

Russell Kelfer

**Behold,
I Make
All Things
New**

935-B

**Series: Living the End Times:
Once the King Has Come**



DISCIPLESHIP TAPE MINISTRIES, INC.
INTO HIS LIKENESS RADIO

10602 Mossbank, San Antonio, TX 78230 • (210) 226-0000 / 1-800-375-7778 • www.dtm.org • dtm@dtm.org

Behold, I Make All Things New

Heavenly Father,

We ask Your Spirit, even this hour, to grant us great peace, to settle our hearts and renew us in the spirit of our minds. Take from us the cares of this world that we have allowed to creep in, taken on our own shoulders and allowed to weight us down. Set us free this morning, Father, in the hope and the excitement of what is to come.

We pray in Jesus' name.

Amen.

The doorbell rings. You open it—not the door bell, the door. A man is standing there, a man that you know to be one of the most trusted, most reliable men in the community. He wants to make you an offer. Here's the offer. He says, "I want to take all the furniture in your house and trade it for brand new furniture, the very best. You can pick anything you want, anywhere you want. Even trade, no charge."

Ladies, how would you respond to an offer like that? Men, how would you encourage your wives to respond to an offer like that? Let's imagine (strictly hypothetical, of course), that your present furniture is 100% early Beirut. Early Beirut means it's been through a lot of unnecessary wars. The springs sag. The upholstery snags, and it's covered with rags. You called Goodwill one time, and they came by and offered to give you \$10 if you would keep the stuff. It's that good. And here comes the most trusted person in the world, who says, "I'll haul off all that junk for nothing and I'll pay myself, whatever it takes to replace it with the very best. How long would it take you to make a decision?"

Behold, I Make All Things New

Suppose you drove up to the church, and as you pulled your 1963 junkmobile into the parking lot, the usual cloud of smoke ascending into the air behind your clattering tailpipe, your best friend drives up along side of you in his new Mercedes. You know the feeling. And after you pried the door open with the screwdriver you keep in the glove box for that purpose, and you're trying to act nonchalant, you greet your friend in the Mercedes Benz without even an evident glint of envy in your carbon monoxide filled eyes. Now suppose that friend offers to trade you even. Even! Your lemon for his limo. No cost. No strings attached. How long would you have to think before you decided whether or not that was a good deal?

Now, God has made us an offer that makes those two I've just described pale in significance. He has offered to take our old lives and make them brand new. II Corinthians 5:17, is the card that's tucked in with the package. It says,

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a brand-new person; old things are passing away; everything is becoming new. (Paraphrased)

So, God has offered to take your clattering, smoking junkmobile of a life and trade it for a brand-new Christmobile. He has offered to take the tattered and torn furnishings of your life and clean house, replacing every single item with brand new Eternity. That's His favorite brand. You say, "What an offer!" God has offered to give us new life on earth.

But there is something better than that. He has even said, "That new life which is free, is temporary. One day very soon, I'm going to take that life and trade it for something so much better you'll need new eyes just to look at it." And then He tucks in another card and it says, Revelation 21:5, *Behold, I make all things new*. Then you see, the process will give way to the product, the prayer to the promise. He who began a good work in you will have finished it. God will have made *all things new*.

Why He will do that, and *what* it will be like, is the subject of this study, our last look at the events on the horizon, once the King has come. This is the eighth and last lesson of a series on the Second Coming of Christ. Our title for this final

Behold, I Make All Things New

excursion into the vistas of tomorrow is, “Behold, I Make All Things New.” Our outline:

- I- Reason versus Reality: A look at life through the eyes of God.
- II- A Thousand Years of Christmas: A look at the millennial reign of Christ.
- III- The Tempter’s Final Fling: A look at Satan’s last stand.
- IV- Judge, Jury and Judgment: A look at the Great White Throne Judgment.
- V- Behold, I Make All Things New: A look at the New Jerusalem.

