

"HEAVEN ON EARTH"

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THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS FULLY REALIZED IN THE NEW EARTH.

Matt. 19:28-29 "Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you that when the world is made new and the Son of Man sits upon his glorious throne, you who have been my followers will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (NLT)

Eph. 1:10 And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ – everything in heaven and on earth. (NLT)

Rev. 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. (NLT)

THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW EARTH

1. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

Rev. 1:7 Look, Jesus is coming with the clouds, and everyone will see him, even those who stabbed him. And all peoples of the earth will cry loudly because of him. Yes, this will happen! Amen. (NCV)

Acts 1:11 They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." (NASB)

a. The First Resurrection

1 Thess. 4:16 The Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. And those who have died believing in Christ will rise first. (NCV)

b. The Death of the Wicked

Rev. 6:14-17 And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?" (NLT)

c. The Destruction of the World

2 Peter 3:10-13 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. (NASB)

2. The Millennium

a. Satan is Bound

Rev. 20:1-3 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven with the key to the bottomless pit and a heavy chain in his hand. He seized the dragon—that old serpent, who is the devil, Satan—and bound him in chains for a thousand years. (NLT)

b. The Saints Reign with Christ

Rev. 20:5-6 They will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him a thousand years. (NLT)

3. The Final Battle

Rev. 20:7-10 When the thousand years come to an end, Satan will be let out of his prison. He will go out to deceive the nations . . . will gather them together for battle . . . But fire from heaven came down on the attacking armies and consumed them. (NLT)

4. The Second Resurrection

Rev. 20:5 The rest of the dead did not come back to life until the thousand years had

ended. (NLT)

5. The Final Judgment

Rev. 20:11-15 And the dead were judged according to their works, as recorded in the books . . . Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire; and anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire. (NRSV)

THE NEW EARTH WILL BE PHYSICAL.

1. It will be like Eden.

Isa. 51:3 The LORD will comfort Israel again and have pity on her ruins. Her desert will blossom like Eden, her barren wilderness like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found there. Songs of thanksgiving will fill the air. (NLT)

Ezek. 36:35 "They will say, 'This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified and inhabited.'" (NASB)

2. There will be houses.

John 14:1-3 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. (NASB)

3. There will be physical activities.

Isa. 65:21-23 In those days people will live in the houses they build and eat the fruit of their own vineyards. (NLT)

4. New Jerusalem will be its capital city.

Rev. 21:2,10-14 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband . . . So he took me in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. (NLT)

5. A river runs through the center of the city.

Rev. 22:1-2 Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. It flowed down the center of the main street. (NLT)

6. The tree of life is restored in the city.

Rev. 22:2 On each side of the river grew a tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, with a fresh crop each month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations. (NLT)

THE NEW EARTH WILL BE SPIRITUAL.

Rev. 22:3-5 No longer will there be a curse upon anything. For the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there, and his servants will worship him. And they will see his face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. And there will be no night there – no need for lamps or sun – for the Lord God will shine on them. And they will reign forever and ever. (NLT)

THE NEW EARTH WILL BE RELATIONAL.

Rev. 3:3-4 "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." (NLT)

Matt. 8:11 "Many people will come from the east and from the west and will sit and eat with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven." (NCV)