REVELATION, Part 3: Heaven

The New Testament * Week 40 * Opening prayer: #7. For the Diversity of Races and Cultures, BCP 840

Questions or observations? Email them to TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

- I. Though last week, I talked about resurrection and heaven...
- II. Is Heaven a place, time, or state of being?
 - A. It's a PLACE:
 - **1.** Revelation 21:1- 4 --
 - 2. Where is it?
 - a) Up?
 - b) Here?
 - c) Where God is...
 - B. It's a TIME:
 - 1. <u>Revelation 21:4</u> –
 - 2. But remember: "Time" in Eternity, which is outside of "Creation" is different from "Time" here INSIDE Creation.
 - a) Time now is chronological. Time in eternity is always NOW.
 - b) Hard to imagine, but it's like
 - (1) feeling several conflicting emotions simultaneously:
 - (2) A ZOOM meeting,
 - C. It's a STATE of being...
- III. Heaven is a place/time/state of NEW: Revelation 21:5 --
 - A. New heaven and earth: See above.
 - B. New Time: See above.
 - C. New Bodies for us: 1 Corinthians 15 –
 - D. New Experiences
 - 1. No lack. That wedding banquet in <u>Revelation 19 and 21</u>
 - 2. Revelation 4, 5, and 14 Worship

- 3. Psalm 16: 11 **PLEASURES**
- 4. <u>Isaiah 57:1-2</u> -- **REST**
- 5. <u>Revelation 21:4</u> No pain, suffering, grief, or tears.
- E. New Relationships:
 - 1. With folks we know and love:
 - 2. With folks we THOUGHT we know and don't love:
 - 3. Matthew 22:30 and Mark 12:25, We won't be married...
 - a) Does that mean sex with everyone? NO!
 - b) Does that mean spouses will love each other LESS? NO!
 - c) Will we still get to make love? We won't need to...

No sacraments in heaven... "kingdom and priests of our God" Revelation 1:6

- F. New Friends:
- IV. And it lasts FOREVER! 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18 -
- V. We don't have to wait until we die ...
 - A. Get to know and love God himself...
 - B. Get to know and love God's people: 1 John 4:11-12
 - C. Get to know and love Our spouse:
 - 1. Ephesians 5:21-33
 - 2. This is why the Enemy works so hard at destroying marriages!
 - 3. Nothing is closer to heaven than a good marriage, and nothing is closer to hell than a bad one!
 - D. Get to know and love God's creation...
 - E. Get to know and love All the gifts of God...

NEXT WEEK: Recap of the whole New Testament. Then a break. Then Andrew Lazo with a year with C.S. Lewis. Details to come.

Preparation for next week: Read anything you missed in perusing the New Testament

Closing prayer: #1. A General Thanksgiving, BCP 836