

NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH
Lesson 94

Memory Text: "I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea."
Revelation 21:1

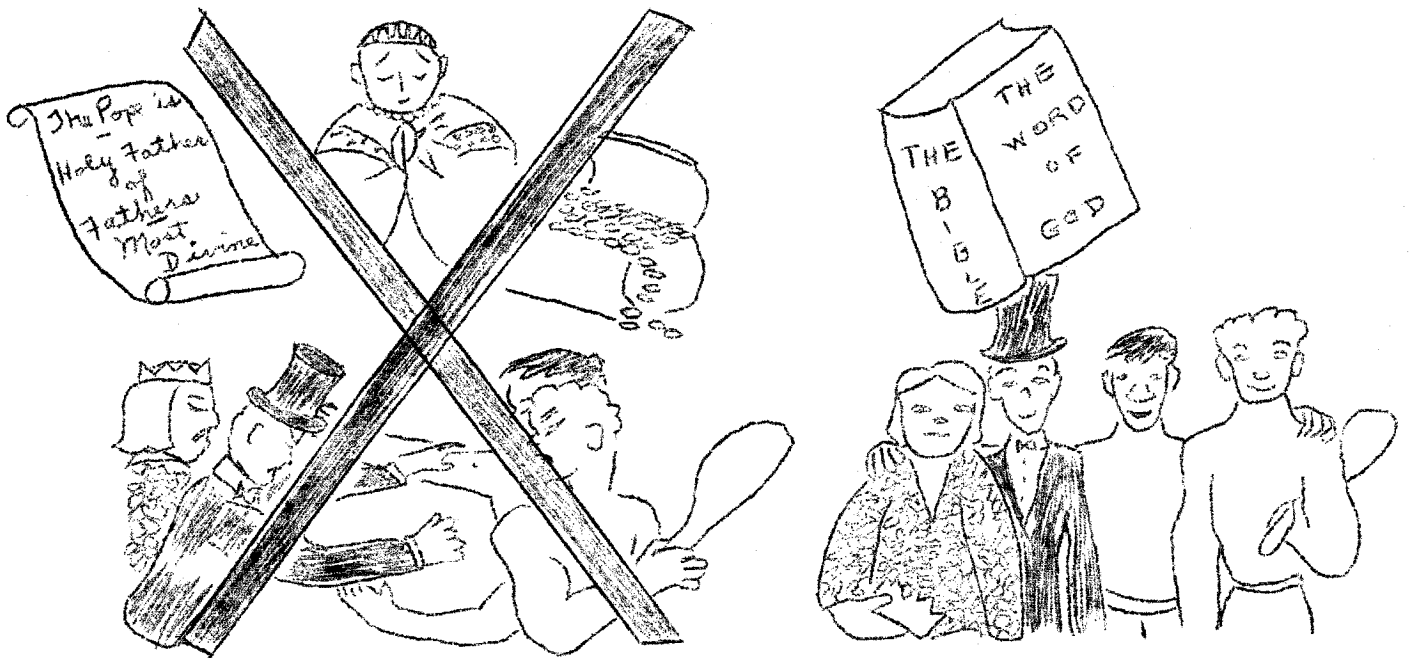
John the Revelator did not see new stars and clouds and sky. The new heaven which was revealed to him was the new religious order. Whereas heavenly truths have been clouded by selfish or artificial preachers during this 6,000 years of sin and death, the religious teaching of the Kingdom will come from the glorified Christ, Head and body. There will not be a priest asking for money to deliver your dead friend from Purgatory. There will be a helpful servant of God telling everyone how to give and receive Kingdom blessings.

When Jesus (glorified) showed John "a new earth," it was not new grass and flowers and dirt. The new earth which was revealed to John was the better way of life on earth. There would be no more fighting and stealing and lying, as there has been during the Present Evil World and back to Adam's sin. The way of life in the earthly Kingdom will be peaceful, truthful, and full of blessing.

We read "there will be no more sea," and are glad. The picture-language of the Bible calls restless, complaining people SEA. The Kingdom will have no room for pouting men and women who are determined to drown the world with their unhappiness and discontent. Those complainers are going to have to appreciate the blessings of God and bless others about them with a peaceful and happy spirit.

Some folks read a scripture like Revelation 21:1 and say, "The Bible is too hard to understand. It is useless for me to

NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH
Lesson 94



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Did Jesus feel that it would be a waste of time to read the Book of Revelation? Revelation 1:3
2. Read Isaiah 65:17-25. When will this take place? Can you understand any of these statements?
3. What phrase of 2 Peter 3:13 is also used in Isaiah 65:17 and Revelation 21:1?
4. Our lesson has explained that the present heavens are the nominal churches which do not preach the Truth.
Our lesson has explained that the present earth is the way people live in this selfish, sinful world.
Other lessons have explained that fire means complete destruction.
Can you guess what 2 Peter 3:10 means?
5. Some people believe that the earth will burn up some day. What has God promised? Ecclesiastes 1:4.
6. Why did God create the earth? Isaiah 45:18
7. Explain Matthew 6:10.
8. Who is the ruler of the present heavens and earth? John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11.
9. Who is the ruler of the Kingdom reign? Revelation 11:15.

EARTH RESTORED, PERFECTED, COMPLETE

Lesson 95

Memory Text: "The times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began." Acts 3:21

We believe that the Seventh Creative Day will be a period of seven thousand years. Under Messiah's reign the last thousand years' Restitution work will bring Earth to the condition originally designed by God! It will complete the creation of Earth. Man will be the God-like ruler of Earth's affairs. And having tasted both good and evil, he will choose good. His reward will be life everlasting. The disobedient evil-doers will be destroyed in the Second Death. 11 Peter 2:12; 11 Thessalonians 1:9.

