

Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

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gospel in life – Grace Changes Everything

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Part 8: Eternity – The World That Is To Come As Christians, when we lose love ones we grieve but not like the world grieves. Because we have hope! (1Thess4:13) Hope is not wishful thinking but a joyful certainty about the future. (Rom8:28-30; Phil1:21-23)

Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-5

- **1)** Physical Restoration (New Heavens & New Earth) 21:1-2; 22:2 (Isa.55:17; 2Pet3:13)
 - This garden city, the New Jerusalem is <u>paradise</u> <u>fulfilled</u>. (Rev.21:9-27)
 - No more natural disasters, broken bodies (1Cor15:42-44), painful toil at work. 22:3a (Ro8:19-21)
 - The things we love are not merely the best this life has to offer—they are gifts from God and previews of the greater life to come with God. 22:2b (James 1:17; 1Tim4:4, 6:17-19)
- **2)** Social Restoration 21:2, 24-25; 22:2c (Isa. 60:17-18)
 - We'll experience <u>all the best</u> of human relationships, with none of the worst.
 - A contagiously thrilling <u>ultimate reunion</u> with family & friends will be followed by endless adventures together. (1Thess2:19-20)
- 3) Psychological Restoration 21:4, 6b-7, 22:1, 4
 - Every past hurt will be <u>healed</u>. 21:4 (1Cor13:12, 2Cor.4:17)
 - Every desire will be <u>satisfied</u>. 21:6b, 22:1 (Ps16:11, 63:3)
 - Every identity issue will be <u>resolved</u>. 21:7, 22:4 (Luke10:20)

- 4) **Spiritual Restoration** 21:3, 22:3-5 (Isa.60:19-20)
 - The Glory of God will be the air we breathe. 21:3, 22:5 (Ex.33:18; Luke9:28-36)
 - To see God's face will be our <u>greatest joy</u>, the joy by which all others will be measured. 22:4 (Ex.33:20)
 - We were created to worship God. There's no higher pleasure. At times we'll lose ourselves in worship and at other times we'll worship Him through our activities. 22:3c (Ps27:4)



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- 1) As Christians, when we lose love ones we grieve but not like the world. Explain (1Thess4:13)! What is hope? When you have a winning hand, you're not uptight or nervous. You just enjoy the game. How does that relate to Christian hope & how well does your life reflect this truth?
- **2)** Read Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-5. What do you like most about this text? What kind of physical restoration can we hope for in the world to come (21:1-2, 9-27, 22:2)? Why was this world under a curse (Rom. 8:19-25)? How should we view the pleasures of life (James 1:17; 1Tim4:4, 6:17-19)?
- 3) In the social restoration of the world to come we'll experience all the best of human relationships, with none of the worst (21:2, 24-25; 22:2c; Isa60:17-18). Explain. How does (1Thess2:19-20) hint at a contagiously thrilling ultimate reunion with family & friends?
- **4)** Review the psychological restoration we will experience in the world to come: Every past hurt will be healed (21:4; 1Cor13:12, 2Cor.4:17). Every desire will be satisfied (21:6b, 22:1; Ps16:11, 63:3). Every identity issue will be resolved (21:7, 22:4; Luke10:20; 2Cor3:18). Do you think we can have a measure of this on earth waiting for the world to come? Why or why not?
- **5)** How is spiritual restoration at the root of all of our problems i.e. physical, social & psychological? The Glory of God will be the air we breathe (21:3, 22-23; 22:5; Ex33:18; Luke9:28-36) & to see God's face will be our greatest joy (22:4; Ps27:4). Explain. How can we get glimpses of this on earth through worship? Pray.