As you can see, we have a thousand years plus eternity to deal with in 35 minutes, so please understand the speed with which we’ll move. Our textbook, if you would like to open yours, will be the book of Revelation, chapters 20, 21 and 22. Now, I hear many different comments about a study like this. Some people are very encouraged. Others are very skeptical. To some people, the concept of Jesus Christ scooping up the church into the air, hosting a big marriage feast in heaven, passing out crowns to be laid at His feet, and then riding into history to do battle with the kings of this earth on the plains of Armageddon, are simply not believable. To some people, these, the most important events ever to take place in history, are more like science fiction than truth. You may be one of those people. You may be sitting here week after week, thinking in your mind, *it would be nice if all that were true, but that’s not reasonable*. If you are one of those people with those kinds of nagging doubts, I have a few questions for you.

I- REASON VERSUS REALITY: A look at these events through God’s eyes.

1- Do you believe that Adam’s rib was really deceived by a flaky snake? I do! God said she was!

2- Do you believe a man named Noah built a huge floating zoo that survived a flood that drowned the whole world? I do! God said he did. And I believe one day, we’ll see that ark!

Behold, I Make All Things New

3- Do you believe a man named Jonah intentionally missed the boat and ended up as a dinner instead of a diner in a slimy ocean liner? God said it happened.

4- Do you believe a man named Moses used a rod of God and turned a rock into the world's first water fountain; that when the sea saw His rod, it was instant evaporation? Do you believe that? God said it happened!

5- Do you believe a man named Joshua took a city called Jericho with the weirdest battle plan in history? God said he did!

6- Do you believe that God, Himself, the Creator God, who made all things, came to earth in human form, was born in a stable, worked in a carpenter's shop, chose out twelve men to build His kingdom, one of whom was a traitor and the other eleven of whom took off like cowards when He needed them most?

7- Do you believe this same God died on a Roman cross between two thieves, was buried in a borrowed tomb and on the third day rose from the dead?

8- Do you believe He came back to earth and then ascended gloriously into the heavens to be with the Father and ever lives to make intercession for us?

You say, "Well, of course, I do!" Well, beloved, in that case, the marriage feast and the rapture, the awards ceremonies and the thousand-year reign shouldn't pose a problem for you! If you believe Jesus Christ was born of a virgin, was crucified on Calvary and ascended into heaven, then Acts 1:8-11 ought to settle the question.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, [while they saw it visibly] He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white

Behold, I Make All Things New

apparel, [two angels]

who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:8-11 NKJV)

Jesus is coming again! He is coming dramatically. He is coming visibly. He is coming conclusively. He is coming triumphantly! He is coming just as He said He would, to do exactly what He said He would do. The issue, beloved, isn't how logical it seems to you. The issue is whether or not God said it would happen. If He did, it will. Your only choice is whether or not to believe Him. The issue at stake is the difference between reason and reality. Christianity, beloved, is reasonable, but it is not the product of human reason. In fact, it is usually in conflict with human reason, because human reason is the result of the logic that Satan has deliberately imposed on the world system. By definition then, reason equals that which the natural mind can either conceive or believe without God. But remember, the natural mind receiveth not the things of the Spirit (I Corinthians 2:14).

Reality on the other hand, is *that which God says in Scripture is true*. If God says a fish had a Jonah sandwich, then you have a choice. Are you going to believe the Word of God? It's a choice between reason and reality. And remember, God chose to confound the wise with what the wise calls foolishness in order to set apart the truth of the kingdom and only make it discernible to those who possess His Spirit (I Corinthians 17). So, my friend, listen to me, Jesus is coming again! If you are not a Christian, of course it sounds foolish to you. It's supposed to. But, if you are a Christian, you simply must choose between reason and reality. If God said it, it will come to pass. Everything else He has ever promised has come to pass exactly as He said it would. The end times will be no different.

II- A THOUSAND YEARS OF CHRISTMAS! A look at the Millennial Reign of Christ.

Let's go on then, and discover the reality of the promises of God. When we left off in our last lesson in the events of

Behold, I Make All Things New

eternity, we were at the end of Revelation 19. You may remember the Lord, Himself, had descended in a cloud of glory just as He promised. With a word from His lips, He silenced the rebellion of planet earth, destroyed the armies that overtly were challenging His Lordship, and cast the Beast and the False Prophet alive into the lake of fire which was burning with fire and brimstone.

We'll take up reading in Revelation 20:1. It reads like this.

