



**Message Six: There's A New World Coming**  
**Revelation 21:1-7    22:1-5**  
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Revelation is a book of contrasts: Between the Dragon and the Lamb – Between the Seal of the Spirit and the Mark of the Beast – Between Babylon and the New Jerusalem – Between the Great Prostitute and the Bride – Between the Throne of God and the Throne of the Beast (Antichrist) – Between two destinations: The Lake of Fire (chapter 20) or the Holy City (chapters 21 and 22).

As we look at today's core message, we may discover a few amazing surprises about heaven that John saw on Patmos.

A ROUND TRIP TICKET TO PLANET EARTH – 21:1-5

The Biblical message of the Christian future is not just a one way trip to heaven but a round trip ticket to heaven and back.

There are three key concepts in this passage that we need to understand:

1. There will be a new heaven *and* a new earth.
2. We don't go up, the New Jerusalem comes down.

3. Everything will be made **new**.

When a child of God dies, he/she is assured of an immediate entrance into God's presence.

Philippians 1:23, *I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far.* (NIV)

Yet the ultimate promise of God is **Immanuel** -- "**God with us.**"

Matthew 1:23, *The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel – which means 'God with us.'*



## THREE PICTURES OF HEAVEN

### 1. A **Bride** (21:2-3)

The background is the ancient customs of Jewish marriages...

The marriage is arranged...the bride price is paid...A betrothal period...The groom prepares the wedding chamber while the bride awaits his coming...The groom comes for his bride and a great wedding festival is enjoyed!

### 2. A **City** (21:2; 9-16)

The City of God comes crashing into the City of Man and transforms it into the dwelling place of God.

Our future is a renewed city that will extol the transforming grace of God released in the lives of ordinary and messed up people.

### 3. A **Garden** (22: 1-5)

The imagery is straight out of the Garden of Eden.

Following the fall of humanity, creation was broken, but God does not hand victory to Satan. Instead he embarks on a plan of restoration.

AND NOW A FINAL WORD FROM JESUS - 22:6-21

The vision reached its climax in 22:5.

A voice—"Behold I am coming soon!"

An invitation of grace -- "Come."

A prayer -- "Let it be so! Come, Lord Jesus."

A benediction -- "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen."