

ONE STORY | ONE SAVIOR - UNIT 7 | LESSON 25c

Letters – The Promise Explained Through the KING’S Church




God is a PROMISE Completing God

JESUS as the 1) **PROMISED KING** has 2) **RESCUED** His people through His Perfect Law Keeping Life and Sacrificial, Substitutionary Death on the Cross, whereby 3) **DEFEATING** the enemy of sin and death, and is 4) **RESTORING** them to the PLACE OF REST where Heaven and Earth are rejoined and God reigns and abides 5) so that His people shall be with Him forever for their **JOY**.

“Behold, I Am Making All Things New”

Revelation 21:5

Rev. 21:⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

	<p>THE HEAD - To Know how God is making all things new right now. Q – What are some things God is making new right now?</p>
	<p>THE HEART - To Choose to believe Jesus is right now in control. Q – What are some bad things happening that can be making all things new?</p>
	<p>THE HAND - To Pray we will see His kingship over all things created. Q – Name five difficult things that could be God making all things new?</p>

EMPHASIS

The Book of Revelation is a **LETTER** written to the churches in Asia Minor during the 1st Century AD.

It is written to **ENCOURAGE** a **SUFFERING CHURCH**.

The **LETTER** reminds Christ’s Church that their story is part of His larger **Story**.

Author’s Emphasis - God returns to a restored Garden in Eden for the joy of His people (vv. 6, 7 [comp. Gen. 1 w/ Rev. 21]).

Author’s Strategy – There are two “panels” (21:1-8 and 9-27). The first panel sees a city and speaks of the people occupying the city. The second panel sees a bride and speaks of the place. Both end by excluding the unclean.

The **EMPHASIS** of this lesson is . . .

1. God is right now reclaiming what is rightfully His as Creator and Redeemer through signs and wonders.

2. In the **REVELATION**, God comforts His people by reclaiming all things rightfully His (Rev. 2-19) as Creator (Rev. 4) and Redeemer (Rev. 5). As He pushes His agenda forward, He is reconstituting the Garden for the joy of His people (Rev. 21, 22).
3. Everything happening in our [God's] world is accomplishing His purpose:
4. This looks [and feels] like TRIBULATION.
5. Yet, God controls the TRIBULATION. [Chaps. 6-20].
6. God is throwing the squatters out and destroying the invasive species.

LITERARY CONTEXT

With the coming of Jesus (chap. 19), evil is destroyed (chap. 20), His people are delivered, and His Garden is Restored (chaps. 21; 22).

CHAP DIVISION

<u>Prologue</u>	1:1-8 [The 1 st of Seven Beatitudes {1:3}]
1 st Cycle	The Seven Churches of Asia Minor 1:9-3:22
2 nd Cycle	The Book with Seven Seals 4:1-8:1
3 rd Cycle	Seven Angels with Seven Trumpets 8:2-11:19
4 th Cycle	Seven Signs / Seven Symbolic Histories 12:1-14:20
5 th Cycle	Seven Bowls of Wrath from the Temple 15:1-16:21
6 th Cycle	Seven Stages in the Fall of Babylon 17:1-19:8
7 th Cycle	Seven Sights 19:9-22:5
<u>Epilogue</u>	22:6-21 [The 7 th of Seven Beatitudes {22:14}]

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

What was or will be destroyed [e.g. Jerusalem / Temple / Garden; AD70] will be restored for the joy of His people and the glory of God.

STRUCTURE

- I. vv. 1-8 What is New ["He will dwell among them" "Behold, I am making all things new" v. 5 [cf. 2 Cor. 5:17]; "It is done" v. 6]
 - A. New Heaven (v. 1)
 - B. New Earth (v. 1)
 - C. New Jerusalem (v. 2; 3:12)
 - D. [New] Presence (v. 3)
 - E. [New] Condition (v. 4)
 - F. New Name (2:17; 3:12)
 - G. New Song (5:9; 14:3)

- II. vv. 9-21 The Bride Described [“The Glory of God reflected in the Bride” vv. 11, 23, 24, 26]
 - The glory of God (Exod. 33:23) is reflected in the salvation of His people (12 Tribes, Apostles [vv. 12-14; Nations [vv. 24-26])
- III. vv. 22-2:5 What is No Longer (“They will see His face” 22:4)
 - A. No Sea (21:1)
 - B. No longer any death (v. 4)
 - C. No Temple (v. 22)
 - D. No Sun (v. 23)
 - E. No Night (v. 25)
 - F. No one who practices [sin] (v. 27)
- IV. “Making all things New” (v. 5)
 - A. The Presence of God (vv. 1-8 “He will dwell among them”)
 - B. The Glory of God (vv. 9-21 “Having the glory of God”)
 - C. The Face of God (vv. 22 – 22:5 “They will see His face”)

The design of God for us finds its fulfillment in Him.

God created us so that we might know and experience the joy He has within Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and this joy is only known and experienced in His presence.

JESUS IN THE TEXT

A day is coming when the knowledge of God’s glory shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. This is the non-negotiable and immutable vision of God. Revelation assures us that what God has promised will come to pass. It is the unalterable end of all creation.

The means through which God’s people are redeemed and His creation reclaimed is through the person and work of Jesus Christ. He is God’s means of covering the earth with a knowledge of His glory as the waters cover the sea.

This is God’s End Game and when this happens the entire earth and all of creation shall rest under the blessing of His presence.

APPLICATION

1. God fulfills His promise to dwell among His people. It is done (v. 6) and His people may freely drink from the spring of the water of life (v. 6).
2. Through the person and work of Jesus the designed end of God will be achieved for His people.

3. Only in Jesus do we encounter the presence, glory, and face of God (John 14:9; Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3).
4. Those who reject Jesus will be excluded from God's Presence (vv. 8, 27)
5. Those who accept Jesus will see His face (v. 7; 22:4)

VISUALS | CRAFTS

1. Write on separate pieces of 3"x3" paper the things that will be new and the things that will be put away. Put them face down. As each child picks up a piece, have them place it in the right category "new" and "replaced."

MEMORY VERSE

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, **I am making all things new.**" Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

RESOURCES