

Study Guide: The Fall of the World—"The Eternal Condition of Eternity"

Sunday PM-August 9, 2026

Introduction

This study guide explores the transition from our current world to the eternal state as described in the Bible. It examines the destruction of the old heavens and earth by fire, the creation of a superior New Heaven and New Earth, and the arrival of the New Jerusalem. The lesson emphasizes that God's ultimate plan is to dwell directly with His people in a place free from death, sorrow, and pain. Through this study, we see how the "crown jewel" of eternity—the New Jerusalem—serves as a beautiful home for all the saints.

Quiz: The Fall of the World and the New Creation

1. According to the lesson, how does the future destruction of the world differ from the destruction that occurred during the Great Flood?
2. Why is the invention of the atomic bomb mentioned as a way to help modern people understand the prophecy in 2 Peter 3?
3. What is the specific difference between the two Greek concepts of "new" (neos and kainos) mentioned in the study?
4. How does the lesson describe the physical potential of the Earth to be destroyed by fire based on its internal structure?
5. Why will the New Heaven and New Earth no longer have a "sea," and what did the sea represent to people in ancient times?
6. What is the "Chandelier Theory," and how does it explain the position of the New Jerusalem during the Millennial Kingdom?
7. Who are the primary residents of the New Jerusalem, and why is it referred to as a "bride city"?
8. Why will there be no need for a physical temple or sun in the New Jerusalem?
9. In what way does God provide "Divine Kleenex" for His people in the eternal state, according to Revelation 21?
10. What does the phrase "It is done" mean when spoken by Jesus Christ from the throne in the context of the new creation?

Answer Key

1. While God once purged the world with water during the time of Noah, the scriptures in 2 Peter 3:7 state that the current heavens and earth are reserved for fire. This next destruction will be a total transformation of the universe by fervent heat rather than a flood.
2. The atomic bomb shows that mankind now has the technology to split an atom, creating a massive chain reaction of fire and noise. This scientific capability makes it easier to understand how God could cause the elements of the entire universe to melt and burn up.
3. *Neos* refers to something that is new in a sequence of time, like a newer version of an old item. In contrast, *Kainos* refers to a new quality that is vastly superior and unadulterated, which is the word used to describe the New Heaven and New Earth.
4. The Earth has a thin crust that holds down a center predominantly made of fire and magma, similar to a "lake of fire." If God allowed the internal pressures that cause earthquakes and volcanoes to be released all at once, the planet would easily be destroyed by fire and noise.
5. In ancient times, the sea was viewed as a dangerous place full of monsters and served as a boundary that separated nations. In the New Earth, there will be no more separation or fear, though there will still be a "pure river of water of life."
6. The "Chandelier Theory" suggests that during the thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ on Earth, the New Jerusalem remains suspended above the planet like a glowing light. It is thought to be shaped like a cube or a diamond, with the glorified saints traveling between the city and the Earth.
7. The New Jerusalem is the home for the Church (the Bride of Christ) as well as Old Testament saints like Abraham. It is called a "bride city" because its character is defined by its holy occupants who have been redeemed by God.
8. A temple is a symbol of God's presence, but in the New Jerusalem, God Himself and the Lamb are present in their full, revealed glory. Because the real person of God is there, symbols like temples or even the sun are no longer necessary to provide light or connection.
9. God will personally wipe away every specific tear from the eyes of His people, removing all silent and vocal sorrows. This means that all memories of poverty, loneliness, and disappointment will be eliminated by the overwhelming glory of His presence.
10. This phrase signifies that the plan of redemption is completely finished and the universe has been successfully recreated. It marks the end of all sin, death, and wickedness, fulfilling God's total plan for His creation.

Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast the world we live in today, which is described as being "full of disease and pollution," with the description of the New Earth provided in the lesson.
2. Explain the significance of the New Jerusalem being described as a "perfect cube" and its massive size. How does this reflect God's preparation for His people?
3. Discuss the relationship between the Church and the Old Testament saints in the context of the New Jerusalem. How do the scriptures in Hebrews and Ezekiel support this view?
4. Analyze the concept of "All in All" mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15. What does this suggest about the final relationship between Jesus Christ, God the Father, and the recreated universe?
5. Reflect on the idea that in heaven, we will no longer have the capacity to feel sorrow for those who are not there. How does the "full glory of God" change the human experience of memory and emotion?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Aten Ministries:** The ministry of the month mentioned in the lesson, led by Sherman and Tammy, which the church supports.
- **Brimstone:** A traditional term for sulfur, used in the Bible to describe the fiery judgment that fell on Sodom.
- **Chandelier Theory:** A theological idea that the New Jerusalem is suspended over the Earth during the Millennial Kingdom.
- **Elements:** The basic building blocks of the physical universe; 2 Peter 3 says these will melt with "fervent heat."
- **Fervent Heat:** Intense, burning heat described as the force that will melt the elements during the destruction of the old world.
- **Glorified Bodies:** The perfect, eternal bodies that believers will receive, similar to the body Jesus Christ had after His resurrection.
- **Magma:** The hot, liquid rock found under the Earth's crust, referred to in the lesson as a potential source for the Earth's fiery destruction.
- **Millennial Kingdom:** The thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ on the Earth.
- **New Jerusalem:** The holy city that comes down from heaven, described as the "crown jewel" of the new creation.
- **Perdition:** A state of eternal punishment or ruin for ungodly men.

- **Stadia:** An ancient unit of measurement; the New Jerusalem is 12,000 stadia (approximately 1,400 miles) in length, width, and height.
- **Tabernacle:** A dwelling place; Revelation 21:3 states that the tabernacle of God is now with men.

Greek Word Guide

The following Greek terms were used in the lesson to provide a deeper understanding of the biblical text:

- **Neos** (NEE-os): Refers to something that is new in terms of time or a sequence (e.g., a "newer" model).^[^1]
- **Kainos** (KAI-nos): Refers to something that is new in terms of quality; vastly superior and different in nature from the old.^[^2]
- **Dakruon** (DAK-roo-on): The Greek word for "tear"; the lesson notes it refers to specific, individual tears being wiped away.^[^3]

[^1]: Used to contrast with the quality-based "new" used for the New Heaven. [^2]: Referred to in the transcript as "kos," this describes the "new quality" of the creation and the believer in Christ. [^3]: Spelled phonetically in the source as "panzakan p A K R U an," meaning every single tear.