

#TargetPractice: What can we look forward to in the new heaven and new earth?

Have some tissues, bandaids, snacks/water, an empty medicine bottle, and a flashlight. These will represent the 'bad' things that we will no longer have in the new heaven and earth.

Have you ever...

- felt sad and maybe even cried?
- been sick and needed to see a doctor or needed medicine?
- got hurt?
- felt scared because it was dark and you heard an unfamiliar noise?
- been playing and become really thirsty/hungry?

How do those situations make you feel? Do you like how those situations make you feel? Of course not! None of those things are something you look forward to. In fact, we try to avoid them, don't we?

Wouldn't it be nice we never had to experience pain, fear, sickness, sadness, or even thirst? How would you feel about that?

Well, that is exactly what God promises those who believe in their hearts and say with their mouths that He is Lord!

When we choose to follow Jesus, we become part of His family. One day in the future (no one knows when) Jesus will return to earth. All of sin will be defeated and evil will be cast away. God will then make all of creation new again. Heaven and earth will become one again (just like the Garden of Eden in the beginning). God will be directly with us and all will be perfect!

We won't be needing...

- tissues...there won't be any sadness!
- medicine...there won't be any sickness!
- bandaids...there won't be any pain or injuries!
- flashlights...there won't be any darkness! God will be all the light we need.
- water...Jesus will give us the water of life so we will no longer thirst!
- gates to the city closed...there will be no danger we have to keep out!

See Revelation 21:1-7

Revelation 21:5 says, "Look, I'm making all things new!"

Which of these things are you most excited about?

Many people refer to the book of Revelation as 'the end of time,' however it is only the end of time as we know it. It is actually only the beginning of something new and wonderful for the believers of Jesus!!

This knowledge should drive us to 2 things. What do you think they are?

- Accept Jesus, ask for His forgiveness, and follow Him
- Tell others so they can be a part!!

Revelation 22:20 says, "Jesus is the One who says that these things are true. Now he says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

We don't know when He is returning, but He is! We just need to make sure we are ready!!