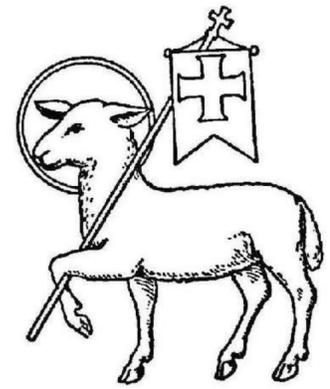


# THE BOOK OF REVELATION

## 10. New heaven and new earth



### Separation at death

- The body from the soul (Ecc 12:7; Matt 27:50 Jesus gave up his spirit)
- The righteous from the unrighteous (Dan 12:2; Matt 5:45; 7:23; 25:32-33)  
It is not up to us to decide. Not all who are members of the professing church will be in heaven, and some who are not, will! There will be many surprises and reversals (Roman 2:12-16 and Matt 22:23)
- Hades – the intermediate prison awaiting judgment (Luke 16:23-24; 1 Peter 3:19)
- Paradise – the intermediate state of the righteous, the garden of heaven. (Luke 16:22; 2 Cor 12:2-4; Rev 6:9-11)

### Visions of heaven in Revelation

- 4:1-5:14 – the throne, elders, sevenfold-spirit, angels, worship, the Lion of Judah/Lamb
- 6:9-11 – the souls of the martyrs under the altar asking 'how long?'
- 7:9-17 a great multitude no one could number, singing the new song
- 14:1 – the Lamb on Mount Zion (Hebrews 12:22-24)
- 19:1-10 The great multitude singing 'Hallelujah' and announcing the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

### The Day of Resurrection

Creed: "I believe in the resurrection of the dead."

- Both the righteous and the unrighteous will be raised (Dan 12:2)
- The resurrection of the just. (Luke 14:14; 1 Thess 4:16; 1 Cor 15:42-57)
  - Bodies will be reunited with souls
  - Bodies will be 'spiritual bodies' (1 Cor 15:44) a combination of physical and spiritual.
  - Bodies will be similar to Jesus' resurrected body: an element of continuity yet different (Luke 24:16; John 20:15)
  - We will know each other (1 Sam 28; Matt 17:3-4)

### Judgment of the works of the righteous and rewards

- The Judgment Seat of Christ (The Bema) 2 Cor 5:10 –
  - a judgment not of verdict but reward (Matt 25:34)
  - account of stewardship (1 Cor 3:10-15; Heb 13:17; James 3:1)
  - rewards (1 Cor 9:25; 1 Thess 2:19; 2 Tim 4:8; James 1:12; 1 Peter 5:4)
  - responsibility (Luke 19:11-27)
  - The Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Rev 19:7 & 9)

## **The new earth**

Chapters 21 & 22.

- The final destiny is not 'heaven' but new heavens and new earth' (2 Peter 3:13; Isaiah 65:17)
- Eden / Paradise (Genesis 2-3) Harmony, relationships, fruitfulness, rest,
- The planet affected by the 'Fall' (Romans 8:21-23)
- Will there be animals? (Isaiah 11:6; 65:25)
- The meek shall inherit the earth (Matt 5:5)

## **The Holy City – its description**

- Coming down from heaven (21:2; 10)
- God and people are now together (21:3)
- The fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy (Isaiah 60 & 65; Ezekiel 40 – 48)
- No more separation (21:1)
- The place of God?
- The people of God? (Eph 2:20; 5:25-32)
- Jewels and precious stones, streets of gold, etc.

## **The Holy City – life within it**

- The presence of God – no need for a temple, as God is everywhere. (21:3)
- The Lamb at the centre (Jesus) (7:17; 21:9; 21:14; 21:22; 21:23; 21:27; 22:1)
- The glory of God / Shekinah (21:11; Acts 7:55; Exodus 40:3)
- Happiness (21:4)
- Abundance (21:24)
- Healing (22:2)
- Worship (22:3)
- The Tree of Life (22:22; Genesis 2:9; 17; 3:22-24)
- Knowledge (1 Cor 13:9-12)
- Paradise restored

## **The invitation**

- Salvation is like drinking the water of life
- The invitation is given four times (22:17) Come, come, come, take
- A capacity to enjoy the future.