I cannot describe the glorious perfection of the earthly Paradise condition. I have never seen perfection, have you? I could say it will be beautiful, but neither you nor I have ever seen perfect beauty. I could say it will be happy, but neither you nor I have ever known perfect happiness. And so we will have to realize that the Kingdom will be more wonderful than the most wonderful things we have experienced, and there will be no sorrow.

Already we see the Restitution blessings beginning. But God's wisdom and power make the changes seem very natural. The prophet Isaiah (35:1) declared, "The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose." Modern methods of irrigation are fulfilling this prophecy. Let us never give men all the credit for these inventions but remember that God uses appropriate and willing people to perform his plans.

One of the most amazing signs of the times is the restoration

HALLELUJAH CHORUS AND AGES TO COME

Lesson 96

Memory Text: "Great and marvelous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty."
Revelation 15:3

Truly ours is a great God, worthy of worship, obedience, and love. "All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name." Psalm 86:9.

With the close of the thousand years of the Messianic Kingdom, the great Mediator will deliver over the Kingdom to the Father. 1 Corinthians 15:24.

The Father will not receive the human family to eternal life until He has tested them. At the end of the Millennium, having had their experience with evil and righteousness, they will be given their choice. Satan will be loosed for a Little Season; and, if they choose to follow him, they may do so. Of course, you and I know that Satan's final destination will be the Second Death. So he is the one person we will not follow. Revelation 20:2, 7-9.

Thus the earth will be absolutely cleansed. Then every creature in heaven and earth will exclaim, "Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb forever!" Revelation 5:13.

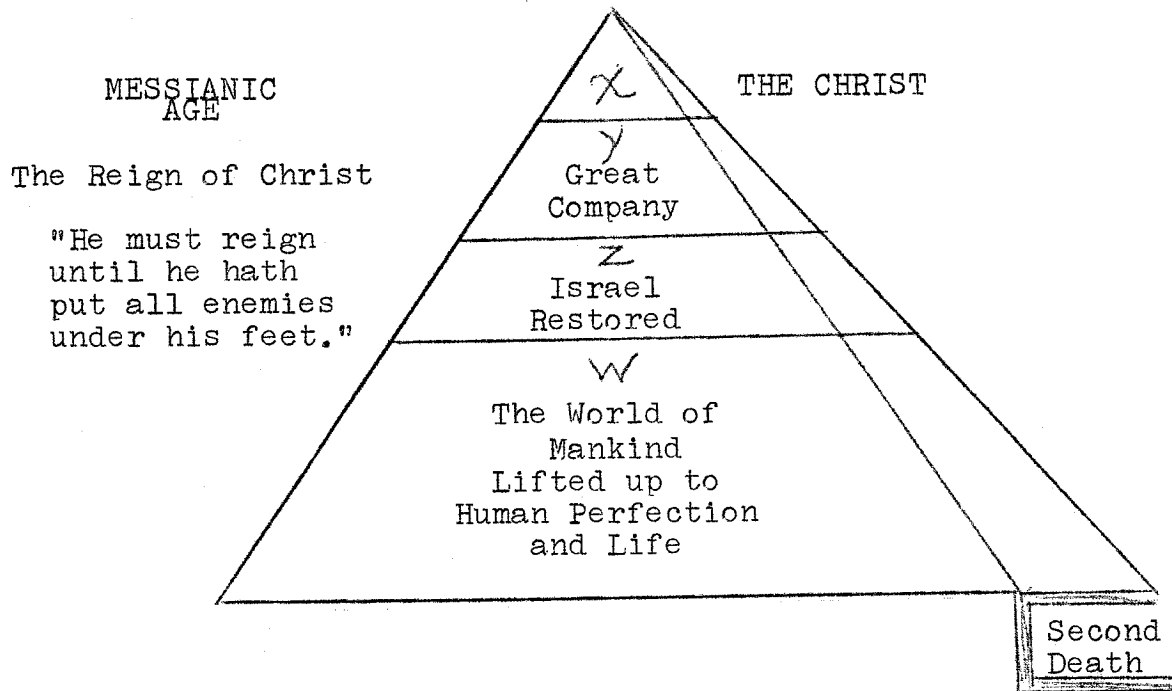
Then there will be no more sickness or dying. The former things of sin and death will have passed away. Revelation 21:4.

"At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth... And...every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Philippians 2:10,11.

And "In the ages to come God will show the exceeding riches

HALLELUJAH CHORUS AND AGES TO COME
Lesson 96



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. When did Moses sing his song of deliverance? Exodus 15:1
2. When do the saints sing their song of deliverance?
3. I Corinthians 15 is a very famous chapter in the Bible. If someone asked you, "What is the subject of the 15th chapter of I Corinthians, would you know?"
4. What does Matthew 12:29 have to do with Revelation 20:2? When does this occur?
5. Why would anyone disobey during the Little Season?
6. Who will be the first to benefit from Christ's Kingdom arrangements?
7. Will the full Millennial Age be free from sorrow?
8. Will Jesus reign over all with tender love? Revelation 2:27
9. What is "the Church" spoken of in Ephesians 2:7?
10. What grace and kindness does the Lord show to the Church?
11. What have you learned from the Photodrama lessons?