



How Did Jesus' Resurrection Change Both Heaven and Earth?

Philippians 2:10: (NASB) *so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*



As Christians, we unequivocally herald the death and resurrection of Jesus as being the absolute centerpiece of our faith. Further, we claim that the entire purpose of our Holy Bible is focused on these events as its primary message. These descriptions are overwhelmingly accurate. But why? Many Christians will answer that we are saved as a result of Jesus' death and resurrection and this is true. Others will say these events are proof of God's loving plan for humanity and this is true as well. Let's now take the time to look at these spectacular events through a different lens

- the lens of change. What has changed and will change in heaven as a result of the death and resurrection of Jesus? What has changed and will change on earth? The answer on both counts is...plenty!

We will be recommending several companion episodes for our listeners to get additional details on a variety of topics we touch on in this episode such as ransom, restitution, angels and demons.

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| | <p>Episode 1100: Do People Turn Into Angels When They Die?</p> |
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WHAT HAS CHANGED on earth AS A RESULT OF JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION?

The context of our theme text sets the table:

Philippians 2:7-8: (NASB) *⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. ⁸Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

Jesus was willing to give up his spirit nature and be changed to a lower level - a perfect man. He took on *the form of a bondservant* and left his spirit nature behind and became a man. This special change of nature was unprecedented.

We know from many Scriptures, including John 17:5, that when Jesus prayed to God to give him the glory he had with God before the earth was created, that Jesus had a pre-human existence as a spirit being. He was called the Logos, which means "word." He was the "mouthpiece" of God. Jesus underwent a change of nature from spirit being to human. This was different from angels, who appeared as men to deliver messages but were never actually human. Jesus was born and lived as a man.



Because the ransom was paid, the process of restitution could be revealed. Now the clear message of the plan of redemption would be spoken:

Romans 5:18-19: (NASB) ¹⁸So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. ¹⁹For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the one the many will be made righteous.

One man - Adam brought condemnation to all



One man - Jesus brings justification of life to all



The ransom is shown in verse 18 and the restorative work of being made righteous in verse 19. There is an important connection between the two.



Jesus became a man to pay the exact price required by God's justice to bring salvation. Restoration could not happen without the ransom being paid. Jesus took the place of sinful Adam.



Analogy: Think about using the "undo" arrow or Control+Z on your computer. We undo what we typed to put us back where we started. The death and resurrection of Jesus will not only put things back to where they started, with mankind living in harmony with God on a perfect earth - but this time with the benefit of the experience of sin. As we go through our lesson, we will see that "undo" button will do so much more than just restore what was lost.

This message of the gospel (the good news) was to be preached throughout the world and would trigger the call of discipleship:

Luke 24:45-47: (NASB) ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

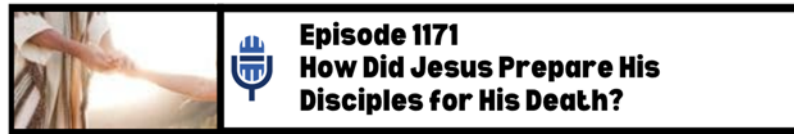
The preaching and living of this message would be driven by God's spirit dwelling in the true followers of Jesus.

This enabled the begetting of the holy spirit as a new way of life:

John 14:15-17: (Rotherham) ¹⁵If ye be loving me, my commandments, ye will keep; ¹⁶And, I, will request the Father, and, another advocate, will He give unto you, that he (it) may be with you age-abidingly, ¹⁷The spirit of truth, which, the world, cannot receive, because it beholdeth it not, nor getteth to know it. But, ye are getting to know it; because, with you, it abideth, and, in you, it is.



When Jesus was resurrected, we were assured in these verses that he requested that God allow his faithful followers to have a comforter, this spirit of truth (God's power and influence) to help them on their Christian walk.



Jesus advocated to have this other comforter, God's spirit, dwell within faithful Christians.