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, [he sealed the door] so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

(Revelation 20:1-4 NKJV)

Now, is there anything you have noticed in those verses I read to you? If you noticed anything, it should be that the phrase a thousand years was mentioned several times. You say, "What does a thousand years mean?" Well, let me give you a clue. Are you ready? It means a thousand years! That wasn't hard. It is that time in history referred to as the millennium which comes from the Latin word—are you ready for this, this is heavy—the Latin word which means a thousand years. To some people this is a difficult truth. It doesn't seem reasonable. But you must choose between reason and reality. God said, "It will happen."

This thousand-year reign of Christ, in fact, is so clearly emblazoned in Scripture, that the Old Testament alone

Behold, I Make All Things New

concerning the millennium is so complete, that the Jews had succeeded in developing it entirely by themselves before the New Testament was ever written. They indeed, had affirmed that the Messianic kingdom would last a thousand years.

Now, we don't have a lot of time, obviously, so we won't dwell on this period of time as much as we would like to, but I would like to give you some facts that the Scripture says clearly affect this thousand-year period we are describing. I won't give you all the verses, but they are in your notes if you would like to do a study on them on your own.

- 1- It will last a thousand years (Revelation 20).
- 2- During that time, Satan will be bound, but not for good (Revelation 20:1-10).
- 3- God Himself will rule. It will be a theocracy (Isaiah 2:2-4; Daniel 2:44-45; Zechariah 14; Matthew 25:31-4; Revelation 20:1-10).
- 4- The world capital will in all likelihood be in Jerusalem (Isaiah 2; Ezekiel 48; Zechariah 14).
- 5- Those who have rejected Christ will not be present. Only believers will be there (Revelation 20:4-6).
- 6- Israel will finally possess *all* of the land (Genesis 15:14-18; 17:6-19; Isaiah 60; Ezekiel 47-48).
- 7- The Holy Spirit will be poured out upon all flesh (Isaiah 32; Ezekiel 36; Joel 2).
- 8- The glory of God will be continually revealed (Isaiah 4; Ezekiel 43).
- 9- Divine healing will finally be available to all men continually (Isaiah 32:1-5; 35:3-6; Matthew 8:17; I Peter 2:24).
- 10- There will be universal peace (Isaiah 2:4; 9:6-7; Micah 4; Malachi 1:11).
- 11- There will be universal prosperity (Isaiah 2:2; 65:20-25; Micah 4:4-5).
- 12- The planets will give forth a light that is seven-fold

Behold, I Make All Things New

greater than what they give forth now (Isaiah 30:26; 60:18-22).

13- The curse on the animal kingdom will be gone (Isaiah 11:6-8).

14- The curse will be removed from nature (Isaiah 35:1-10; 55:12-13; Ezekiel 36; Amos 9).

In short, God will re-create planet earth the way He intended it before the fall. He will rule with a rod of iron. He will put down rebellion. He will fulfill His everlasting covenant made with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and David. He will restore Israel. He will exalt the saints. He will gather all things together in heaven and on earth. He will judge the nations in righteousness. He will restore righteous government. He will fulfill the hundreds of prophecies in Scripture concerning the Messiah's rule.

Don't you get excited about it? The King will rule the kingdom at last. And you'll be there and I'll be there. And there will be joy peace, holiness, justice, healing, freedom, prosperity, and the ability to worship God as He intended us to. Now, there is a lot we don't know. But what we do know, is that it will happen, and it will last a thousand years—a thousand years of Christmas, of peace on earth, goodwill toward men, at last.

One more thing we do know is this: those who have died without Christ will have no part in it.

But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

(Revelation 20:5 NKJV)

We also know that the redeemed, the believer, will rule with Him.

Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

(Revelation 20:6 NKJV)

III- THE TEMPTER'S FINAL FLING: A look at Satan's last stand.

But this thousand-year reign will come to an unusual conclusion according to these verses.

Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison

and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, (Revelation 20:7,8a NKJV)

You say, "Wait a minute!" Same song, second verse. "Why would God do that? Why would He give the tempter one last fling?" The late Dr. Chafer, answered that question this way, and it's as good an answer as you can give. "If you will tell me why God let him loose in the first place, I will tell you why God lets him loose again." Perhaps God lets him loose to reveal the ideal conditions of the kingdom, that even under the reign of Christ, do not change the human heart. Apart from the transformation of salvation, man will still rebel against the will of God. There will still be some, even in this garden of perfection, who, like Eve in a similar condition, when confronted with the tempter's choice, will choose to rebel.

