



Brown Community Group Discussion Guide

“Death, Glorification, Unification: What happens to our Body, Soul and Spirit?”

Lesson 14 – Physical Creation Will be Renewed In a New Earth

June 25, 2017

I. **Lesson Starter:**

Will the New Earth be renewed or will it be totally destroyed and replaced by another earth? Will our resurrected bodies live on the New Earth just as the old bodies lived on the old earth? Will we continue to exist on this New Earth and Act in it?

II. **What is this “New Earth”?**

Last week we studied about the New Heaven and that it is the place where God most fully makes known his presence to bless. This week, we will look further at the New Earth.

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, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

Revelations 21:1

¹ Then 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.”

Psalm 102:23-28

²³ In the course of my life he broke my strength; he cut short my days. ²⁴ So I said: “Do not take me away, my God, in the midst of my days; your years go on through all generations. ²⁵ In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. ²⁶ They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. ²⁷ But you remain the same, and your years will never end. ²⁸ The children of your servants will live in your presence; their descendants will be established before you.

Hebrews 1:10-12

¹⁰ He also says, “In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. ¹¹ They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. ¹² You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.”

Hebrews 12:26-27

²⁵ Be sure you listen to the One Who is speaking to you. The Jews did not obey when God’s Law was given to them on earth. They did not go free. They were punished. We will be punished more if we do not listen to God as He speaks from heaven. ²⁶ On Mount Sinai, God’s voice shook the earth. But now He has

promised, saying, “Once more I will shake the earth and the heavens.” ²⁷ When God says, “Once more,” He means He will take away everything of this world that can be shaken so the things that cannot be shaken will be left. ²⁸ Since we have received a holy nation that cannot be moved, let us be thankful. Let us please God and worship Him with honor and fear. ²⁹ For our God is a fire that destroys everything.

These passages indicate that the physical creation will be renewed in a significant way. There is considerable debate as to whether the current earth will be destroyed completely and replaced or just changed and renewed.

III. Group Questions:

1. In 2 Peter 3:12-13, what do the words suggest to you about the extent to which the “old earth” will be changed, regenerated or totally new?
2. Think about the perfection of creation in the Garden of Eden, God’s relationship with Adam/Eve and the heavens at that time; God said that His creation was “Good”; Now compare that to Psalms 102 and discuss how the old earth is compared to worn out garments? What does this mean?
3. Have someone read Romans 8:19-21; In light of the lesson scriptures and this additional one, discuss why a “New Earth” is required for eternity?
4. While sin is committed by only human soul/spirits, have you considered that the “entire of creation” is under “Bondage to decay” because of our actions? Why can’t God just replace us sinful humans and be done with it for eternity?
5. What does the regenerated “New Earth” tell you about a Christians eternal existence in a resurrected form?

Study material is primarily taken from Systematic Theology by Wayne Gruden, Chapter 41-43, 56, 57; The Broadman Bible Commentary by the Southern Baptist Convention and Unger’s Bible Dictionary.