



-- Big Idea: The struggles of earth magnify the newness of eternal life in Christ.

- Through its powerful symbols and vivid imagery, Revelation gives us an insightful picture of the persistent patterns of life in this fallen world.
- A new and eternal pattern of life will become the forever future for every follower of Christ.

Four points about the New Heavens and Earth

1.) It is **PHYSICAL place for **PHYSICAL** beings (v. 1a, 2 Peter 3:10, 2 Peter 3:5-7).**

- This present Earth, transformed in the utmost, seems to be the location of the new heavens and new earth.
- Heaven will be a physical place with physical stuff for our physical bodies.

2.) It will be a place of absolute **MORAL transformation (v. 1b).**

- Today's passage most directly reveals the moral transformation that will take place.
- The promise of moral transformation in eternity is a perfect promise because it is founded upon a perfect Savior.

-- v. 1 – "...the sea was no more."

-- For first century Christians, the **SEA** was a place of chaos and catastrophe.

-- To say that the sea will be no more is a way of saying, "fear and peril will be no more."

3.) It is the place where God's people will **LIVE with God Himself (v. 2-3).**

- One thing that is special about this holy city is that it is comprised of Christ's redeemed people.
- By far, the most significant reality of the new heavens and earth is that **GOD** is there.
- Verse 3 is the long-awaited fulfillment to the covenant God made with man (Genesis 17:7-8, Ezekiel 37:26-28).
- The central promise of the covenant is that God will be our God and we will be His people.
- If Christ is not your chief desire, then heaven is not for you, because heaven is all about Him.

4.) It is a place where everything is **NEW (v. 4-5).**

-- In Scripture, what comes first is often temporary, and what comes second is eternal.

-- We have not yet even arrived at the main part of our lives.

-- Before Creation commenced, God established this two-stage plan for at least two purposes:

1.) To magnify the supremacy and glory of **CHRIST**

2.) To increase our eternal **JOY** in Him.

-- The struggles of this life are adding together to make the moment of our arrival in God's forever Kingdom all the more meaningful, marvelous, and satisfying.