The indwelling of this spirit in the disciples of Jesus creates a NEW relationship with God - that of sonship:

Romans 8:14-15: (NASB) ¹⁴For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, Abba! Father!

This relationship could not have existed with sinful humanity.

Sons of God - this title is significant because previously only Adam and Jesus were referred to in this way. Even faithful ones like Abraham and Moses were called "friends" or "servants" - never sons. Sonship was reopened to humanity. This is why Jesus taught us to pray, *our Father, who art in heaven...*

Because the call to follow Jesus went out to the world, the walls of partition separating Jews and all others could be broken down:

Galatians 3:26-29: (NASB) ²⁶For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

We have a distinct privilege to be in a family relationship with God through Jesus as our advocate. This is why we hear people referring to Jesus as our "elder brother."

Heirs - those who belong to Christ. We do not "inherit" as an heir unless we are part of the family.

according to promise - the promise to Abraham that all the families of the earth will be blessed in Genesis 12:3 and elsewhere.

All of the called, chosen and faithful are part of a new priesthood whose role in this world is to be faithful to their calling as preparation for their work in the next age:

1 Peter 2:9-10: (NASB) ⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, by now you have received mercy.

We are identified in a different way because we are doing the work of God that was not available before the death and resurrection of Jesus.



HOW THE WORLD HAS CHANGED:

THE FAITHFULNESS OF JESUS TRIGGERED

- the call of discipleship
- the begetting of the holy spirit
- the clear message of the plan of redemption

THESE CHANGES WOULD BE PROCESSED THROUGH A 2,000-YEAR PERIOD OF TIME. THOUGH THEY ARE WORLD-ALTERING EVENTS, THEY WOULD BE LARGELY UNNOTICED BY MOST!

There are a lot of moving pieces that have changed but most people have no idea what has happened and what is happening.

Jesus opened up a whole new calling to a whole new group of people to be part of a whole new message!

How did Jesus' death and resurrection change what happens in the spiritual world around us?

Obviously, there is much we do not know about the state of the spiritual world around us. Remember, there is a light-filled spiritual world as well as one of darkness. What we do know from Scripture is that several marked changes have happened and continue to happen as a result of the ransom of Jesus.

Much like here on earth, there is a measure of allowed disharmony. God is flushing out His entire creation from the highest spiritual beings down to the lowest human beings. Jesus is in the middle of it. Satan was allowed to rebel just as Adam was, and there was a rebellion in heaven of angels that followed Satan. Jesus' sacrifice will right that wrong.

WHAT HAS CHANGED in the spiritual realm AS A RESULT OF JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION?

Let's describe the spiritual realm. We use this term rather than "heaven" because we are defining the spiritual realm as anything outside of the physical world we know and understand. The spiritual realm is the realm in which demons and Satan exist. Yes, they do exist!

There is good and evil within the spiritual realm. It includes the light of God and those who represent Him, along with the darkness of Satan and those who represent him.

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| GOD & EVIL |  Episode 1012: Are God and Evil Meant to Coexist? |
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Back to the context of our theme text to further set the table:

Philippians 2:9: (NASB) *For this reason also, God highly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name,*

God did not return Jesus' previous spiritual name to him after his resurrection; He gave him a greater name and elevated him to a higher level.

We have a simple Scripture for this:

John 5:26: (NASB) *For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the son also to have life in himself;*

This is a new level of new honor in the heavens. This was the gift of the divine nature, which only the Father had before this. The height to which the glorified Jesus was raised was completely unique.

God is above all and unchangeable and always has had the divine nature. Jesus was created as a spirit being just like Lucifer back before the creation of earth. Jesus became human, and as a reward for his faithfulness was made divine - having a life not dependent upon any outside source. He changed natures twice. We read how *he emptied himself* as a spirit being to become a man. Here he emptied himself again of his humanity to receive immortal spiritual life with God Himself.

The whole of heaven's operation is now totally different - make room for a new type of spirit being! This is one of the things that has changed in the spirit realm, but there is more...

