, the Holy City, coming down out of the New Heaven. The city is a subset of the New Heaven, just as Eden was a subset of the Eternal Garden in Genesis. The subset city represents a more extensive and more outstanding eternal dominion. New Jerusalem, the Holy City, is a microcosm of God's everlasting Kingdom (dominion). The Holy City symbolizes God's ruling authority over all creation.

The Holy City is described as a bride adorned and prepared to meet her husband. Wedding garments represent clothing set aside to be worn only when the bride is presented to the Groom-Husband. The ornaments and decor of New Jerusalem are exclusive; the Holy City is the bride to be presented to the Husband-Creator.

**TeachNote:** *We consider God's domain a fixed place, but that observation is incorrect and impossible. God is not limited to space and time and has no singular place to exist. \*In the New Testament, Jesus lends a subtle hint wrapped in the mystery of a response He gives to a scribe claiming allegiance to follow Him no matter where he goes. In that encounter, the Messiah stated foxes and birds have fixed geographical locations, but the Son of Man does not know where to lay His head. The statement indicates that the creatures of this world all have fixed locations and, therefore, clear limitations, but the son of Man has no such restrictions because He has “no place.” vs. He provides and prepares “a place” - BUT HAS NO FIXED DEFINED PLACE.*

**Revelation 21:3** – And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

Great voice from New Heaven:

A voice from Heaven declares that “the Tabernacle of God is (now) with men.”

The Creator (God), who has no fixed place, will now **make His abode with man** -

(the Bride: *residents of New Jerusalem*). God will dwell and abide with man, and HE will never be separated from man again. This is the primary promise and benefit of the marriage between God and mankind.

The groom is typically responsible for finding a permanent home for his new bride. The bride must leave her living space and establish a house with her new husband. The eternal pledge states that the bride will be God’s people, and the Creator-Husband will always be with them as their God.

**Revelation 21:4** – And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

**Revelation 21:5** – And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Lesson Notes:

(Revelation 21:4) – Ending the age of man will also terminate the former conditions and limitations of the world tainted by sin. The tears of human sorrow resulting from loss (death) will not follow us into eternity. Tears of grief and pain and their memories will be removed when we are transformed into an eternal body. They will pass away. (aperchomai) [*ap-erkh'- co-my*] means to be removed or cast aside and left behind.

There are specific life encounters, such as joining the military, where individuals are not allowed to bring their provisions and are expected to disconnect from all other potential perils. In the same way that a person is required to use the rations provided by the military branch they join, the residents of eternity will not need the material possessions of the life they leave behind, including the sorrow, tears, and pain that come with them.

The former “age of man” is passed away, removed, and left behind, including its consequences. The residents of eternity will hear crying no more, experience death no more, or feel sorrow no more.

(Revelation 21:5) – The voice from the throne of God sets new terms and conditions: “Behold, I make all things new.” Eternity is a new age under the sovereign authority of God. The world of eternity is separated from the past world of man, and everything in eternity is “new” [*neos*], i.e., fresh (as in just created or made).

God custom-designed a place for man in Eden at the beginning of creation. The garden was a newly (*neos*) separated place set apart for the use of the first man and woman. The new heaven is a place for man to dwell in God's constant presence. The physical Garden of Eden was where the voice of God walked about, but it was not a dwelling place for God's presence. The distinction of the New Heaven is that it will depend upon God’s presence, allowing man to remain in His presence and coexist with Him eternally. So, as the Son of God (God actively present on earth) stated in John 14:3, “That where I am there may ye be also.”

When God speaks, the environment around Him responds. In Creation, something came into existence when God said let there be. God’s declaration of the New Heaven is faithful and true. His word spoken is the same

as His word fulfilled.

**Revelation 21:6** – And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

**Revelation 21:7** – He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

**Revelation 21:8** – But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

### Lesson Notes:

(Revelation 21:6) – The voice is identified as the “Alpha (first) and Omega (last) or the beginning and the end. It is another confirmation that the age of Man has ended, and God alone has authority in eternity. God and His word are preeminent. Nothing happens before He speaks, and nothing can undo or prevent the word He has spoken from fulfilling its purpose.

God will satisfy the thirst and craving for life throughout eternity- all life flows from Him. Life constantly flows from the presence of God, freely and without interference or disruption.

(Revelation 21:7) – The residents of eternity are overcomers and will inherit (have gifted) everything they need forever. God will personalize His relationship with every resident of eternity as His son. The term is used to affirm direct connection and relationship to God. In relationship terms, God is the Father, and all the residents of eternity are His “son,” as in His firstborn.

The most significant inheritance rights within a family are reserved for the firstborn. Every resident of eternity will receive equal rights to the inheritance as a firstborn son. Unobstructed personal access into the presence of the Father is the inheritance reward.

(Revelation 21:8) – The End Time judgment will settle the inheritance to a second group of eternal residents with a completely different outcome. In general terms, they are categorized as fearful unbelievers. They will have their part (equal portion) in the lake of fire that will burn eternally. This is noted as the second death, as the unbelieving dead will be terminated again, and the unbelieving souls that remain alive will join them.

The permanent separation from God is the more significant consequence assigned to these residents of eternity. In the manner that the believers are given access to the presence of God, the unbelievers are dismissed from His presence eternally. The lake of fire burns but never consumes or destroys their life; these residents of eternity are forced to be aware that they exist outside of God’s presence, a choice they made when access was available.

The unbelievers are also assigned to categories that reflect characteristics to define them more specifically by deeds and choices made in life that led them away from God's presence.

The first category is murder - taking of life, which reflects the first sin following the banishment from the Garden of Eden. Murdering is the highest form of disrespect for life. Which makes it such an abomination to God. Whoremongers in context comes from the word " pornos," which means to sell life. This is another form of disrespect for life. Sorcery is rooted in spells and potions, intending to alter life. The Greek word " pharmakeus" is the source word for Sorcery, including its practice. The highest ritual to alter life circumstances is to sacrifice the life of a human or animal. The correlating emphasis, forming a disrespect for life, is apparent.

Idolatry is a false replacement for life. It replaces the true living God with inanimate man-made objects that cannot speak, hear, or respond to real life. This is a form of disrespect for divine, supernatural life, and it is the highest violation of divine law, "thou shalt have no other God before me." (Exodus 20:3,34:14)

The liar is the last category listed and also represents a disrespect for life. A liar is untruthful, but it does not mean they do not know the truth; instead, they intentionally desire to keep the truth from being known. The lie of the untruthful is deceitful and wicked. It dramatically harms life because a liar will deceptively keep others from the truth, including the truth they need to have life. The father of lies is Lucifer-Satan; his entire motive is to keep the truth hidden, even at the cost of others losing what they need for life.

All residents of eternity in each of these categories will share an equal portion in the inheritance of separation from God, who is the giver of Life they have all egregiously disrespected.