

Everlasting Gospel Bible Studies

Lesson 24

THE EARTH RESTORED



Since the fall of Adam, God-fearing men and women have wandered as pilgrims and strangers on this earth. Because of their love for, and commitment to God and His truth, they have been different and separate from the wicked. The pain, confusion, and rebellion of this world are alien to the God of love and to His followers. Instead of this earth being a restful home, it has become a preparation ground, often under trying and difficult circumstances, readying a people to live in a better land.

The people of God have always longed for an end to sorrow and temptation. God has promised them that the earth will be restored to its Edenic state where peace and happiness will reign forever. But first the saints will spend one thousand years in heaven reviewing the records of the lost. This examination will verify that God has judged righteously. There will never again be any challenge to His love and justice. When the thousand years are completed, God and His people will return to this earth with power and glory.

A. EVIL'S FINAL END

After the Holy City comes down from heaven, everyone will see and acknowledge God's justice and mercy in His dealings with the wicked. Satan's adherents from all ages will stand before God to receive their just reward (Revelation 20:12). After the full effects of sin on God's created beings have been witnessed, it will be seen that God is fair and merciful in destroying those who have chosen Satan as their lord.

1. How will God destroy the wicked? Malachi 4:1



PO Box 755, Hamilton, Victoria, 3300
69-71 King Street, Hamilton, Victoria, 3300
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* Final Call Outreach, P.O. Box 1, Rapidan VA 22733 *

2. **What will happen to the earth when the wicked are destroyed?**
Nahum 1:5-9; 2 Peter 3:10-12
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3. **What does the Bible say concerning the end of Satan?**
Ezekiel 28:17-19
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4. **How complete will be the destruction of sin and its effects?**
Nahum 1:9
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NOTE: When God brings a final end, He does so in mercy for both the righteous and the wicked. The righteous, having chosen God as their leader, have always suffered in a world largely influenced by Satan. Just so the wicked, on an even larger scale, would suffer in a perfect world. Their very nature would find a perfect heaven unbearable. Their eternal destruction is an act of great mercy by a loving God.

5. **What has been the hope of God's people throughout the ages?**
2 Peter 3:13; Hebrews 11:16
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6. **What will replace the earth after it has been destroyed?**
Revelation 21:1
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7. **In the new earth, what things will have passed away?**
Revelation 21:4
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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

- NOTE:** When the earth is made new, God will reign supreme (Revelation 19:6). Everyone in the universe will be in harmony and at rest.

- NOTE:** Our time on the new earth will not be spent in idleness, but we will be employed in useful and satisfying labor, just as Adam was in the beginning (Genesis 2:15).

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- What does Paul say of the things God has prepared for us? 1 Corinthians 2:9**

- NOTE:** No human mind can comprehend what the new earth will be like. It is beyond our ability to imagine the things to come. but our greatest joy will be in seeing Jesus, the One who made eternity a possibility for each of us. Now we cannot see Jesus, but then we shall behold him "face to face." I Corinthians 13:12

C. WORSHIP IN THE NEW EARTH

12. What has God prepared for His people? Hebrews 11:16

13. What new roles will Jesus play in the Holy City?
Revelation 21:22, 23

14. Who will worship God in the new earth?
Psalm 22:27; Revelation 21:24

15. Why do the host of heaven worship God? Nehemiah 9:6

NOTE: Throughout eternity, the saved of the world will join the heavenly beings to worship God, the Creator of everything in the heavens and the earth. Especially will the redeemed of the earth have eternal gratitude for God's salvation.

16. What has remained constant since the Creation, and will continue in the new earth?
Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Isaiah 66:22, 23

SUMMARY

When Jesus returns after the millennium, He will totally destroy sin from the earth. Not one spot or stain will be left. Sin and sinners will be brought to a complete and final end, and it will be recognized that God is just and merciful in making this end. After Jesus has destroyed the sin-blighted earth, He will recreate it. The saints who have spent one thousand years in heaven will then live in the new home that God has created. In this new earth, the people of God will not be idle. They will build their own homes and will plant gardens and eat from the bounties of the land. God will once again allow man to care for His creation, as did Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. In our new home we, with the angels, will worship God as our Creator and Lord. Throughout eternity we will worship on the Sabbath day, especially set aside to recognize God's creatorship.

PERSONAL COMMITMENT

Today I determine to spend this life in preparation for eternal life in the earth made new. I recognize that neither sin nor defilement will enter into that kingdom. Therefore, I commit my life to God and ask Him to cleanse me through the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ. I trust His promise that my efforts combined with God's grace and strength will prepare me to live in a perfect world.

Signed: _____