The death grip that Satan holds on the world is beginning to be pried loose:

Colossians 1:13-14: (NASB) ¹³*For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved son,* ¹⁴*in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness - this is the first indication that Satan will not maintain control of humanity. He has lost control of the followers of Jesus. They are no longer under the thumb of sin and death because they were actually rescued by the ransom of Jesus. Unlike Israel's sacrifices on the Day of Atonement, the ransom lifted his followers out from Satan's influence permanently. This is an indication that something in the spiritual realm has changed in the aspect of control and power.

For the first time in biblical history, heaven itself was being prepared to receive sons of God from the earthly realm:

John 14:1-3: (NASB) ¹*Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me.* ²*In my Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.* ³*If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself, that where I am, there you may be also.*

Heaven is being renovated! Jesus is preparing a place for his followers. Heaven is changing for the better. Can you imagine what the angels are thinking?

This is a personal invitation to Jesus' footstep followers to be with him in heaven. A heavenly reward had NEVER BEEN OFFERED or promised to anyone before.





We read in Galatians 3:29 *we are heirs according to promise*. Part of that inheritance is to also change natures; from dying as a human being to being resurrected as a divine spirit being.

This is what is offered to the true church! This could not have happened unless Jesus died and was raised and given the glory by God.

However, whenever there is a positive action in the spiritual realm, there is usually a negative counteraction taken by Satan.

These preparations for the true church have spurred Satan on to attempt to seek out and destroy those who follow Jesus:

1 Peter 5:8-9: (NASB) *⁸Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.*



Why is Satan after us? If we have answered the call of Christ, we are to be part of the end of Satan's rule. This spells his end, and we are a part of that process. He knows this and will fight as a result. He will try to attack the weakest points to break up the momentum. What are the weakest points? Human beings. Satan is looking to devour those who follow after Christ. We are in his sights, and he is working harder at this now than he ever has. He knows Jesus died and was raised, and he knows we are coming closer to his end.

God, through Jesus, prepares us for this battle.



It is a battle that is bigger than we are because Satan has mobilized all the forces of darkness at his disposal:

Ephesians 6:11-12: (NASB) *¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

There is great unrest in the heavenly realm because of what Jesus did. In heaven, right now, there is an escalating battle. The dark forces are focused on intercepting the trajectory of those trying to be faithful.

This should help us keep a sacred perspective of *how important it is for us to maintain righteousness in our daily lives*. Things much bigger than us (bigger by multiple magnitudes!) are happening out there.

Rulers...powers...world forces...spiritual forces - all plural - *of darkness, in heavenly places* - also plural. Huge forces are being activated by Satan to try to stop the plan of God. Why is this happening? Because Jesus died and was raised. Satan is getting desperate and is causing so many evil things in our day. We are in the middle of this, and it is an important struggle!





Why is it such a struggle? Jesus had called out his enemy and prophesied his downfall:

John 12:27-32: (NASB) ²⁷Now my soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, Father, save me from this hour? But for this purpose I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name. Then a voice came out of heaven: I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. ²⁹So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, an angel has spoken to him. ³⁰Jesus answered and said, this voice has not come for my sake, but for your sakes. ³¹Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. ³²And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.

Jesus says *the ruler of this world will be cast out*. He says it out loud! *The ruler will be cast out!* He says it with unequivocal clarity and Satan hears it. This spurs Satan on to try to hold onto what he thinks is his. God and Jesus throw down the gauntlet; the spiritual realm is completely changed!

All of these things are new developments, even for *angels of light*. God's plan has taken the giant step - the ransom being paid.

Things previously unknown, hidden in prophecy, are now being and sought after and uncovered:

1 Peter 1:10-12: (NASB) ¹⁰As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, ¹¹seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. ¹²It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the holy spirit sent from heaven - things into which angels long to look.

