

Revelation 20:11-22:5

Eternal Home

Revelation 20:11-15 (CSB) – The Tale of Two Groups

There is a massive difference between two groups of people mentioned in this passage.

- One group is judged by their works.
 - Isaiah 64:6 (CSB): *All of us have become like something unclean, and all our righteous acts are like a polluted garment; all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities carry us away like the wind.*
 - Romans 3:9-18 (CSB): *⁹What then? Are we any better off? Not at all! For we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin, ¹⁰as it is written: **There is no one righteous, not even one. ¹¹There is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. ¹²All have turned away; all alike have become worthless. There is no one who does what is good, not even one. ¹³Their throat is an open grave; they deceive with their tongues. Vipers' venom is under their lips. ¹⁴Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. ¹⁵Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ruin and wretchedness are in their paths, ¹⁷and the path of peace they have not known. ¹⁸There is no fear of God before their eyes.***
- One group is judged by their name.
 - Those in Christ have their names written in the book of life. God writes these names in and no created being can undo the book of life.
 - Romans 8:38-39 (CSB): *³⁸For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

This is a reminder of the contrast earlier in Revelation 13. God calls His people by name and Satan calls his people by a number.

Revelation 21:1-8 (CSB)

Our eternal dwelling will not be heaven. Our eternal dwelling will be the new earth and the new Jerusalem. The current heaven, earth and hell will be done away with. Everything will be made new. The most magnificent part of the whole thing is not the new earth or the new Jerusalem or the no more death, grief, crying or pain...it is verse 3:

Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God.

The whole purpose of Jesus coming...dying on the cross...raising from the dead...sealing us with the Holy Spirit is for this particular moment. This is why the gospel is about a relationship...not a destination. We should not be living our lives trying to get to heaven...we should be living our lives to get to God Himself. God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the great treasure. To enjoy fellowship with God Himself is our ultimate prize.

As a word of encouragement. Don't wait...start enjoy God now. Fix your eyes upon Jesus. Not upon people or stuff or political agendas or first world luxuries. Chase after Jesus. As it says in Luke 9:23 (CSB):

Then he said to them all, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Revelation 21:9-27 (CSB)

The new Jerusalem will be massive and marvelous. The city is 1,400 miles length, width and height with a wall around it about 216 feet high. Pearls, precious stones, gold...so much beauty. But all that beauty pales in comparison to the glory of God that illuminates the whole earth.

I have no doubt the sight of the new Jerusalem will be awe inspiring and breathtaking...but our eyes will be quickly fixed upon God Himself. God's glory will be the greatest beauty we will ever behold.

Revelation 22:1-5 (CSB)

Then he showed me the river of the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²down the middle of the city's main street. The tree of life was on each side of the river, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree are for healing the nations, ³and there will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will worship him. ⁴They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵Night will be no more; people will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, because the Lord God will give them light, and they will reign forever and ever.

1 Peter 2:9-10 (CSB):

*⁹But you are **a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises** of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

His marvelous light...the glory of God is His marvelous light.

Conclusion

Obviously, there are many questions that are center around, "what will we be doing for eternity". One thing I know for certain...we will be worshipping God. How we will be worshipping God on a "daily basis" ...not sure. I just know I'm going to love it.

At the center of the new earth, new heavens, new Jerusalem is God. He will be at the center of everything we do. So, what do we do with this information...we make sure God is at the center of our lives now. We make sure we are fixing our eyes upon Jesus.