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THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH

LESSON 1

Revelation tells of the millennial (thousand years) reign of Christ that follows His victory over Antichrist at Armageddon. After which Satan is released from the pit and makes a final war against Jesus. He is then cast into the lake of fire. Then there is a final resurrection of the dead.

When all of this is completed, then comes the final end of the way that earth exists today. Revelation 21:1 speaks of it in John's revelation of Jesus and the end times. It reads, ***"And I saw the new (regenerated) heaven(s) and the new (transformed) earth. For the first heaven(s) and the first (present day) earth were passed away (not like they presently are) and there was no more sea."***

The apostle Peter had written about this thirty years before John's prophetic revelation. In 2 Peter 3:10-12 it is written, ***"But the day of the Lord will come...in the which the heaven(s) shall pass away with a great noise (a big bang??), and the works (deeds) that are therein shall be burned up. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved (destroyed), what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation (conduct, living) and godliness, 12 looking... unto the coming day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent (intense) heat?"***

Peter's prophecy describes the end of this age (the world as we know it) and John's prophecy verifies it. It is also prophesied in the Old Testament. Psalm 102:25-26 says, ***"25 Of old (times) hast thou (Lord) laid the foundation (establish) of the earth. And the heavens are the works of thy hands 26 They shall perish (be undone, be void) but thou (Lord) shall endure."***

Isaiah 51:6 also says, ***"Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath. For the heavens shall vanish like smoke (dust) and the earth wax old like a garment. And (all) they that dwell therein shall die in like manner (as in a fiery smoke). But my salvation (Yshuw'ah) shall be forever..."***

Peter then speaks hope and encouragement that we saints will have our place in all that is recreated new (fresh). 2 Peter 3:13, ***"Nevertheless we, according to His promise look for (forward to) new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness."***

So, ***"according to His promise"*** what shall the new (refreshed, recreated) new earth or heavens mean for us, His faithful ones? We shall look at that tomorrow.