

The Gospel of John

The Gospel of John

Lesson #27
The Journey
Jim Hoffman

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The Gospel of John



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The Gospel of John

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

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The Gospel of John

Heaven is a Real Place

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Heaven is a Real Place (OT)

- Isa 65:17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind."
- Isa 66:22 "For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain".

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Heaven is a Real Place (OT)

"Old Testament Saints did not expect to live forever on a new earth because that was all they could relate to – they expected to live on a new earth because that is what they were promised."

Randy Alcorn

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Heaven is a Real Place (NT)

- 2nd Peter 3:13 But according to his promise **we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth** in which righteousness dwells.
- Rev 21:1 **Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.**

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Will Earth be Destroyed or Restored?

- 2nd Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and **then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved**, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.
- Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.

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Will Earth be Destroyed or Restored?

- The earth is renovated in Rev 16:20 **And every island fled away, and no mountains were to be found.**
- Next, 1000 years later the earth is burned up in Rev 20:11 **From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.**
- Finally, John sees a new heaven and a new earth in Revelation 21:1

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Will Earth be Destroyed or Restored?

• 2nd Peter 3:11 **Since all these things are thus to be dissolved**, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, **12** waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of **which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!** **13** But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

• Rev 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 10

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Myths versus Truth

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| • Non-earth | • New Earth |
| • Unfamiliar Setting | • Familiar Setting |
| • Disembodied | • Resurrected Bodies |
| • Leaving Favorite Things | • Retaining the Best Things |
| • Static | • Dynamic |
| • Nothing to do, Boredom will prevail | • Unlimited Opportunities to serve and create |
| • No Learning | • An Eternity of Discovery |
| • Little We Desire | • All We Were Made For |
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No one will be disappointed or underwhelmed by Heaven. Whatever your highest expectations may be, they will be exceeded. The One who made all there is will redeem all there is, and we will experience the splendor of His creation unmarred by sin.

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Ephesians 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

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- John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son **has** eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Verbs Matter

- John 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me **has** eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but **has** passed from death to life.

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- John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and **the life.** Whoever believes in me, **though he die, yet shall he live,** 26 and **everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.**"
- "Perhaps the greatest transformation Jesus performed was to move the doctrine of the resurrection out of the future and into the present." Warren Wiersbe

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We do not hope for something we have and based upon our belief in Jesus we've already begun to live forever. One day, either through the Rapture or through the door of death, we will change forms from the temporal to the eternal— but we will NEVER die!

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“I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live!”
Jesus of Nazareth

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Questions?

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