

I. A HEAVEN AND EARTH MADE NEW

- A. This is describing an eternal state in the future
  - 1. After Tribulation, AFTER Millennial Reign, AFTER final rebellion
    - a. After the Great White Throne Judgement and the Lake of Fire
    - b. What now is will be gone – MELTED away
    - c. The hippies talk about a “New Age” – well, this is it!
  - 2. 2 PET. 3:7-13 – “But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. (10) But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. (11) Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, (12) Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? (13) Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”
  - 3. This fixes a problem that goes back to the very beginning!
    - a. SIN! Disobedience to God, whether by commission or omission
    - b. GEN. 3:6 – “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”
    - c. Satan knew! He wanted to destroy everything God had built
      - i. God had pronounced it GOOD
      - ii. And the devil wanted to make it BROKEN
    - d. ROM. 5:12 – “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”
- B. When death came into this world, everything changed
  - 1. Before was a perfect state, now we live in a broken state
    - a. Cancers, birth defects, sickness, wickedness, disease – ALL!
    - b. Violence, murder, theft, slavery, lust, wickedness – ALL!
    - c. It’s the law of sin – Yes, sin is a law that rules in the flesh!
    - d. ROM. 8:2 – “For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”
  - 2. These laws of death and sin are observed even by physicists
    - a. The first and second laws of thermodynamics

- b. All things tend toward entropy and there is no new energy
    - c. “Things die and brake and no physical source exists to fix that.”
  - 3. God has sorted through the wreckage; He’s backed up His files
    - a. He’s going to fix the sin problem PERMANENTLY with a new world
    - b. Some call this a renovation, but it is a REBUILD (nothing left)
    - c. All new, all perfect, all good!
    - d. Can I wind a watch and never have it run down there?
- C. No More Sea
  - 1. This seems a little odd at first – no sea?
    - a. Water occupies 7/8ths of the Earth’s Surface
      - i. This is remaining evidence of the flood in Noah’s day
      - ii. Which is one reason why great oceans might not exist
    - b. Secondly, there is simply the fact that we will have a perfect body
      - i. One that cannot die – so we will not need water to live
      - ii. Nor will we need to fish for food
      - iii. We’ll eat, drink, and fellowship, but no one will diet!
    - c. Thirdly, Jesus Christ is the WATER OF LIFE and He’ll be right there!
  - 2. We take a very LITERAL position on the Book of Revelation
    - a. It describes very real events of a real and imminent future
    - b. But there are metaphors used – one of which is the “sea”
      - i. Meaning the “masses of humanity”
      - ii. The Beast came out of this “sea”
      - iii. At final judgement, the “sea” gave up its dead (REV. 20:13)
    - c. Remember, lost people will be on Earth during the Millennium
  - 3. That “sea” will not exist in the New Heaven and New Earth

## II. A CITY MADE NEW

- A. This is a HOLY place, a NEW City – Not as Earthly cities but HEAVENLY
  - 1. Our cities are dirty, filthy, and crime-infested
    - a. Ever wonder why you see movies where the big city shop keepers are washing off the sidewalks every morning?
    - b. I used to wonder that!
    - c. Then I visited Manhattan, New Orleans, San Francisco
    - d. What’s that aroma in the air?
  - 2. Just the bags of trash waiting to be hauled away! STINKS!
  - 3. Rats. Vermin live a broken life because of this sinful world – out of place!
- B. Jesus is the Master Carpenter
  - 1. He’s building it even now – preparing that place for us
  - 2. JOHN 14:2-3 – “In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”
  - 3. Isn’t it wonderful that John’s Gospel tells us that and then John SAW it!

