



JESUS' REVELATION TO JOHN

Revelation 19–22

Acts 1 shares the ascension of Jesus following His resurrection. After Jesus ascended into Heaven and the gathered men stood staring, an angel promised that Jesus would one day return, just as He left. The hope of the return of Christ is what the early church looked forward to and what the church today waits for expectantly. The last four chapters of the Book of Revelation share the miraculous events around the return of Christ, as well as the glorious nature of the new heaven and new earth. John describes, from a vision he had been given, the new heaven and new earth in the best way he can and helps believers know that when Christ returns, those who believe in Him will join Him to live forever.

After God righteously judges the world for sin, John sees a rider on a white horse who exits heaven, returns to earth, and secures justice for all sin. The reign of evil on the earth will end and God will banish Satan and all evil from the earth forever. The advent of a new heaven and new earth will bring forth rejoicing from people. Revelation 21:3 says that God will dwell with His people and live with them. As God intended in His relationship with Israel, God will be Israel's God and they will truly be His people. There will be no more death, sadness, crying, or pain. All of the evil things will have passed away and God will have made everything new.

Following these events, John described the new Jerusalem to come. John described a city with a high massive wall with twelve gates. The names of the twelve tribes of Israel will be inscribed on the gates. The foundation of the city, on which the wall is built, will have precious jewels as its base. Each gate in the city will be made of a single pearl, expertly crafted and made with care.

John announced that there will be no temple in the new Jerusalem because God is the temple. The earthly temple and tabernacle before were symbolic of how God would one day live with His people. When Jesus returns, He will tabernacle with His people for eternity.