

THE EMINENT RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

Part VI

1st Thessalonians 4:13- 17

The End of the Millennium, the White Throne Judgment, the New Heavens and the New Earth

Introduction: It is unimaginable, and a sad saga indeed, that the people who enjoyed one thousand years in perfect peace under the Lord Jesus Christ's rule, will then turn against Him by joining with the antichrist in a coup d'état; an attempt to overthrow Him from power. To the chagrin of the antichrist, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will successfully defeat and overthrow him. Sequentially, the White Throne Judgment takes place next, followed by the exciting renovation of the Heavens and the earth.

- I. Satan's attempt to overthrow Jesus from power rebuffed.
 - A. Satan's doom. Revelation 20:7-10.
- II. The great white throne judgment.
 - A. Revelation 20:11-15.
 - B. The unsaved souls throughout the ages stand before God in judgment.
 1. Romans 1:32- 2:1-5.
- III. The renovation of the earth by fire.

2nd Peter 3: 10; Isaiah 65:17, 66:22-24; Revelation 21:1.

In review, it should be noted that the word for pass away in 2nd Peter 3:10 in the Greek is *parerchomai*, meaning, "... to go by or away from; ... the sense of from one condition to another." It never means total cessation. Also, "... and the elements shall melt with fervent heat." An element in the Greek in this case is *stoicheion*, meaning something orderly in arrangement, element, principle, or rudiment. I believe that this is in reference to the principle of sin and of the present world system, such as the curse, sinful nature, disease, germs, and the spirits that cause men to corrupt themselves (pornography, etc.).

 - A. The meaning also includes the things which man has made that must be destroyed before the earth can be purified and loosed from its present state of bondage and corruption. Romans 8:21-22. The Greek word for melt is *luo*, meaning to loose, put off, unbind, untie, or set free. This loosing will be done with fervent heat, which is the best method of renovation and cleansing known to man.
 - B. Revelation 21:1 says, "... and I saw a new Heaven and a new earth, for the first Heaven and the first earth had passed away ..." The Greek word for new is "*kainos*," meaning renewed or new, especially in freshness and character, but never new in existence. The expression "new Heavens and new earth" has reference to this present earth being made new in character, renewed and loosed from the old curse.
 - C. Only that which is an abomination will be removed. Hebrews 12:26-28.
- IV. The new Heavens and the new earth
 - A. Revelation 21:1-2, 9, 27, 22:1-5. The New Heavens, earth, New Jerusalem, peoples, conditions, new temple, and new paradise.
 1. Isaiah 65:17-25
 2. John's view. Revelation 21:1-5.
 3. Isaiah further declares in Isaiah 66:22-24.
 4. 2nd Peter 3:13. "... we ...look for a new Heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."
 5. Natural peoples shall inhabit the new earth including the Jews of Israel. Ezekiel 37:24-28.
 6. Deuteronomy 7:9. "... God who keeps His covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love and keep His commandments."
 7. Psalm 105:8. "... He has remembered His covenant forever, the word which he commanded for a thousand generations."
 8. Genesis 8:21-22. "... I will never again curse the ground for man's sake ... while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease."
 9. There will be feasts, sacrifices, and offerings, David's throne and natural peoples.
- V. The New Jerusalem being moved from the planet Heaven to the planet earth. Revelation 21:2, 9-10.
 - A. The New Jerusalem will be the home of all the redeemed. Revelation 3:12, 21, 19:8; John 14:1-3.
 - B. We shall rule and reign with Christ forever.

Conclusion: Considering eternity and all of its implications, every person on the earth should presently take advantage of their opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord, thus being assured that they will have a home in Heaven.