

The Blessing of Beginning Again Revelation 21

Revelation 21:1-5 (NIV)

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. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 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.

I. The *Merciful Reality* of Beginning Again

Verse 3, 5 "...and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new."

II. The *Personal Necessity* of Beginning Again

Verse 4 - "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

- *Our Sin*

Romans 3:10-12 (NIV)

As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

John 3:3,7 (NIV)

"Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God *unless he is born again*. ... *You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'*"

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

- *Our Selfishness*

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV)

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

- *Our Situations*

Ecclesiastes 9:11 (NIV)

The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all.

Isaiah 43:18-21 (NIV)

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. ...I provide water in the desert and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

III. The *Keys* to Beginning Again

- Put Away the Past
- Trust in God's Love for You
- Make the Right Choice