

## Doctrinal Summary of Eternity Future in the New Heaven and New Earth

In Revelation 21:1 John identifies that there will be a new heaven and a new earth in eternity.

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.”

The word “new” which describes both the eternal heaven and eternal earth is translated from the Koine Greek words καινὸν (“kai-non”) and καινὴν (“kai-naen”) respectively. Both are forms of the same root word which describes something as being “new in quality or character compared to a previous version which was inferior in its quality or characteristics.” It is used to identify a newer object being compared to a previous object, emphasizing the better nature of the new object over the old.

The new heaven will be better than the first heaven when the characteristics of both are compared. The same is true for the new earth; it will be better in terms of its characteristics than the first earth. When Eternity is ushered in, it will come with a newer, better heaven and a newer, better earth. The new heaven and the new earth will be the home of the redeemed. This is necessary because the previous heaven and earth passed away.

The words “passed away” are translated from the Koine Greek word ἀπέθανον (“ahp-ael-than”) which literally means, “it really performed the action in a point in time to go away from one place in order to arrive at another.” However, the first heaven and first earth will find no other place in which to dwell during eternity according to Revelation 20:11.

“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.”

When the Great White Throne Judgment comes about there will no longer be any place in the universe for the first heaven and the first earth to relocate to. Therefore, they will go away into oblivion and will be replaced following the Great White Throne Judgment with a new heaven and a new earth that are better in comparison to the first heaven and first earth.

It is in the new heaven and new earth that God will dwell with man for all eternity (cf. Rev. 21:3). God will “wipe away every tear” from the eyes of His people (cf. Rev. 21:3-4). Therein also will cease to be mourning, crying, or pain. Those things were a part of the first heaven’s and first earth’s characteristics as a result of man’s fall and the curse of sin upon man and the world. However, they cease to exist in the new heaven and new earth. Because death has been cast into the lake of fire (cf. Rev. 20:14) there will also be no separation from God; it will have been done away with entirely. Dwelling in the new heaven and new earth are a part of the believer’s inheritance as a result of overcoming Satan & Company and condemnation for sin by means of believing in Jesus as the Christ (cf. Rev. 21:7, then 1 John 5:1-5).

It will be in the new heaven and new earth that the New Jerusalem will exist, along with a river of the water of life, and the tree of life (cf. Rev. 21:2; 22:1-2). The new heaven and new earth will provide for man the reality of eternal life which is to know God (cf. John 17:3). For in the new heaven and new earth man will worship, serve, praise, and relate to God face to face being once and for all completely free of the curse of sin upon humanity, beasts, and the world (cf. Rev. 22:3-4).