**Second Dimension – Christianity Experienced**

**Segment VI – The Culmination (Concepts 54-60)Progressive Bible Concepts - #60 “The New Heavens and the New Earth”**

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**Ice Breaker Questions:**

* How would you define heaven?
* What do you think heaven is going to be like?

**Order of Events:**

* D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – separation
	+ Physical - soul/b\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Spiritual - soul/G\_\_\_\_
* I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ state – F\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Heaven
* S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coming of Christ
* R\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Dead
* J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* E\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Life – New Heaven and New Earth

**Observations:**

* The book of Genesis tells how things b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the book of Revelation tells us how things e\_\_\_\_.
* *“…I am the f\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the l\_\_\_\_…I am the A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the O\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…”* said Jesus

**Jesus Commanded John “…write…”:**

* “*Write in a b\_\_\_\_\_\_ what you see*…” 1:11
* “*Write therefore the things you have s\_\_\_\_\_\_*…” 1:19
* “*To the c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…write*…” 2:1, 8, 12, 18; 3:1, 7, 14
* “*Write, blessed are the d\_\_\_\_\_\_ who die in the Lord*” 14:13
* “*Write, blessed are those who are invited to the m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the lamb*…” 19:9
* “*Write for these words are f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and t\_\_\_\_\_\_*…” 21:5

**Observation:**

* The book of Genesis contains the s\_\_\_\_\_\_ of redemptive history, the book of Revelation contains the full bloom of the f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of redemptive history.

**Parallels - Genesis and Revelation:**

* God created the h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1:1
	+ God created the n\_\_\_\_ heavens/n\_\_\_\_ earth – 21:1
* God c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ luminaries – sun, moon, stars – 1:14-16
	+ God illumines heaven – no sun or moon – 21:23
* Paradise l\_\_\_\_\_\_ (3:23)
	+ Paradise g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (21:25)
* Devil’s v\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (3:1-7)
	+ Devil’s d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (20:10)
* Man’s a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from God (3:8)
	+ Man’s c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God (21:3)
* Tree of life c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to sinful man (3:24)
	+ Tree of life is o\_\_\_\_\_\_ to those in the Lamb’s book of life (21:27).

**New Heavens and Earth Foretold:**

* *“For behold, I c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a new heavens and a new earth…”* Is 65:17
* *“For just as the new heavens and the new earth which I m\_\_\_\_\_\_ will endure before Me…”* Is 66:22

**New Jerusalem Foretold – Ezekiel:**

* The B\_\_\_\_\_\_ of E\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ contains the first record of the New Jerusalem. Within Ezekiel 40-48, there is an extended and detailed description of the measurements of the Temple, its chambers, porticos, and walls. Chapter 48:30-35 contains a list of twelve Temple gates named for Israel’s tribes.

**New Jerusalem – OT – Isaiah:**

* Though the actual phrase is never used, the New Jerusalem is further extrapolated in Isaiah, where the new creation is adorned with precious sapphires, jewels, and rubies. The city is described as a place free from terror and full of righteousness. Here, Isaiah provides an example of Jewish a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, where a hope for a p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jerusalem and freedom from oppression is revealed.

**New Jerusalem Foretold – Zechariah:**

* The B\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Z\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expands upon Ezekiel’s New Jerusalem. After the S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ T\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was built after the exile, Jerusalem’s population was only a few hundred. There were no defensive city walls until 445 BC. In the passage, the author writes about a city wall of fire to protect the inhabitants. This text demonstrates the beginning of a progression of New Jerusalem thought. In Ezekiel, the focus is primarily on the human act of Temple construction. In Zechariah, the focus shifts to God’s intercession in the f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of New Jerusalem.

