



Sermon Discussion Questions

Sermon Series: The Revelation

Sunday, December 19: The New Heavens and the New Earth

Revelation 21, 22

Mike Moses, Lead Pastor

As you gather this week, we are just a few days away from celebrating our Saviors birth. Share with each other images you have of Christ birthday as you grew up.

Read the Christmas story that is found in Luke 2:1-20

Maybe this is the story you know from growing up, the story as told by Linus in "Charlie Brown Christmas."

Now, read the Christmas story as told in **Revelation 12:13-17** that we read this morning in our worship time.

What images stand out to you about this passage? How does this challenge your view of the Christmas story?

How has our culture, the church, your family, missed this picture of the Christmas story?

Why do you think this story is not told? Why is it crucial that we understand this part of the Christmas story as much as the Luke passage?

How aware are you, on a daily basis, that there is a battle going on beyond what we can see right here on earth? In other words, how aware are you of the "spiritual realms"? Does this type of thinking "freak" you out? Why?

Read Revelations 21:1-8

This is the passage that is shared with people that are facing death more than any other passage. How does this passage give you hope? How often do you find yourself thinking about the New Heaven and the New Earth?

What are the things that keep us from thinking about the way things will be?

What are the things that keep us preoccupied now that keep our thoughts away from what it will be?

When you think of "no more tears, no more pain", what things come to mind that make you rejoice in thinking that these things will be gone?

When you think about the New Heaven and the New Earth, what are you afraid will "not" be a part of this? Why does this bother you?

Talk about what you think Heaven will be like? What are images you have? What do you think will go on in heaven?

Read Revelation 21:9-27

This section of Scripture gives a description of the Kingdom of God that is coming. What stands out about this description to you?

This is the future. How does it encourage you? How does knowing this future allow you to let go of the things that bother you today?

How do we practically "keep our eyes on the future" but yet stay engage in God's work today?

Read Revelation 22: 1-5

Mike gave some practical points to close this morning. Reflect together on each of these points. What surprises you? What bothers you? What encourages you? What rings very true for you?

1. It's especially hard to wait when the people around your aren't waiting.
2. Persevere in faithfully obeying and witnessing to our Lord Jesus.
3. You will have rest in Heaven but you will work in Heaven.
4. Keep your eyes and heart on God's vision for your future.

Spend time as a group praying that our Lord Jesus would help us to see our future this Christmas as we remember His birth.