But, praise God, this time, it won't last long. I love this one.

They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Revelation 20:9,10 NKJV)

You say, "Is hell real?" Of course, it is! You see, it's not a matter of reason. It is a matter of reality! God said it is, therefore, it is!

Satan had been locked in a vault in verses 2-3, with a seal on the door that could not be broken for a thousand years. Then God Himself opens the door and lets him loose for one last fling, and proves the depravity of man apart from the grace of God. He then personally delivers Satan to his new permanent address, a flaming inferno just outside the reach of the fire department. The great tormentor will be tormented

Behold, I Make All Things New

day and night for all eternity. That's reality. God said it.

IV- JUDGE, JURY AND JUDGMENT: A look at the Great White Throne Judgment.

Then those who have never come to God by faith in Jesus Christ, will be judged, and hell will be a reality for them, as well. This is a sobering passage, verse 11, and in our generation, it isn't preached on much, but beloved, it's still in the Book.

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.

And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

You might want to underline that phrase in your Bible, according to their works.

The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire.
This is the second death. (Revelation 20:11-14 NKJV)

If you would like a memory verse to emblazon on your mind and give you a heart for evangelism, memorize this verse. It's still in the Bible, incidentally.

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:15 NKJV)

That's one of the most sobering passages in all of the Word, to believers and unbelievers alike. It's the New Testament confirmation of the Old Testament promise in Daniel 7. It says:

"I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire.

A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand

Behold, I Make All Things New

times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, And the books were opened. (Daniel 7:9,10 NKJV)

We have been listening for weeks to promise after promise for those who have come to Christ on God's terms. The Scriptures have been seemingly silent about the plight of those who would stand before God based on their own righteousness rather than His. And now the silence ends. They are resurrected to stand before a Great White Throne.

The Judge on that throne will be Jesus Christ, Himself.

...the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing... (II Timothy 4:1 NKJV)

John 5 says,

“For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,” (John 5:22 NKJV)

Jesus will be the Judge. He will have in His hand a Book of Life. He will search its pages in vain for the names of those standing before Him, but none of their names will be found. For all those names in that book have already been resurrected. Yet, He must look, because the book is the only basis for the deliverance of man. The names in that book, are the names of those who have come to God based on the finished work of God at Calvary.

Then Jesus, having found none of their names recorded in the Book of Life, begins to open the books of the works of man. And the Bible says, each man will be judged according to his own works. The Bible also says, we will find that, *all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God* (Romans 3:23). There will be, *none righteous, no not one* (Romans 3:10). The righteousness they relied upon will be seen by the eyes of God as *filthy rags* and He will not be able to so much as look upon them (Isaiah 64:6).

So, every man, every woman, every boy and every girl who has not personally asked Jesus Christ to come into their life and had his or her name recorded in the volume of eternity, will be condemned, not by God but by their own works. A righteous God, who in mercy offered them deliverance, now must offer judgment in order for His righteousness to be

faithful. So, Revelation 20:15 says, *whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire*. It's not a pleasant verse, but it's there to remind us, beloved, that hell is just as literal as heaven. Not reason, but reality.

I must remind you at the end of this series, one last time, that there are only two classes of people who will ever stand before God—those who come to Him as sinners seeking a Savior, and those who come to Him in their own righteousness. All of the former will spend eternity in heaven. All of the others will spend eternity in hell. It's reality. God said it.

I would also like to remind you that it is not the will of God that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9). Like a tender shepherd, He leaves the ninety-nine to search for the one who still remains lost (Matthew 18:12, Luke 15:4). What He desires for you if you are that person, is eternity in His presence, unending joy, eternal peace and perfect love. But the Bible tells us, He will not force His way into your heart. You must make a choice.

