

New
Harmony M.B.C., Oct. 30, 2011
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Revelation 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, **I make all things new**. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Our Lord is a God of new things, although He never changes. In a moment, He spoke and the created universe came into existence, all new and shining as the divine creation it was. He then began to create new things upon the earth that sat like a jewel amidst this created universe. Suddenly, light was a new element in this creation of God! Then followed the separation water on the surface of the earth from water in the air and the separation of land and water. He then arranged space so that the sun and moon lit the earth by day and night respectively. He then created creatures in the water, then on the land and last he made a new kind of creature different from all the others. He made man in His likeness. All these things were new.

So, our first encounter with the Lord as physical humans was in a new place at a new time, in a new situation, under new circumstances. I think this event typifies the very thing our Savior was speaking about in our text. And, that is what I want us to think about today. That is, the new that Christ must surely have been contemplating when He spoke those words.

I. In order to give due diligence to everything Christ's new production means we need to start where the Lord starts. That is, within the person.

- **Eze. 36:26** A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
- **2Cor. 5:17** Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- **Gal. 6:15** For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

II. New things await these new creatures

- The totality of this overhaul by Christ: (look back at our text) **Rev. 21:5** And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, **I make all things new**. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.
 - This whole thing is started with a new day for every believer. Unlike any day you have ever experienced before
 - ▶ **1Thess. 4:16** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
 - ▶ **1Thess. 4:17** Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
 - A new shout from the voice of the archangel
 - A new note from the trumpet of God
 - A new event - the descent of Christ
 - A new phenomenon - the resurrection of every believer whose body sleeps in the dust
 - A new type of transformation - the change of living believers (**1Cor. 15:51-52**)
- Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the

dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

- His new people receive a God-given new name: **Rev 2:17** He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a **new name** written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth *it*.
- ▶ This white stone is symbolic of a ID card from Christ which by its very appearance is known in eternity to be an ID that verifies that you have a verdict from Him that says “approved”
- ▶ I don’t think we need for others to look at something like this white stone ID to know that we are approved...we are in the eternal world of bliss in the presence of God, so that alone is proof positive that we are on the approved list of the King of Kings. So, why the stone? I believe (based on the very fact that the name on the stone will be known by each of us only) that it is a personal thing between us and our Lord. It is the Lord’s way of telling us in the Holy Word that He is going to give us something personal, in a personal ceremony of sorts, that makes us to know that we are singularly special to Him
- ▶ Also, have you ever thought about the fact that the name you carried with you through this life has a **lot of baggage** with it that neither you nor Christ would want to be associated with you in heaven and in the eternal world?
- ▶ A writer, Dwight Clough once said, “why does God give us a new name? Because when he finishes with us, **the old names can’t contain who we really are.**”
- His new people will have a new song to sing: **Rev 5:8** And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.
- **Rev. 5:9** And they **sung a new song**, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;
- Only an egotist thinks he has sung something flawlessly; or that there is a perfect or flawless song to sing on this earth; but then, the new song will be new in part because it is being sung by souls redeemed who have been detached from the flaws of the carnal creature which always hinder perfection in song to God
- Here’s an added bonus for his new people: those who are true members of His church will be part of the new Jerusalem, and those who are saved will have an open door to come in and out of the new Jerusalem: **Rev. 21:2** And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Remember (**Rev. 21:9-10**) the new Jerusalem is identified as the Lamb’s wife. Also see **Rev. 21:23-27** for the testimony about all the saved of God having access to the new Jerusalem.
- His new people will inhabit a new environment:
Isa. 65:17 For, behold, **I create new heavens and a new earth**: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.
Rev. 21:1 And 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.
Isa. 66:22 For as **the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me**, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

This last point will be brought in the afternoon service:

III. Last, this great NEW from God is so essential to us as we live out our lives on earth:

- We have a lot of challenges, a lot of sorrow, a lot of disappointment, a lot of temptation, a lot

of personal failures as we live here on earth.

- We can, and should look forward to the prospect of a new life with new things that will have none of these in them in our eternal home. But, the Lord wants us to understand that we have new things now that make this trip through this life come alive with hope and encouragement.
- He wants us to realize that He is in the business of providing new things for us to strengthen us and help us along.
- **Lam. 3:22-23** *It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 They are **new every morning**: great is thy faithfulness.*
 - ▶ I want each of you tomorrow morning, when you get up, to think, "This is a new day...God has laid out a complete new selection of mercies for me today.
 - ▶ A new day - not like any other before; not like any other after
 - ▶ A new selection of mercies -
 - Like having a brand new wardrobe with outfits to fit any business we conduct, let the manifold mercies of God dress you up for the occasion.
 - ✓ When a mail man goes out on a rainy day to deliver the mail, he has his raincoat to shield him from the wet - we have our spiritual rain wear to put on when the rain comes down in our lives - new every rainy morning from the Lord
 - ✓ When the sun comes out, we bask in its rays and warmth, but it also has the power to become too hot, to scorch, burn, dry out. When the sun is too hot, the farmer knows to wear a good cap to shield his head - we have a fresh cap of mercy from God each day to protect us from too much of a good thing
 - ✓ Back when I was in the Navy, involved in at-sea activities testing things on a ship doing research, we had special clothing and masks to wear while we were out there on deck working. In the same way, God has new mercies for us each day to provide that spiritual protection and functionality we need to get through the day.
 - ▶ Whatever I may be confronted with today, there is a new mercy from God to help me address it
 - **Psalms 44:8** In God we boast **all the day long**, and praise thy name for ever. Selah.
 - ▶ Whatever weaknesses, whatever sense of failure, whatever infirmity of the flesh I experience today, there is a new mercy of the Lord available for it and contained in that mercy is grace sufficient for my need.
 - **Psalms 50:15** And call upon me in the day of trouble: **I will deliver thee**, and thou shalt glorify me.