

A New Heaven And A New Earth

Revelation 21:1-3

Scriptures that teach of the endurance of the earth...

Ecclesiastes 1:4

Psalms 104:1-5

Psalms 119:90

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The earth, an inheritance of the faithful...

Genesis 13:15

Romans 4:13

Psalms 37:9

"Heavens" and "earth" are frequently used in Scripture for the Leaders, or Government (the heavens); and the People, or the Ruled or subjects (of the earth).

Isaiah 1:2; 13:10; 14:13-15; Jeremiah 2:12; 4:23-31

Isaiah 65:17-18

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The heavens, figurative of a class of people...

Daniel 12:3

"shine" (Heb. *zahar*) = "to send out light" or
"to teach, warn, admonish"

2 Peter 3:13 - The redeemed then become the new heavens of the Millennium; *"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."*

Malachi 4:2 – The Saints appear as glorious luminaries reflecting the Glory of Christ; *"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall."*

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Revelation 21:1

And I saw *a new government or ruler ship* (heaven) and a new *host of subjects* (earth): for the first *government* (heaven) and the first *host of subjects* (earth) were passed away; and there was no more sea.

the *former* heaven and the *former* earth.

first (Gk *pro'-tos*) = *foremost* (in time, place, order or importance): - before, beginning, best, chief (-est), first (of all), former.

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The New Heavens and New Earth, styled Apocalyptically "the Former Heaven and the Former Earth," and termed in ch. 21:4, "the Former Things passed away," are the *Second* Israelitish Heavens, reckoning the Mosaic as the *First*; the destruction of which is treated of in 2 Pet. 3 and Heb. 8:7-13. But though the Mosaic Heavens were to be fired, and dissolved, and their elements melted with the fervency of the heat, he consoled his brethren of the circumcision who believed with the assurance that they would be succeeded in the appointed time by "New Heavens and a New Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13).

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These are the Millennial Heavens, to establish which is an important element of the work to be performed by Christ at his appearing in power. "I have put my words in thy mouth," saith the Eternal Spirit to him in whom He would afterwards manifest Himself; "and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant THE HEAVENS, and lay the foundations of THE EARTH, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people". When this work is accomplished, Zion will have put on her strength, and Jerusalem, the Holy City, her beautiful garments; and thenceforth there will no more come into her the uncircumcised and the unclean (Isa. 51:16; 52:1). (Eureka,p.335-6)

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The former Heavens of Revelation 21:4 are ... the Israelitish Heavens
i.e. the Kingdom of God as ruled by Christ and the Saints

2 Corinthians 12:1-4

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The reason given why a New Heaven and a New Earth are introduced is "because the Former Heaven and the Former Earth had passed away". The Millennial Constitution of the World, as may be perceived from Isa. 65, is not perfect. It will be a great advance upon both the old Mosaic, and the Times of the Gentiles; but it will fall far short of the constitution and order of things *beyond* the Thousand Years. We learn this from Paul in his reference to the visions and revelations granted to him, as it would seem, for his own exclusive benefit, for he would not, could not, or might not, communicate what he had seen and heard to others (2 Cor. 12:1-4).

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Speaking of himself, he says,

"I have known a man in Christ fourteen years ago (whether in body, I know not; or without the body, I know not: the Deity knew), such an one suddenly transported unto a THIRD HEAVEN. I have known such a man, that had been transported in the PARADISE, and had heard secret things, which it is not lawful for the man to utter." (2 Cor. 12:1-4)

This *third* heaven, or paradise in full manifestation, is John's New Heaven and New Earth, in which "there is no more sea". In the "Former Earth" which passes away, there is sin, and generation, and death; and because of the existence of sin, and flesh and blood, and death, there are mediatorship, and priesthood, and ruling with an iron rod, in the "Former Heaven".

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These things are not to continue permanently. Sin, which is the transgression of law, must be wholly and finally suppressed; flesh and blood must be exterminated from the earth; disease and death, which are "the wages of sin," abolished; mediatorship, and priesthood, necessary in the offering to the Deity of gifts and sacrifices for the sins of the erring and the ignorant (Heb. 5:1,2) "delivered up to the Father;" and religion, which is a Divinely appointed remedy for an existing breach between the creature and the Creator, superseded, as having answered its purpose, and being therefore no longer necessary. All these things pertaining to the former, or Millennial, Heaven and Earth, John saw had "passed away". Eureka: p.337

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2 Corinthians 12:1-4

First Heavens = Mosaic Economy which began as Yahweh as the King of Israel and was eventually overturned due to the effects of sins flesh.

Second Heavens = the Millennial Kingdom of God on the earth as ruled by Christ and the Saints. Ruling over a earth of mortals; thereby implicating that sin in the flesh continues to thrive.

Third Heavens = the eighth day period, after the thousand year reign of Christ, when the perfected kingdom is delivered back to the God of Abraham and sin and death are destroyed.

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The Sea figurative of peoples and nations....

Revelation 17:15 , Isaiah 57:20, Isaiah 17:12

Revelation 21:1

Speaking of that eighth day period when there shall not be nations, or the wicked, or men of other tongues. This is the time of “no more sea.”

1 Corinthians 15:24-26

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Ephesians 6:12

wrestle (Gk: "pale") = a physical hand-to-hand combat

During a believers probationary walk he must stand up against

A) spiritual wickedness = evil beliefs,

B) the rulers of the darkness of this world = those that have seized or hold orderly arrangements that propagate the ignorance of man.

Eph 4:17-18 contrast Col 1:12-13 and Proverbs 4:19

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Brethren, “**flesh and blood, or Sin's flesh, is radically bad**. When Paul subjected the nature he possessed in common with all the race of men, to an enlightened scrutiny, he declared that "in his flesh dwelt no good thing". He felt that he bore about a loathsome, leprous, nature, which he styled "a vile body;" so that it caused him to exclaim, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from this body of death?" (Rom. 7:18,24 Phil. 3:21). **Such a nature is incurable.** It is essentially turbulent, rebellious, and prone to evil; **and can only be controlled by the power of Divine principles, or an iron despotism.** When either of these are relaxed, it becomes presumptuous, and hostile to authority in doctrine and government.

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Nations that in the beginning of the Millennial Aion had been "joined to Yahweh and became his people," will be represented in the end of that Aion, by a generation practically unacquainted with the torment of the judgment hour, when their sea was mingled with fire. Seducers will arise among them, and lead them into revolt. This creates a crisis, in which flesh and blood nations are annihilated; and caused to cease for ever from the earth: whereby is at length fulfilled the saying addressed to Israel in Jer. 30:11, "though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee". **When this full end is made, the immortal inhabitants of the earth will be able to say, in the words of this prophecy, "the sea is no more".** (Eureka: p.339)