You can concoct your own plan of salvation and foolishly imagine that God will accept it, but you are relying on human reasoning and denying reality. The reality is either you are dead in your trespasses and sins, or you are alive to God through the blood of His Son. If you don't know which you are, chances are you are not alive. And I say that kindly, but don't tell me you can lie down in a cemetery and not tell the difference between the dead and the living. If you are alive, you know it. If you are not alive, you are dead in your sins, and you will one day stand before a holy God. And having rejected His offer of salvation, you will stand condemned by your own righteousness. I plead with you, to make this your moment of truth.

I believe every man and woman, according to Scripture, has at least one moment of truth. A moment of truth is that time when God's flaming fire of conviction touches them, and they know at least for that instant, they are separated from God by their sin, and that God has paid the price for their redemption. Maybe you're that person. Maybe you know that person. I'd like to share a little poem with you that describes that experience. It's called "Moment of Truth". It goes like this.

Behold, I Make All Things New

MOMENT OF TRUTH

In each man's life there comes a time
In sunset or in youth,
When face-to-face his spirit comes
With that soul-searching moment of truth.

To some, it may come in a time of great joy
To some, in an hour of strife,
To many it comes upon hearing the Word
Or seeing it vibrant in life.

As the hands of conviction descend upon men
Though thrilling their life may have been,
The fire of Calvary pierces their past
And in a moment of truth, they see sin!

The echo of footsteps, the cry in the dark
Those events we cannot understand,
Seem to point toward a time when the soul is exposed
And a moment of truth is at hand!

Deceptively, something says, "Someday I will."
And the light more revealing now glows
As satanic impressions keep flooding the mind,
"Will this moment of truth never close?"

Then, to many, praise God, the moment of truth
As billows of fire fill the soul,
Means surrender to God and union with Christ
And the blood of the Lamb makes them whole.

The fire subsides; the heart finds new joy
And an indwelling peace comes to pass.
In a moment of truth, the soul found its rest
And forgiveness for sins of the past.

Yet to others, this selfsame moment of truth
Finds its chance to redeem denied,
And ears waxed closed reveal a heart
With an unwanted Savior outside.

Will another time come? We pray that it shall
But the soul finds no promise within
That the still, small voice in that moment of truth
Will ever return again.

Behold, I Make All Things New

To someone, that moment of truth we laud
Is beckoning even this hour,
And faintly, within that sin-scarred heart
There's a rumbling of God's latent power.

In the name of our Lord, who on Calvary's hill
Bore all of YOUR sins on the tree,
I beseech you to hearken this moment of truth
And forever in Him to be free.

Ceasing never to sing Hosannas to God
For as long as His grace shall allow,
May the Spirit proclaim in His marvelous name
That the moment of truth is now!

What John has told us in Revelation 20, beloved, is that those who ignore their "moment of truth" in this life, must eventually face it as they stand before a holy God and hear Him say, "*Depart from Me, I never knew you*" (Matthew 7:23) You see, beloved, The Great White Throne Judgment is a reality. Christ is the Judge. Man's works, the jury. Condemnation, the verdict. Not one of you need ever stand there. If you do, you stand there because in your moment of truth, you said, "No," to *the* Truth who asked to come into your life.

V- BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW: A LOOK AT THE NEW JERUSALEM.

But praise God, those who say, "Yes!" to Jesus, find that the story has a different ending. I'm going to try to go through this without tears, but it's not easy.

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there

Behold, I Make All Things New

shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”

And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.” (Revelation 21:1-7 NKJV)

I think this is my favorite passage in all of Scripture. God has taken a photograph of eternity and laid it against the backdrop of the sorrow and weeping that is so characteristic of this life. And He says, “Beloved, it will soon be done.” What life will be like when God restores life to what it was intended to be, is outlined in the verses to follow. He’s etched it in the golden strands of these last two chapters of His Word so none of us need ever wonder again. You can divide it really, into two basic truths.

1- The first characteristic is the personal presence of God.

He says, He will dwell *with* us, and we will be with *Him*. We will be His people, and He will be our God. Sin will be gone. All that interferes with our fellowship will have evaporated, and we will see Him as He is! Our spiritual eyes will be opened and we will behold Him in all of His glory. The excitement we sense today when we read His Word or when we pray or experience His presence, will be multiplied beyond our comprehension. We will be His people the way we were meant to be, perfect, in unbroken fellowship. So personal will be our relationship with Christ, we read in verse 4, that He will *personally* come to each one of us and wipe away every tear from our eyes. He has allowed those tears to blur our vision of this life and to open our eyes to things eternal. But, on that day, He will come Himself, and He will wipe away every tear.

