

Changes Coming: The Heavens, the Earth, and Us

The Heavens and the Earth

2 Peter 3:7, 10-13

- Stored Up for fire, kept for judgment of the ungodly
2 Pet 2:6 - Sodom and Gomorrah "...an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly"
- The Day of the Lord is coming
God in the past destroyed the world with water; He will again judge the ungodly with fire.
- A refining fire to expose men's works
Is. 65:17ff and Rom. 8:21–23 indicate a transformation, not annihilation, much like our bodies
- A new heavens and new earth – different how?
Promised, coming, in which righteousness dwells. So....what sort of people should we be?
Give diligence to be found in Christ, in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting, hastening

3:11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness

Rom 8:19-23

- Creation was cursed by God because of sin
- It will be set free from bondage to corruption
- All creation groans together longing for this redemption
- In like manner, we also wait eagerly for the redemption of our bodies, for future glory.

8:23 - And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

...and Us

1 Cor 15:35-53

- Like a seed, what is sown must die before it comes to life and God gives it a body.
- What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable; there is a change.
- Now we have life from Adam, from the earth. We shall have life from Jesus, the man from heaven.
- All shall be changed, whether dead or alive, when the last trumpet sounds.

15:42 - So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. 43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

I Cor 15:54-58

- Death is forced to surrender, give up his conquest, and release his captives.
- Pardoned sin delivers complete victory. The curse of the law, and the death it brings, is reversed.

15:58 "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."