**Present Heavens and Earth – NT:**

* *“But by His word the p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!” II Peter 3:7, 10-12*
* *“Heaven and earth will p\_\_\_\_\_\_ a\_\_\_\_\_\_…” Matt 24:35*

**New Heavens and Earth – NT:**

* *“But according to His promise we are looking for n\_\_\_\_ heavens and a n\_\_\_\_ earth, in which righteousness dwells*.” II Peter 3:13

**New Jerusalem – OT & NT:**

* *“…for he was looking for the c\_\_\_\_\_\_ which has foundations, whose a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is God.”* Heb 11:10
* *“But as it is, they desire a b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ country, that is, a h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a c\_\_\_\_\_\_ for them.”* Heb 11:16
* *“But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and to myriads of angels…”* Heb 12:22
* *“For here we do not have a l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ city, but we are seeking the city which i\_\_ to c\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Heb 13:14

**Foretelling of New Jerusalem:**

* *“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the n\_\_\_\_ J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.”* Rev 3:12

**Revelation 21:1-4**

*“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. 2And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, 4and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”*

 

**Revelation 21:1-4**

**Observations:**

* As promised, the first heaven and the first earth p\_\_\_\_\_\_ away
* As promised, a new heaven and a new earth e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in replacement of the former
* No longer any sea – water is e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? See 22:1
* Comes down out of heaven – spiritual in o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* God will d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the city with his people
* Former things pass away – the e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of sin are removed – death, mourning, pain, and crying

**Revelation 21:5-9**

*“And He who sits on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” And He \*said, “Write, for these words are faithful and true.” 6Then He said to me, “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. 7He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. 8But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.” 9Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”*

**Revelation 21:5-9**

**Pronouncements:**

* I am making a\_\_\_\_ things new
* Write, these things are faithful and t\_\_\_\_\_\_
* I am the A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (beginning) the O\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (end)
* I will give l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ water to the one who thirsts for it
* He who o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, inherits these things
* I will be his God and he be my s\_\_\_\_
* For those who are disbelieving and unrighteous, their part is the l\_\_\_\_\_\_ of f\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Revelation 21:10-14**

*“And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, 11having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. 12It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. 13There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west. 14And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.”*

**Revelation 21:10-14**

**View from the Mountain Top: (see Matt 4:8):**

* A reflection of the g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God
* The b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a costly stone
* Boundaried by a great and high w\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Accessed by twelve g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ posted with twelve angels and named after the twelve tribes of Israel
	+ Founded upon twelve s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb

**Revelation 21:15-21**

*“The one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall. 16The city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal. 17And he measured its wall, seventy-two yards, according to human measurements, which are also angelic measurements. 18The material of the wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. 19The foundation stones of the city wall were adorned with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation stone was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald; 20the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst. 21And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.”*

**Revelation 21:15-21**

**Features:**

* The shape of a c\_\_\_\_\_\_ – 1500 miles square
* The wall is 72 yards high and made of j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The city is made of pure g\_\_\_\_\_\_, like c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ glass
* The foundational stones are adorned with p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stones of every kind
* Twelve gates each had a p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are made of pure gold

  



**Revelation 21:22-27**

*“I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. 24The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. 25In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; 26and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; 27and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.”*

**Revelation 21:22-27**

**Absences:**

* No t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or building for worship
* God’s p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is immanent
* No i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ God’s g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is light
	+ Lamb is its l\_\_\_\_\_\_
* No n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* No gate c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Nothing u\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shall enter it
* No one who practices a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ behavior is welcome



**Revelation 22:1-6a**

*“Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, 2in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; 4they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. 5And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever. 6And he said to me, “These words are faithful and true”*

**Revelation 22:1-6a**

**Paradise Regained:**

* R\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of life
* T\_\_\_\_\_\_ of life
	+ T\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ kinds of Fruit
	+ Leaves that h\_\_\_\_\_\_ the nations
* C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of sin is removed
* T\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God and the L\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God are present
* His bondservants will serve him f\_\_\_\_\_\_ to f\_\_\_\_\_\_
* His n\_\_\_\_\_\_ is upon their foreheads
* They shall r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ together forever
* These words are f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and t\_\_\_\_\_\_



**Heaven – Your Thoughts?:**

* Heaven is at times perceived as a dull and boring place. Do you agree or disagree on this perception? See I Cor 2:9
* What will you miss the least about planet earth? See Isaiah 65:17
* What aspect of heaven do you most look forward to? See John 14:2

**Summary – Concept 60:**

* As the first heaven and the first earth pass away, the imperfect earthly life gives way to the perfect heavenly afterlife in the new heaven and the new earth.

**Next Track – Third Dimension:**

* Christianity Exerted: Mastering the Fundamentals