

THE CONNECTION WITH GENESIS 1-2

The first chapters of *Genesis* & the last chapters of *Revelation* reveal divinely intended connections between first things (protology) and last things (eschatology). The comparisons are striking & show God's intent to restore the fallen creation.

THE NEW CREATION OF THE ETERNAL KINGDOM

1. Literal or Figurative?

It will be a tangible universe; i.e. a real, physical planet.

2. Replacement or Restoration?

Restoration fits the Bible's storyline.

3. Characteristics?

What will the new HEAVEN be like?

The word "heaven" is used in three ways in Scripture:

- A. to refer to the sky (*Gen. 1:20; Rev. 11:6*)
- B. to refer to space (sun, moon, stars; *Gen. 1:16-17; Rev. 6:13*)
- C. to refer the "third heaven" or "Paradise" (*2 Cor. 12:2, 4*)

A primary difference between the new heaven & the current one is that the place where God, holy angels, & believers will be dwelling is on the new earth, not in the present third heaven.

What will the new EARTH be like?

A. **NO SEA:** "and there is no longer any sea" (21:1b)

This is a challenging statement. What does "no sea" mean?

- No bodies of water at all and no aquatic life.
- Figuratively, the absence of negative influences on the new earth.
- Large salt-water oceans that separate people will be removed, but water will probably still exist on the new earth.

B. **NO CURSE:** "No longer will there be any curse" (22:3a)

Reversing what happened to God's earthly Kingdom back in *Genesis*.

3. How glorious will the new heaven and earth be? See Isaiah 65:17, "The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind."

THE NEW CITY OF THE ETERNAL KINGDOM

1. Its Origin? (vs. 2)
"Coming down out of heaven from God." (Heb. 11:10, 16; 12:22-24; 13:14)
2. Its Structure?
 - A. Surrounded by a great and high WALL (vss. 12, 17)
144 cubits is 216' (figuring an 18" cubit).
 - B. Supporting the wall are 12 foundation stones (vss. 14, 19-20)
 - C. In each of the four walls are 3 gates (12 total; vss. 12-13, 25)
 - D. The new city itself will be amazing in SIZE (vs. 16)
The length, width, and height will be about 1,400 miles.
 - E. The new city — impressive in BEAUTY (21:2, 18, 21)

THE NEW _____ OF THE ETERNAL KINGDOM

1. There will be many.
 - A. There will be _____ (21:12; Heb. 12:22)
 - B. Old Testament _____ (Heb. 11:10, 16)
 - C. The true _____, the body of Christ (Heb. 12:22-23)
 - D. Believing _____ (21:24, 26)
2. Entrance is _____ and _____.
3. The most important inhabitant? _____ Himself (21:3).

THE NEW _____ OF THE ETERNAL KINGDOM

1. A new _____ government.
2. The _____ of certain conditions we experience now.
3. Also lacking in the new city is a _____ (21:22)
4. There'll be no _____ of the sun, moon, or lamp (21:23; 22:5)
5. There'll be no _____ (21:24-25; 22:5)