These verses say that prophets back in the Old Testament *made careful searches and inquiries* to know about this salvation. This was somewhat mysterious back through the ages. Now, once Jesus died and was raised, all these things are starting to make sense. They are so magnificent in their unfolding that even angels want to look into this. There is a fascination in knowing how God's plan is going to come to fruition. Why is this happening? Because Jesus died and is raised. He changed everything on every level.

1 Corinthians 4:9: (NASB) *For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.*

Think about this - in addition to the apostles, we are witnessing to God's holy angels by *our lives*. *We have become a spectacle...both to angels and to men*. The spirit realm is watching God's plan unfold. As spectacles, we are something that others look at with awe or shock, not with complacency. The spiritual realm, both the light and dark, are observing. Those from the dark are looking to stop us, and those from the light are observing to cheer us on to see how the magnificence of God's plan works in us.

When Jesus goes back to heaven, what are the angels thinking? They must be in awe in the presence of the glorified Jesus and of the unfolding plan of the Father when Jesus died and was raised.



HOW THE SPIRITUAL REALM **HAS** CHANGED:

THE FAITHFULNESS OF JESUS TRIGGERED

- exaltation for him
- warning of pending destruction for Satan
- an all-out onslaught of the powers of darkness to stifle the faith of the disciples
- a sense of awe and respect for God's plan from the angels of light

We need to be aware of the *value* of what has changed right here and now, even before the amazing changes of the future. It is surprising to us to recognize the amount of activity and change happening in the spiritual realm. It is a real conflict.

With this spiritual warfare raging now, what will the spiritual realm look like in the future?

As far as humanity is concerned, the battle between good and evil has always been ongoing. However, as a result of the sacrifice of Jesus, this battle will one day cease. Before we look at the future of our earthly home, let's first look at the spiritual realm and track what we know will come to pass there.

WHAT WILL CHANGE in the spiritual realm AS A RESULT OF JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION?

Our theme text can tell us what to look forward to:

Philippians 2:10: (NASB) *so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

Every knee will bow - everyone is included, even those who are still in their graves.

Establishing overwhelming adherence to God's ways is not just a New Testament teaching:

Isaiah 65:17: (NASB) *For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or come to mind.*

New heavens and a new earth - this is not saying the current planet will be bulldozed away to make way for a new one. The *new earth* will be the new environment of earth governed by the spiritual heavens. *Heavens* does not just mean our sky. The *new heavens* will be a new reflection of God's glory.

The former things will not be remembered or come to mind - if this is true, then what was the point of the permission of evil?



The experiences we went through will remain in our minds, but the appeal of the sinful world will be gone once compared to the fullness of God's righteousness and mercy. Mankind will have learned the lessons of the past without wanting to repeat them.

In other words, mankind will love the ways of righteousness so much that they will not seek their old ways of addiction, lust, selfishness and so on. Such things are not worthy of being remembered in comparison with the better things God has in store for all of mankind.

Everyone will be so engaged in the new heavens and the new earth that they will not dwell in the past. The past is not a memory; it is a lesson. Rick's Uncle Steve used to say we should name our experiences to help us remember the lessons from them.

There will be judgment in the spiritual realm for those who did not keep their loyalty to God in place:

Jude 1:6: (NASB) *And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,*



The judgment in the spiritual realm is connected to the day of judgment on earth:

John 5:28-30: (NASB) *²⁸Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice, ²⁹and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment. ³⁰I can do nothing on my own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I do not seek my own will, but the will of Him who sent me.*

Many anticipate the day of judgment with dread, but this will be a "day of reconciliation," a positive time. And while we usually think of this time as affecting mankind, it also pertains to the spirit realm.



This judgment of BOTH the spiritual and earthly realms comes through Jesus and his faithful disciples:

1 Corinthians 6:2-3: (NASB) *²Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? ³Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?*

Soon the lease of time for those disobedient angels will expire. That lease will not be renewed!



Those who are faithful to God through Christ, having God's spirit, are the ones who will judge angels. This will be a dramatic change in the spirit realm.

