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OUR ETERNAL PROMISE

The prophet Isaiah gave many wonderful promises to those who are the redeemed. These are promises of the future messiah and future promises for the redeemed in Christ. The last four verses of the book of Isaiah tell us of our future beyond our temporary home in heaven. It is Isaiah 66:21-24.

A great promise is in verse 22 which says, ***“As for the new heavens (sun, moon, stars) and the new earth, which I will make, (and) shall remain (forever) before (in front of) Me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.”*** This tells us that we, and all our offspring shall inhabit the new (renewed) earth forever.

Verse 23 speaks of the (new) moon cycles and the weeks (sabbaths) upon this new earth. Verse 21 says, ***“And I will take of them for priests and for Levites (those who take care of God’s temple), saith the LORD.”*** Other scripture tells us that we will be made kings and priests (priestly kings or rulers) in this time coming. Verse 22 also says that ***“all flesh shall come to worship before me...”*** We shall have responsibilities in this new earth in the Lord’s service.

But there is also a word about the fate of the unrighteous ones in verse 24. It says, ***“And they (the redeemed on the new earth) shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses (bodies) of the men that have transgressed against Me. For their worm (eternal soul) shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched. And they shall be an abhorring (a terrible sight) unto all flesh.”*** This speaks of their unending eternal burning in the lake of fire, suffering and unable to escape where they will go for eternity.

Most Christians have been taught that they will live forever in heaven. That is unscriptural. We will live in heaven as long as this old unrenewed earth remains. Once the end of our age has come and gone, the old earth and heavens are made new. Everything is created all new by God. We will then inhabit the renewed earth and the New Jerusalem will also be there. We will live on the renewed earth, and we will have open access to the New Jerusalem.

What a blessed and glorious promise we have for the future for us.