



Revelation 21—Part 3
Verses 4-8
From sermon 5.12.19

Read *Revelation 21:4-8*

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: after a brief description of heaven to open the chapter, John's vision shifts to 5 negatives = things that won't be in heaven. Since these are so personal, we know God will have completely re-made us from our old, earthly selves. It is He who began this redemptive process; it will be He that completes it. The section ended with one more list of outcasts/outside/lost—which is yet another call to repent and come to faith in Christ.

What were the five things listed that will never be found in heaven?

- Tears
- Death
- Sorrow
- Crying
- Pain

If you had to choose, which of the above Blessed Changes to you look forward to most? Why?
Various Personal Answers.

On Sunday, it was mentioned that, in order for these things to be gone, God will have to radically transform three areas of our current lives/self. What were those? Discuss each.

1. A new Heart—this one is tainted by sin. It holds my past sin, regret, and shame.
2. A new Mind—this one is full of memories and relationships with many who did not get saved. See also *Isaiah 65:17*
3. A new Body—this one is dying daily. It has Adam's sin in its core and DNA. See *1 Corinthians 15:49*

Re-read *Revelation 21:6b-7*. The recipients of heaven's blessed change have two things in common. What are they? 1. They thirst for what Jesus offers (and what we could never gain ourselves). 2. They overcame the world/self/sin.

What are they thirsty for? A righteousness not their own—the imputed righteousness of Christ that is required for salvation. See *Matthew 5:6 & Romans 4:24*

How does anyone overcome the world? By God-given faith in Christ alone (as He is revealed in Scripture). See *1 John 5:4-5*

What did verse 8 list as some of the practices and characteristics of those outside of heaven? Cowards, unbelievers, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, liars...

Does that include anyone who's ever committed or contemplated these sins? No. Everyone's guilty of one, or more, or all of these. It is those who never repented and trusted in Christ's full payment for the sins. Their lost state is evidenced by their repeated pattern, lifestyle, and justifying of the sin. See *1 Corinthians 6:9-11 & Galatians 5:19-21*

Share some ways these early studies in chapter 21 are already helping you be more heavenly minded.