



## Brown Community Group Discussion Guide

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

Lesson 15 – Our Resurrected Bodies Will Be Part of the New Earth

July 2, 2017

### I. Lesson Starter:

Last week we studied about the extent of which the old earth would be destroyed to make way for the New Earth. Today we will be looking at the “New Earth”, how is it made, what does it look like, what will we be doing on it, what does it contain? How much of it will be controlled and governed by His people? This lesson continues to deal only with Born Again Christians and our presence in a resurrected body form.

### II. Our Resurrected Bodies will be Part of the New Earth

As we have looked at briefly, the new earth will be a place and have activities for our resurrected bodies. We will never grow old, sick, weak or ill. A strong consideration for support of this idea starts with God’s words about the original creation:

#### Genesis 1:31

***<sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.***

***<sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.***

If God’s original physical creation along with Adam and Eve were “Very Good” and as we have studied in past lessons “perfect and holy”, then how much better will be His eternal creation!!!! There was nothing inherently sinful or evil about original physical creation or the physical bodies he gave us. Yet we through sin and willful choices marred and distorted what God had originally called “very good”.

God will make the “New Earth” perfect, including the entire creation and bring it into harmony with His purpose for which he originally created it. As we have studied to this part, we can expect:

- Physical Bodies
- Sinless on the New Earth to fulfill God’s eternal words of “Very Good”
- We will have activities to function and fulfill God’s purpose
- We will be doing what God originally intended for us, before sin

#### Hebrews 2:5-10

***<sup>5</sup>It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. <sup>6</sup> But there is a place where someone has testified: “What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him? <sup>7</sup> You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor <sup>8</sup> and put everything under their feet.” In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. <sup>9</sup> But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. <sup>10</sup> In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. <sup>11</sup> Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> He says, “I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.” <sup>13</sup> And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again he says, “Here am I, and the children God has given me.”***

This says that we do “not yet” see everything under subjection to man, but promises that at that point on the New Earth it will be. This of course will be under the Kingship of Jesus, our Lord. This will then finally fulfill God’s original plan to have everything in the world subject to the human beings that he had made. We will “inherit” the earth as spoken of in Matthew 5:5 and reign over it as God originally intended.

### **III. Descriptions of Life on New Earth**

Descriptions of our resurrected life in the New Heaven and New Earth include many items that are very much a part of our current life. This includes things such as:

- Eat and drink (at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, Rev 19:9)
- Jesus says he will not drink wine again until the heavenly kingdom comes again (Luke 22:18)
- Rivers will flow before the throne of God in the Heavenly City (Rev 22:1)
- Calendars or some type of Continuum of Time and fruit (Tree of Life will bear fruit yielding a different fruit each month; Rev 22:2)
- Trees and Plants
- New Jerusalem, buildings, thrones, gates, walls, foundations
- Nations, nationalities, borders
- Music is present, so that must mean instruments and players
- Houses, streets of God and many references to where our Resurrected Bodies may live on the New Heaven and New Earth

There is no supporting or strong reasons to say that all of these scriptural references are merely symbolic, without any literal reference. It would seem that God in making all of these things “Very Good” originally, is perfecting them in the New Earth for us in our Resurrected Bodies. These will be excellent and perfect features of our eternal presence, use through subjugation and place of staying.

With all of that said, Revelations obviously has many symbolic descriptions concerning the New Heaven and New Earth. We have to keep in context that God can only communicate to us currently in ways that we can possibly understand. It would be hard to read something about an environment or place in which we have no understanding to put the descriptions in context.

While there are many things we cannot understand or interpret, it does not seem inconsistent to say that we will experience all or many of these things referenced as they are in the scriptures. Moreover with God being infinite and us being finite beings, can you imagine the opportunities for us to learn directly about God’s greatness, God’s knowledge, God’s omniscience???? This is what we will be doing for eternity in our Resurrected Bodies on the New Earth!! We will be continuing the learning process that began in our human life to learn more about God and about his relationship to his creation. What a beautiful place that will be!!

### **IV. Group Questions:**

1. In Genesis 1:31, discuss what “Very Good” means to you when God described his creation? Be specific what characteristics it possessed.
2. How do you envision the “New Earth” being like God’s original creation? If it was perfect before the introduction of sin, what would he need to change? Think of both physical and spiritual aspects?
3. In Hebrews 2:8, discuss what this means that “all things will be subject” to man?
4. In the second part of Hebrews 2:8, what does “Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them” mean? What specifically is not currently subject and why?
5. In section III of this lesson, do you think the numerous references about the New Heaven and New Earth are literal or symbolic to just help us minimally understand?

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.