"The New Heaven and the New Earth: Comparing the Millennium and the Eternal Kingdom" (Part 2)

Revelation 21:1-14

"The paradise of eternity is thus revealed as a magnificent kingdom where both heaven and earth unite in a glory that surpasses the limits of the human imagination and the boundaries of earthly dimensions."

(Richard Mayhue)

1 Corinthians 15:23-28

- "But each in his own order": Christ's resurrection (the firstfruits); Then the Rapture, the Tribulation Saints, then the Old Testament Saints.
- "Then comes the end": This is the culmination of God's salvific purposes, both spiritual and physical.
- "For hH must reign": This is the Millennial Reign of Christ. Christ will rule over the Nations with a rod of iron.
- "The last enemy to be destroyed is death": Before the Eternal State, all of sin and its effects including death will be eradicated from all Creation.

2 Peter 3:10-14

- "The Day of the Lord will come": The final judgment will come, Creation will be restored, and the kingdom will be handed over to the Father.
- o "The Day of God": This is the beginning of the Eternal Kingdom.
- "What sort of people ought you to be?": In light of all things being restored and reconciled and that being a glorious reality, live like it. We should strive to live the kind of lives we will live in eternity (2 Corinthians 5:9-10).

• Revelation 21:1-22:5: The Eternal State

- The picture of a sin-free Creation: (Revelation 21:4) "And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good...." (Genesis 1:31)
- o The Capital city of the Eternal Kingdom: The New Jerusalem.
 - "The size, beauty, and grandeur of the city is meant to be overwhelming and unimaginable. It is to leave you in awe and to be taken literally."
- Man will experience the culmination of enjoying the presence of God: "And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...." (Genesis 3:8; cf. Revelation 21; Psalm 16:11)
 - All barriers between our Triune God and humanity have been eliminated (Revelation 22:4-5).
- Even in the Eternal Kingdom there seems to still be time: days, months, and years (Revelation 21:25; 22:2).
- In the Eternal Kingdom there will be nations, and leaders of those nations, and activities in those nations (Revelation 21:24).
 - These nations are also in perfect fellowship (Revelation 22:2).
- o In the Eternal Kingdom the Father and Son share a throne (Revelation 22:3).
- o In the Eternal Kingdom we will continue to reign with Christ (Revelation 22:5).

Worship: Psalm 18 — Citizens As the Deer — Various Artists

Announcements:

- ★ <u>DONATIONS</u>: Throughout the month of July we are collecting monetary donations for the Lamb family, who live and serve in Papua New Guinea, working to translate the Bible into the many languages of that country. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations, or you can give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Lambs. *THIS SUNDAY IS THE LAST DAY FOR THIS COLLECTION*.
- ★<u>CEDAR POINT:</u> Christina is organizing a group trip to Cedar Point on August 17th. Group Admission tickets are \$48 each (minimum of 15 people). Please contact Christina if you would like to go or you have any questions! Christina's phone number is 740-755-6512.
- ★FELLOWSHIP LUNCH: We are having a Fellowship Lunch THIS Sunday, July 28th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something for the meal. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us.
- ★BAPTISMS: Our next Baptism service is THIS Sunday, July 28th. If you are interested in or have any questions about baptism, please see Pastor Jeremey or one of the other Elders.
- ★<u>CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER:</u> Our monthly Church Night of Prayer is THIS Sunday, July 28th, from 5:30-7pm. If you would like to participate in this, we have a sign-up list on the table in the entryway. We have that hour and a half broken up into 15 minute increments, you are welcome to sign up for as many time slots as you would like to. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body.