This judgment of the world has everything to do with the future work of restitution and refreshing. Such work involves accountability in mind and action for humanity.

How the spiritual judgment works is less clear, but we know both earthly and spiritual realm judgments happen in the same general time frame:

Acts 3:19-21: (NASB) ¹⁹Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; ²⁰and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.

This sounds like a complete overhaul! God allows darkness its run. He will flush out those who would not be loyal and then will come the *restoration of all things*. We can be assured that this ends clearly and decisively. God is putting evil on notice and draining it out of the system forever.

Satan will be judged and destroyed:

Revelation 20:7-8,10: (NASB) ⁷When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, ⁸and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. ¹⁰And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be **tormented** <928> (from the word meaning touchstone, an act of revealing) day and night forever and ever.

Touchstone: Strongs 928, from 931, *basanizo*

Thayer's Greek English Lexicon: A black siliceous stone used to test the purity of gold or silver by the color of the streak produced on it by rubbing it with either metal



Merchants would use touchstones to test the legitimacy of coins. Touchstones are still used today by some jewelers.

The truth of a matter is revealed by a touchstone. The truth of Satan's deception, disloyalty and dishonor will be a touchstone for humanity and the spirit realm to realize this was wrong. Sinfulness will be revealed and remembered as an eternal lesson.

Fire and brimstone - a symbol of complete destruction, not torment.



We know that once any and all rebellion against God's sovereignty and plan is defeated, the spiritual realm (as well as the earthly realm) will be back in perfect balance under God Almighty.

Here is how we know:

1 Corinthians 15:24-26,28: (NASB) ²⁴then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when he has abolished all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵For he



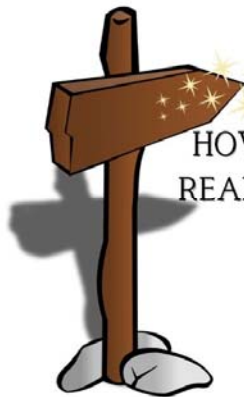
must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy that will be abolished is death. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the son himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

Every trace of darkness is gone!

Once all of this is accomplished, Jesus hands the authority back to the Father. Think about the amount of trust God had to have in Jesus to make sure this would all be turned over! A being such as Lucifer could never have carried out such a mission.

Revelation 5:12,13: (NASB) ¹²...Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory, and blessing. ¹³And I heard every creature which is in heaven, or on the earth or under the earth, or on the sea, and all the things in them, saying, To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be the blessing, the honor, the glory, and the dominion for ever and ever.

The death and resurrection of Jesus were needed because evil must be washed out of both the earthly and spiritual realms.



HOW THE SPIRITUAL REALM **WILL** CHANGE:

THE FAITHFULNESS OF JESUS OPENED THE WAY

- for a difficult period of testing in the spiritual realm to be completed
- for all things to be removed that are undeniably out of harmony with God

THE END RESULT BRINGS PRAISE AND HONOR TO GOD!

There is a long process to get to this dramatic end result. God's plan began thousands of years ago.

We usually do not think about the need for the spiritual realm to be cleaned up. God's plan does cover everything.

**What does the earth look like when all is said and done?
Will it still be home for humanity?**

Earth will very much be home for humanity. Contrary to the beliefs of some, it will NOT be burned up - what will be destroyed are the present governments and systems, but the earth itself abides forever - Ecclesiastes 1:4. So many Old Testament prophecies will have their fulfillment here on earth.

**WHAT WILL CHANGE on earth
AS A RESULT OF JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION?**



We have seen what *has* changed on the earth, what *has* changed in the spiritual realm, what *will* change in the spiritual realm, and now we will see what *will* change on earth as a result of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Our theme text shows us the absolute end result:

Philippians 2:11: (NASB) *and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

The prophet Habakkuk helps us to see how this can be:

Habakkuk 2:14: (KJV) *For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

It will be nice to have everyone on the same page!

