



“Broken Things” – April 22<sup>th</sup>, 2018

*“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”<sup>5</sup> 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.” <sup>6</sup>And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup>The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.” Revelation 21:1-7*

Read Revelation 21:1-7 and think about and discuss the following questions.

1. What is your current view of heaven? How did you arrive at that point of view?
2. Revelation 21:1-7 describes a glorious Biblical vision of heaven. Pastor Garrett’s summarized this vision of heaven as ***new creatures living in a new creation with a new relationship with their Creator***. Does this vision of affirm or correct any part of your current view of heaven?
3. What makes this Biblical vision of heaven in Revelation 22:1-7 so irresistibly attractive?
4. Our lives can be strange mixture of the pain we feel at a *wake* and the happiness we feel at a *wedding*. How are you right now experiencing this strange mixture of pain and happiness? What things in your life are painful? What things in your life are happy?
5. When things get difficult in your life what naturally fills your thoughts? Where do you turn to find peace?
6. How ought this vision of heaven help you understand the brokenness of your personal life, your relationships and the world? How ought it be a source of hope for you now and for the future?