

NO MORE NIGHT

Revelations 21:22-27

August 3, 2008 Sunday pm

INTRODUCTION

- A. What do you think is going to be in heaven? i.e. God, Jesus, family, friends, mansion, etc.
- B. In today's text, John tells us five things that won't be in heaven.
 - 1. Earlier John said sickness and sadness won't be there-4.
⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."
 - 2. Now he lists five more things.

I. FOR ONE THING, THE TEMPLE WILL BE MISSING FROM HEAVEN.

- A. The heavenly temple is mentioned prominently in Scripture.
 - 1. **Ex. 25:9-like the one in heaven.**
⁹ Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you.
 - 2. **Rev. 3:12-temple in heaven.**
¹² Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God.....
 - 3. **Rev. 7:15-temple in heaven.**
15 Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple
 - 4. **Heb. 9:23-24.**
²³ It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.
²⁴ For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.
- B. Now John says there will be no Temple in heaven—**22**. Why?
²² I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.
 - 1. First, because we are now God's temple.
1 Cor. 3:16
¹⁶ Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?
Eph. 2:21
²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.
 - 2. Second, the temple always symbolized God's presence. In heaven God will be with us and not restricted to any building.

II. FOR ANOTHER THING, NATURAL LIGHT WILL BE MISSING IN HEAVEN.

- A. Commander Richard Byrd once spent six months in a metal hut at the South Pole. In the Antarctic winter, the sun made no appearance for four of those months. Author Philip Yancey records one of Byrd's journal writings: "I find that I crave light as a thirsting man craves water ... A funereal gloom hangs in the twilight sky. This is the period between life and death. This is the way the world will look to the last man when it dies."
Three weeks before the sun was due to return, [Byrd] wrote in his journal about the sun's reappearance, "I tried to imagine what it would be like, but the conception was too vast for me to grasp."
- B. God created natural light—**Genesis 1:14-16.**
¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years,

¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so.

¹⁶ God made two great lights--the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars.

C. Natural light, however, will not exist in heaven.

1. Isaiah predicted it—**Isaiah 60:19**.

¹⁹ The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

2. John declares it—**23-24**.

²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it.

III. ALSO, NIGHT WILL BE MISSING IN HEAVEN.

A. Darkness is symbolic of fear, evil and sin—**John 3:19-20**.

¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

B. Isaiah predicted night will be missing from heaven—**Isaiah 60:20a**.

²⁰ Your sun will never set again, and your moon will wane no more; the LORD will be your everlasting light....

C. John confirms it—**25b**.

..... for there will be no night there.

IV. FURTHERMORE, LOCKED DOORS WILL BE MISSING IN HEAVEN.

A. I have a confession to make—I'm a door checker. I checked door locked several times before I'm convinced they are working properly. If Gay wants to pull my chain all she has to do is ask me after I've gotten in bed if I'm sure the back door is locked. You can guess what I have to do then.

B. Did you or someone you know live with unlocked doors?

1. The good news is there will be no need to check to see if the doors are locked in heaven because they will always be open, meaning heaven will be safe and secure—**25a**.

²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut....

2. In fact, Jesus himself will guard the doors in heaven—**John 10:9**.

⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

V. FINALLY, SIN AND SINNERS WILL BE MISSING IN HEAVEN.

A. John revealed this earlier—**20:15**.

¹⁵ If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

B. Now John confirms it—**27**.

²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

CONCLUSION

Whenever God seems distant, remember there is coming a day when he will live with us and we with him.