- C. This city is BEAUTIFUL – it is compared to a bride adorned for her groom
  - 1. Bright and shining – having the Glory of God (vs.11)
  - 2. Next week (Lord willing) we will preach about the city as described

### III. A DWELLING MADE NEW

- A. God is with men (vs. 3) and “God Himself shall dwell with them.”
  - 1. This has never been before (never has God DWELT with men)
    - a. The Holy Spirit of God has STRIVEN with men
    - b. The Son of God has VISITED men
    - c. God the Father has SAVED men
  - 2. But never has GOD DWELT with men – He couldn’t!
  - 3. God cannot stand unjudged sin – it is against His very being
    - a. An affront to His authority
    - b. An insult to His glory
    - c. But NOW! No sin! No death! Now He can abide!
- B. This is the culmination of all God has done for us throughout His word
  - 1. GEN. 3:15 – “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”
  - 2. MATT. 1:23 – “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”
  - 3. 2 JOHN 1:2 – “For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever.”
- C. But now, not just in Spirit, not just in Word, but in Presence.

### IV. ALL THINGS MADE NEW

- A. We tell stories like that of a twelve-year-old girl, blind from birth
  - 1. After a successful operation to restore her sight, the bandages removed
  - 2. “God’s creation and the beauty of it far surpass what I ever imagined.”
  - 3. What of Fanny Crosby, the well-known hymn writer, blind from birth
    - a. She was never worried about her eyesight here on earth
    - b. She instead wrote songs like this (I SHALL KNOW HIM)
- B. All things are made new – but there are FIVE things listed that won’t be there!
  - 1. FIVE NO MORE’S!
    - a. No more tears!
    - b. No more death!
    - c. No more sorrow!
    - d. No more crying!
    - e. No more pain!
  - 2. All the former things are PASSED AWAY!
  - 3. They aren’t coming back!

- C. God is DONE (vs. 6)
  - 1. All things are new – not a work in progress, but complete
  - 2. Only HIS power could do this
  - 3. And we'll be there to see it all!

## V. A DEATH THAT RECEIVES NOTHING

- A. But there will be some that will not see all these new things
  - 1. This is a roll call of the inhabitants in the Lake of Fire (vs. 8)
    - a. They are still there – as eternity rolls on the New Earth
    - b. Still there – their sins not covered by the Blood of the Lamb
    - c. Death forever
  - 2. Look at each description – all have a SPIRITUAL context
    - a. Fearful? God has not given us a spirit of fear, but life and peace
    - b. Unbelieving? Believe God and be saved!
    - c. Abominable? Describes a willful purposeful rebellion against God
    - d. Murderers? Ministers of death, reckless scorners, killers
    - e. Whoremongers? False preachers and false religion, causing people go a-whoring after other gods.
    - f. Sorcerers? Those who think they are as powerful as God
    - g. Idolaters? REJECT the Creator for a god of their own creation
  - 3. And Liars...God saves them for last in this list
    - a. It is SATAN who first lied to Eve about God
    - b. It is the religion and politics and falsely-called science of this world
    - c. JOHN 8:44 – “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”
- B. They have their part in the Lake of Fire – but YOU don't have to be on that list!
  - 1. Instead, you can be an overcomer! (vs. 7)
  - 2. 1 JOHN 5:4-5 – “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. (5) Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?”
- C. Salvation is FREE! It's a gift! It's bought and paid for!
  - 1. Just come and receive it! (vs. 6)
  - 2. Drink of the Water of Life freely
    - a. God is not willing that ANY should perish, but that all should come
    - b. The wages of sin is DEATH, but the GIFT of God...
  - 3. Be Saved Today!

## **I SHALL KNOW HIM**

Music: John R. Sweney, 1894

Lyrics: Fanny J. Crosby, 1894

### **Verse:**

When my lifework is ended, and I cross the swelling tide,  
    When the bright and glorious morning I shall see;  
I shall know my Redeemer when I reach the other side,  
    And His smile will be the first to welcome me.

O the soul thrilling rapture when I view His blessed face,  
    And the luster of His kindly beaming eye;  
How my full heart will praise Him for the mercy, love, and grace,  
    That prepare for me a mansion in the sky.

Through the gates to the city in a robe of spotless white,  
    He will lead me where no tears will ever fall;  
In the glad song of ages I shall mingle with delight:  
    But I long to meet my Savior first of all.

### **Chorus:**

I shall know Him, and redeemed by His side I shall stand;  
    I shall know Him by the print of the nails in His hand.