2- The second characteristic is the absence of things that offend. Just as Christ will be ever present, sin and all that sin has caused, will be gone.

Behold, I Make All Things New

John goes on, there will be no more death. Death, the result of the presence of sin, will be abolished and man will live forever. There will never be another funeral. There will never be another bereaved widow or widower. There will never be another trip to the cemetery. Death is swallowed up in victory. It's a thing of the past! All things are become new!

There will never be anymore sorrow. The word translated sorrow means wailing or mourning. There will be no grief over hurt. There will be no grief over sickness. There will be no grief over suffering. There will be no more sorrow over lost jobs, lost friendships, lost finances, children, broken homes or crime. No more sin equals no more sorrow. All things become new!

There will be no more crying. When God wipes away those tears, the tears will cease to be. There will be no more crying. There will be no more reason to cry. The Scripture says weeping endures for a night, but joy cometh in the morning (Psalm 30:5). And it will be morning!

There will be no more pain. *Praise God!* No hospitals, no doctors, no ambulances, no medicine, no disease, no injuries, no blindness, no deafness, no pain. No one will be crippled. No one will be retarded. No one will be emotionally distraught. There will be no screams of agony. No cancer. No heart attacks. No aches. No pains. No agony of age. No more pain. All things will become new!

There will be no limit to the blessings of the Spirit. He said, "I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end" (Revelation 22:13). "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of life freely" (Revelation 21:6). All he can drink, he can have! All things have become new.

Read the rest of Revelation 21 and behold the majesty of the city. Take note of two important characteristics of the city.

But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it for the Glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

(Revelation 21:22,23 NKJV)

Behold, I Make All Things New

In Revelation 22, we read:

And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. (Revelation 22:3,4 NKJV)

All restrictions will be gone. All hindrances will be removed. The blinders of sin will be gone and we will see Him face to face. Do you remember that song, “Oh, That Will Be Glory for Me?”¹

*Oh, that will be, glory for me,
Glory for me, glory for me,
When by His grace I shall look on His face,
That will be glory, be glory for me!*

All things will become new!

Now, beloved, I won't impose a sermon or even a time of application at the end of this lesson, lest I interfere with the majesty and grandeur of the passage as it sweeps us into the heavenlies. I would rather conclude this lesson and this series by simply reading to you from the Word of God, a responsive kind of reading where you just have a few words to say. It takes place between the church and the King as the church beholds what is about to happen.

It begins in verse 7, where Jesus whispers a promise and promises a blessing. He says,

“Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

(Revelation 22:7 NKJV)

Then in verse 12, He says,

“And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter

1 “Oh, That Will Be Glory,” by Charles H. Gabriel, pub.1900, copyright Public Domain

Behold, I Make All Things New

through the gates into the city. (Revelation 22:12-14 NKJV)

“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”

And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;

and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” [And our response] Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

Let’s say it again.

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

(Revelation 22:16-20 NKJV)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

(Revelation 22:21 NKJV)

And all the people said, “Amen!”

Father,

What a day, when we see You as You are. When we behold the reality of life as life was meant to be, without death, without sin, without sorrow, without crying, without pain. Oh, Lord Jesus, come quickly. And until that day, break our hearts for those about us who must stand before You in their own righteousness, rather than clothed in the righteousness of Your Son.

And if there be even one here this morning, who questions whether or not he or she would stand even this moment, in the presence of God, clothed in the blood of Christ, may that person make that transaction right now, and ask Christ to forgive their sin and come into their life. And may they with us,

Behold, I Make All Things New

look forward expectantly and excitedly to that day when all things become new.

In Jesus' name, we pray,

Amen.

dtm DISCIPLESHIP TAPE MINISTRIES, INC.

10602 Mossbank, San Antonio, TX 78230

210-226-0000 or 1-800-375-7778

www.dtm.org • dtm@dtm.org • © Russell Kelfer

(01.26.21.dvd)