It unfolds by God allowing evil and darkness to run its course, then replacing it with an entirely new godly goodness devoid of sin, death, darkness, contradiction, disloyalty and the like.

The following Scriptures will give us a snapshot of Old Testament prophecy that paints a picture of what earth will look like when all of this is put into place.

We looked at Isaiah 65:17 earlier, but we will continue to verse 25 now. These verses begin with the **restoration and accountability process in progress**:

Isaiah 65:17-19,21-25: (NASB) *¹⁷For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem for rejoicing and her people for gladness. ¹⁹I will also rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in My people; and there will no longer be heard in her the voice of weeping and the sound of crying.*



Do these verses just refer to the Jewish nation? No, Jerusalem will be the seat of the future earthly government. If God is rejoicing in the seat of all earthly government, He is also rejoicing in those who are governed by it. This is a big picture, not a small national picture of Israel, the nation of today. This is a universal picture of the *entire* earth in harmony with God's will.

They continue to paint the picture of what harmonious life on earth will look like. Personal responsibility will be universal:

²¹They will build houses and inhabit them; they will also plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²²They will not build and another inhabit, they will not plant and another eat; for as the lifetime of a tree, so will be the days of My people, and My chosen ones will wear out the work of their hands.



This talks about individuals taking responsibility for themselves; *they will build... they will also plant*. Someone else will not do it for them; they will take care of themselves. This is a novel idea for our world. God created Adam and put him in the garden to tend it. He put him there with the responsibility of keeping the garden in good working order. We will revert to that same kind of personal responsibility.

There is also a sense of fairness here. We will be able to keep the fruits of our labors without someone taking them from us. No one will be allowed to take advantage of someone else's work. This is an entirely different paradigm, a paradigm to get us to paradise!

There will be a deep connection between God and His human family:

²³They will not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they are the offspring of those blessed by the LORD, and their descendants with them. ²⁴It will also come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear.



This sounds like the way it was in the Garden of Eden between Adam and God. We see the theme of going back to the same kind of connectivity with God, as well as man's responsibility at the beginning of creation. God answers *before they call*. How does He do this? He will be engaged in their everyday lives. That is not what is happening now. Today Satan is engaged in the everyday lives of the world. This will be removed, and in its place there will be a deep connectivity between God and His human family.

Nature will have a balance not formerly thought to be possible:

²⁵The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; and dust will be the serpent's food. They will do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain, says the LORD.

We cannot imagine how this will happen, but we know in the Garden of Eden there was not a destructive ecosystem, and God will somehow restore this on earth. It is something to look forward to with fascination and wonder!



This is a different kind of world - a good world.

God's holy mountain means His righteous government, His kingdom on earth.

The governing of humanity will be instituted from heaven. Symbolically, "mountains" often represent governments:

Micah 4:1-4: (NASB) *¹And it will come about in the last days that the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it.*

The chief government (*mountain*), the highest one, will be of God. Because the people of the world have experienced the resurrection and have been edified by the restoration, and they have seen the fairness of the judgment, the vast majority will be enamored with God's rule.

This is unlike now, when people laugh at God, or declare Him dead, or are angry with God, not understanding that the time is not yet for righting grievances and abolishing darkness. Here we are looking into the future and seeing the result of Jesus' death and resurrection turning the people to God.

They will recognize that all truth and governance come from the Lord:

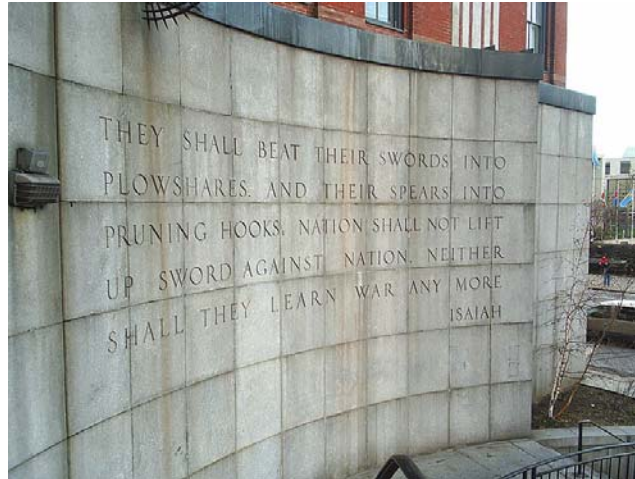
²Many nations will come and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths. For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.



Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD - the people will say: Let's go to where it all happens. Let's go to the seat of this incredible new system. The Bible tells us this place will be Jerusalem, and there they will see the goodness of God pouring out upon the people. Today we see darkness, contradiction and unrest pouring out. But this will be a different world!

All of this results in the transforming of humanity's former ways of war and conflict to God's ways of productivity and prosperity:

³ *And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war.*



Can we even imagine life without war? This Scripture is inscribed on a wall across the street from the United Nations building in New York City. We need to remember that the prophecies of the Lord will always have a fulfillment. We may not see it in our lifetimes, we may not understand it, but it *will* happen. We will not need those swords and spears, as *never again will they train for war.*

Everyone will have the security of knowing God's care and direction:

⁴ *Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree, with no one to make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.*

The idea of the vine and fig tree is that there will be security for all. No one will be afraid because there will not be a reason for fear. When Jesus spoke the Parable of the Vine and the Branches in [John 15](#), it was a picture of Jesus and the true church. Separately, the fig tree often is a symbol of the national of Israel. Here, everyone sits under the vine (the spiritual protection of Christ and his church) and the fig tree (the physical protection of the earthy government).

The world is carefully and fully cared for because Israel on earth is the blessed nation, and Jesus and the church in heaven are restoring mankind back to God.



Summing up, all of the ravaged

results of sin and its destructiveness will be replaced with godly direction:

Revelation 21:1-4: (NASB) ¹ *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.*



No longer any sea - seas are symbolic for restless, unrestrained masses of humanity along with the instability and anarchy they bring. We are certainly seeing these groups today. In the new heaven and new earth pictured here, there will be *no longer any sea*, in that there will no longer be dissatisfied masses. In the elimination of the restless masses of people, we see God's plan overwhelming the darkness and soothing the world with the righteous new rule brought about by the sacrifice of Jesus.

God's presence will be with humanity through His chosen people:

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,

Is there an actual city descending down? No, this is the governing power of the true church, the bride of Jesus *made ready* to rule with her husband. Jesus and his church will come down from heaven to oversee all the activities of earth.

The tabernacle of God is among men - the tabernacle was a place to worship. This gives us the sense that there will be a relationship with God available to all men - it will permeate the whole earth. *God Himself will be among them.* What a promise!

Pain, sorrow and death will have passed away:

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.

And all of this is being done without compromising free will! Mankind was given the chance to follow their inclinations no matter where they led. They experienced the horrendous effects of the path into sin. The penalty for that sinful path was death and all the sickness, sorrow and pain that comes with the dying process. The penalty was *never* eternal torment.

The man Jesus was a substitution for Adam. He satisfied God's just sentence, allowing the prisoners of death to be set free. All of mankind will be resurrected and have the opportunity to be brought to a clear knowledge of God and of what will be required under this new righteous government. And all will be capable of following these requirements since they will no longer be burdened by their imperfections and the evil influences of Satan.

So, how will this world change by the death and resurrection of Jesus?





HOW THE WORLD
WILL CHANGE:

THE FAITHFULNESS OF JESUS

- will bring the perfect balance that God has all along intended for His human creation

THIS BALANCE IS ONLY ACHIEVABLE BECAUSE OF THE LESSONS OF SIN BEING LEARNED AND THE DEBT OF SIN BEING PAID BY JESUS!

