

The Expectations of New

Revelation 21:1-7 ¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying: "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the former things have passed away." ⁵And the One seated on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Then He said, "Write this down, for these words are faithful and true." ⁶And He told me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give freely from the spring of the water of life. ⁷The one who overcomes will inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he will be My son. (BSB)

- I. Here are the details of this passage.
 - A. The physical world as we know it now will all **change**. We will have a new physical reality. V. 1-2
 - B. We will have a face-to-face **relationship** with God. V. 3
 - C. The **hardships** that we face now will no longer be around. V. 4
 - D. We should live **differently** if we really believe that new is coming. This is the very definition of **hope**! V. 5-6
 - E. We must **apply** our hope to this life. This is what gives us the strength to overcome. V. 7
- II. How can we apply these truths to this new year and to the rest of our life?
 - A. We still must be good stewards to the **earth**. Just because it will someday be replaced does not mean that we can neglect to be good stewards of what God has entrusted us with.
 - B. We can live **now** as if the new reality has begun in our relationship with God. He desires that we walk **daily** with Him.
 - C. We can allow God to **heal** us of all our sorrows. He doesn't intend for them to dominate our life now.
 - D. We must allow our hope to change the way we **see** everything now.