

THE GLORY of God's tomorrow will far surpass man's fondest dreams. An author could write a book, describing in detail his ideal of a perfect eternity; an artist could paint a picture, illustrating with glowing colors his vision of a perfect environment. These, however, could not begin to compare with what God has promised in His Word.

God's tomorrow will be glorious, not merely because of what will be included, but also because of what will be excluded. The Bible describes God's Kingdom by listing, not merely what the future will contain, but also that which it will not contain.

In reading chapters twenty-one and twenty-two of Revelation, which are descriptive of the new earth, one notices the recurrence of the phrase, "no more." In these chapters are listed some of man's present-day imperfections that will be omitted from God's perfect eternity.

No More Sea

In Revelation 21:1, we read, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer *any* sea." In this verse we notice that there will be no more sea. This means that there will be no more of those things that the sea symbolized. There will be no more danger, separation, turmoil, confusion, war. In the Bible, the words "sea" and "waters" often represent the nations

- restless, shifting mankind. As the Master calmed the storm on the Sea of Galilee, someday He will say to the raging nations of earth, "Peace be still!" Then, there will be no more turmoil or war. There will be no more sea.

No More Death

The second occurrence of the phrase "no more" in Revelation twenty-one is in verse four, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there will be no more death."

Death is the termination of life. It is the end of man's present-day existence. It is the limitation that God has placed on mortal man. It makes what man does to be temporary. Death is an appointment that every man must keep. "it is appointed for men to die once" (Hebrews 9:27). All men are subject to death and all of man is subject to death. Eternal life is not the natural possession of man. Immortality and eternal life can be received only through Christ. The promises of God's tomorrow are conditional. Only as one permits God to change his character and conduct today can he hope to share in the glory of that perfect eternity, where there will be no more death.

No More Sorrow

Reading further in Revelation twenty-one, one notices that there will be no more sorrow. "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any* death;

there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain" (Revelation 21:4).

The miracles of healing Christ performed during His earthly ministry were prophetic foretastes of the Kingdom age during which all sickness and sorrow will be removed. The messianic prophet wrote, "Then the eyes of the blind will be opened And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy." (Isaiah 35:5, 6).

No More Temples

The beloved disciple said, "I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple." (Revelation 21:22). In this verse we notice that there will be no temple in the New Jerusalem. Temples symbolize man's recognition of God's invisible presence. In the Holy City there will be no necessity for temples. The Symbolized will be visibly present. There will be no possibility of separation from Him.

No Night There

As the light of the sun fills the solar system, the glory of Christ's presence will illuminate the Holy City New Jerusalem. Man's cities are filled with darkness; God's city will be filled with light. Modern cities are characterized by crime, vice, and corruption. Christ's capital city will radiate godliness and righteousness. Earthly cities are built for the glory of man; the new earthly city will exist

for the glory of God. "And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp *is* the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;" (Revelation 21:23-25).

No More Curse

In Revelation 22:3, John continued to list some of those things that will be excluded from God's tomorrow: "There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it." The earth will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. The Redeemer will liberate nature from the Adamic curse. The earth will be restored to its original Edenic purity. The new earth will be the eternal paradise of God.

No More Sin

The seventh factor listed in the last two chapters of the Bible that will be omitted from God's tomorrow is that which has caused all imperfections. In the new earth, there will be no more sin. "and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life." (Rev. 21:27). Without the removal of sin, perfection would be impossible. Sin will be removed;

the wicked will be destroyed.

If one would desire to dwell in that new earth where there will be no more sea, no more death, no more sorrow, no more temples, no night there, and no more curse, he must permit God to inscribe his life today with the words, "no more sin."

The believer's life once was filled with sin, but now he has been forgiven. Once he stood before the Judge of the universe under condemnation. Now, however, he has accepted the One who was delivered for his offenses and was raised again for his justification. For him, "Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8:1). He now stands before God in Christ.

Through His death on the cross, Christ has saved believers from the penalty of sin. Dwelling in their lives through His Spirit, He saves them from the power of sin. When He comes again as King of glory and gives them immortality, He will save them from the presence of sin. Permit God to exclude sin from your life today, that He may include you in the glories of His tomorrow.

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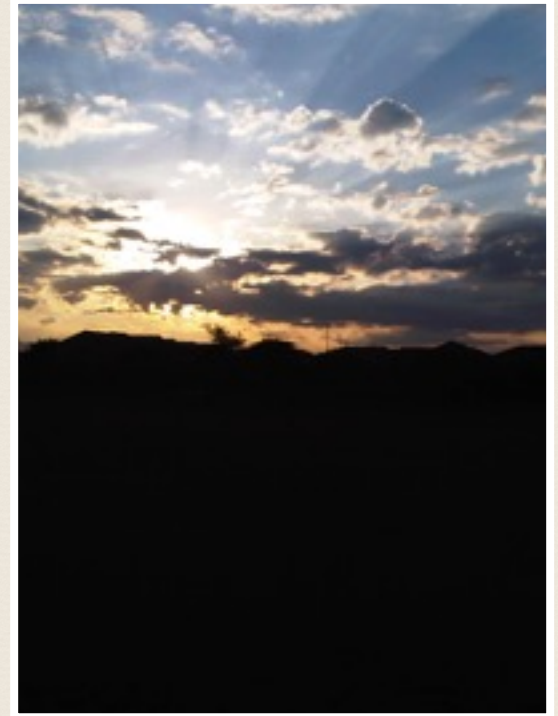
2020 Avalon Parkway Suite 400

McDonough, GA 30253

(678)833-1839

www.atlantabiblecollege.com

GOD'S TOMORROW



By
Alva Huffer