We have the picture of Jesus as a man: living, dying and being raised. He did not just pay for our sins, or for the sins of a generation, or for the sins of Israel - he paid for the sins of the *whole world*. In addition, his death and resurrection were the catalyst to eliminate *all* of the darkness, pain and suffering that Satan and his followers have brought upon the earth and within the spiritual realm.

The resurrection of Jesus has the *greatest eternal reach* of any single act ever recorded in heaven or earth. He took everything that is out of harmony with God on any level, for any lifeform that God has ever created and will make it right with God.

This is why Jesus, the *Logos*, had to be the ransom sacrifice. His death and resurrection would have such a far-reaching effect on both the present conditions of the earthly and spiritual realms, as well as on the future conditions of these realms, it would take someone from the highest spiritual level to handle this work. Satan's rebellion came from this high spiritual level of beings, and so it would take Jesus to overthrow him and all his followers in those ranks. This makes us look at the sacrifice of Jesus through a much broader lens.

Jesus was invested in creation. His loyalty was to God's creation. He makes it right. Praise God for His son who died for us and for all He has done.

Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise. —Victor Hugo

***So, how did Jesus' resurrection change both heaven and earth?
For Jonathan, Rick, Julie and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!***



Join us next week for our podcast on April 12, 2021
Ep. 1173: How Can I Cope With Overwhelming Loneliness?

Study Questions follow

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1172: How Did Jesus' Resurrection Change Both Heaven and Earth?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/inspiration/how-did-jesus-resurrection-change-both-heaven-and-earth/>

See:  CQ.Rewind
SHOW NOTES

1. What did Jesus have to give up in order to be the *exact price* required by God's justice to take the place of Adam? (See Philippians 2:7-8, 1 Timothy 2:5,6)
2. *Once the ransom price was paid*, what message became clear that had only been hinted at before this? (Romans 5:18-19) *Once this message was preached* throughout the world, what call was triggered? (See Luke 24:45-47, Matthew 4:19, John 8:12, 12:26)
3. After Jesus' resurrection, what was given to those who answered this call? How does this gift change our relationship with God? (See John 14:15-17, Romans 8:14-15)
4. Who can become "heirs according to the promise"? What "promise" is this? Why is this chosen race, this new priesthood, different from what went before? (See Galatians 3:26-29, Genesis 12:3, 1 Peter 2:9-10)
5. How did Jesus' position in the spiritual realm change after his resurrection? What impact did it have on the rest of the realm? Why is Satan's control and power slipping? Where will the true followers of Jesus be dwelling? (See John 5:26, 14:1-3, Philippians 2:9, Colossians 1:13-14)
6. How do the struggles in the spiritual realm affect our lives today? What can we do to prepare ourselves? Why are these struggles escalating? (See Ephesians 6:11-12, 1 Peter 5:8-9, John 12:31)
7. What was hidden even from the Old Testament prophets that is now being revealed? Who now "longs to look into" this? Who is "a spectacle to the world of men and of angels"? (See 1 Peter 1:10-12, 1 Corinthians 4:9, 1 Peter 1:10-12)
8. How will "a new heavens and a new earth" be established? Why will the day of judgement also be a "day of reconciliation"? Who will judge the world, and judge disobedient angels? (See Isaiah 65:17, Philippians 2:10, John 5:28-30, Jude 1:6, 1 Corinthians 6:2-3, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21, Acts 3:19-21) What will happen to Satan and his followers? How do we know? (See 1 Corinthians 15:24-28, Revelation 5:12-13, 20:7-10)
9. How will the earth change as a result of Jesus' death and resurrection? Use Isaiah 65:17-25 to describe the beautiful steps that bring about this transformation. (See Ecclesiastes 1:4, Habakkuk 2:14, Philippians 2:11) How will mankind be changed during this time? (See Micah 4:1-4, Revelation 21:1-4)
10. How does Jesus' death and resurrection change your life and the lives of your family and friends? Why is it so important in God's plan?