

Brown Community Group Discussion Guide

"Death, Glorification, Unification: What happens to our Body, Soul and Spirit? Lesson 12 – Entire Creation Will be renewed at Glorification June 11, 2017

I. Lesson Starter:

What happens to the earth at our Glorification when Christ returns? When we are reunited as body, spirit and soul at the resurrection, what will we be doing for eternity? Where will we be after resurrection? How will God change a fallen world when he returns? To answer these questions and many more, over the next few weeks we will be examining how God will <u>Renew the entire of His</u> <u>creation</u> in a "New Heaven and Earth". We will be going through Chapter 57 in detail. This will begin to give us some insight into "What our reunited being will be doing and where will we be?

II. <u>Entire Creation Will Be Renewed</u>

God cursed the ground because of Adam's original sin. This created thorns, thistles, toiling and work for our food and very lives, pain and suffering and a broken relationship with God. A fallen world was instantly changed due to sin and our previously perfect union with God was changed. Paul tells us in Romans 8 that <u>creation itself will be renewed and set free from its bondage</u>. This <u>renewal will occur at the same time of Christ's return and our Glorification</u>.

• Glorification occurs at Christ's return when believers are resurrected and re-unified with our soul and spirit

Genesis 3:17-19

¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it, "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

Romans 8:18-21

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing <u>with the glory that will be revealed</u> <u>in us.</u> ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the <u>children of God to be revealed</u>. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the <u>creation itself will be liberated from its bondage</u> to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

III. We Will Live Eternally with God in a New Heaven and New Earth

After our resurrection and reunion with soul and spirit (Final Judgement timing of Non-Believers), believers will enter into the full enjoyment with God that he had always planned for us.

Matthew 25:34

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father<u>; take your</u> inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

Revelations 22:1-5

¹Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their

foreheads. ⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

We will enter a kingdom that is not just "heaven". Christians usually reference living with God in Heaven forever, but in fact scriptures tell us that there will be a "New Heaven and New Earth", an entirely new creation that we will spend eternity with God.

<u>Isaiah 65:17-20</u>

¹⁷ "See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. ¹⁹ I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. ²⁰ "Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed.

Isaiah 66:22-24

²² "<u>As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me</u>," declares the Lord, "so will your name and descendants endure. ²³ From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the Lord. ²⁴ "And they will go out and look on the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; the worms that eat them will not die, the fire that burns them will not be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind.

2 Peter 3:10-13

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. ¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, <u>what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives</u> ¹² as you look forward to <u>the day of God and speed its coming</u>. <u>That day will bring about the destruction of the</u> <u>heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat</u>. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward <u>to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.</u>

Revelations 21:1

¹Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." ⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

IV. Group Questions:

- 1. Without a full end times discussion, review the timing of our "resurrection/glorification" with the creation of the New Heaven and New Earth, clue: Think of the unbelievers final judgement?
- 2. Why did God decide or need to create a "New Heaven and New Earth"?
- 3. Most people think of us in Heaven with God for eternity, what does the New Earth part imply about our eternal existence in a resurrected form?
- 4. Pick out and list specific actions for believers mentioned in our scriptures in the New Heaven and Earth?

Study material is primarily taken from Systematic Theology by Wayne Gruden, Chapter 41-43, 57, 57; The Broadman Bible Commentary by the Southern Baptist Convention and Unger's Bible Dictionary.