



Excluded from the New Heaven and the New Earth

(Revelation 21:1-8; 21:22-27)

Often there is great blessing and benefit when something previously bothersome is now missing. It would be nice to learn, for example, that the neighbor's dog, who barked constantly, is one day no longer around. If one is suffering from an inflamed appendix, it would be wonderful to have that organ removed. What a blessing when a corrupt politician is voted out of office. His presence will not be missed!

In the eternal state, the New Heaven and New Earth, what does God's Word say about what will be missing? The devil will not be present (Rev. 20:10). The first heaven and the first earth will be gone (Rev. 21:1). There will be no more sea or oceans (Rev. 21:1). All tears will be wiped away (Rev. 21:4). There will be no more death, thus no need for hospice, funerals, cemeteries, etc. (Rev. 21:4). There will not be any sorrow, and no crying (Rev. 21:4). There will be no more pain (Rev. 21:4). The former things which caused so much suffering, hardships and heartache will have passed away (Rev. 21:4).

There will be no longer any ungodly people to defile God's holy heaven, because they will be in a separate place (Rev. 21:8; 22:15). There will be no temple because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb will be the temple of that new city (Rev. 21:22). There will be no need of the sun or moon since the city will be illuminated by the glory of God (Rev. 21:23). No unsaved persons will be allowed to enter (Rev. 21:27). There will be no more curse (Rev. 22:3) and no night (Rev. 22:5).

The greatest blessing will not be the things that will be missing, but our God who will be present with us (Rev. 21:3). "In Thy presence is fullness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore" (Psalm 16:11).

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