

How does this apply to me?

Have a hunger for the world to come.

But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 2 Peter 3:13 (ESV)

For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. Galatians 5:5 (ESV)

Live life now for the greatest joy in the next.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 2 Peter 3:11 (ESV)

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19–21 (ESV)

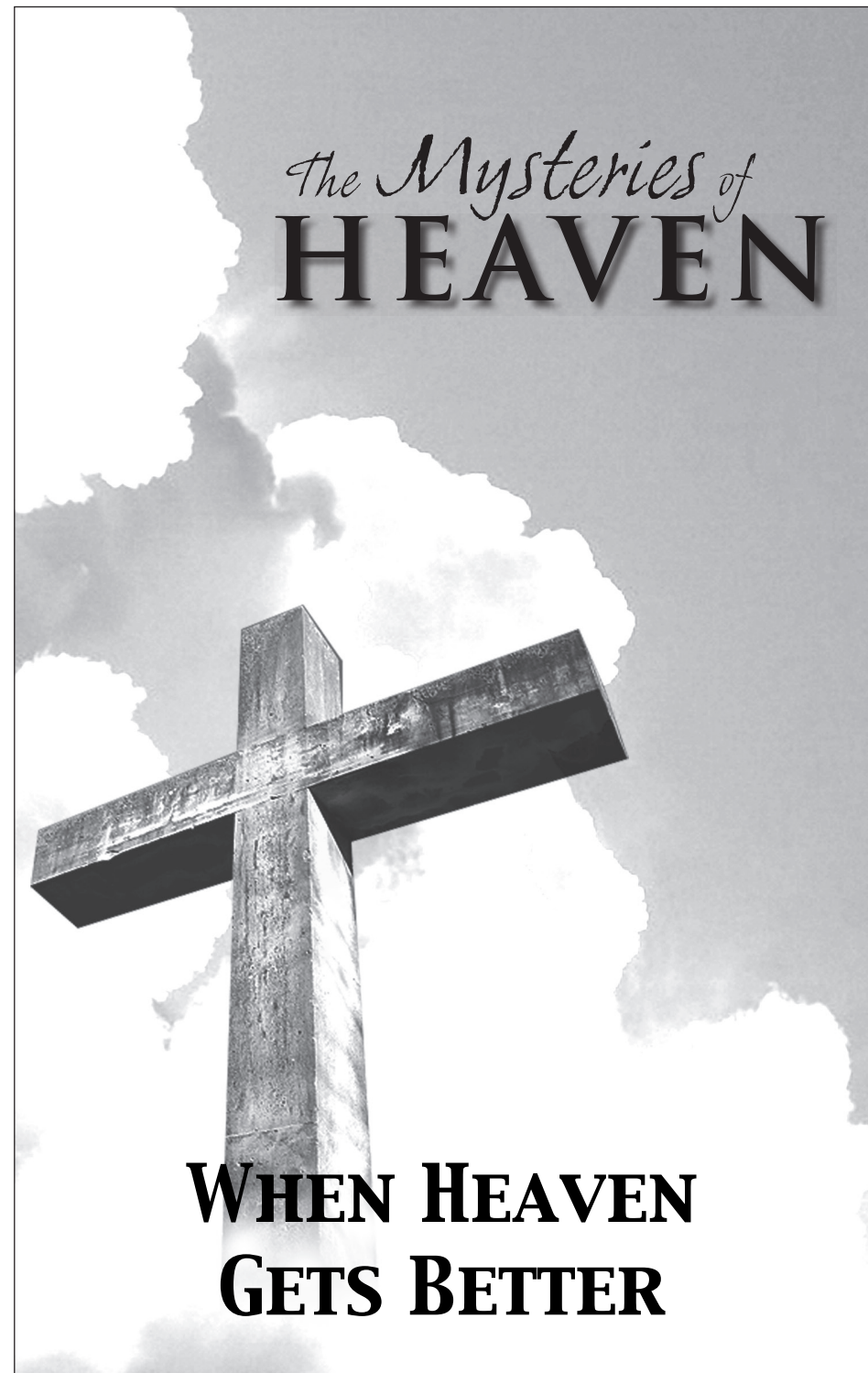
Don't let the Devil keep you from grasping your future.

- He wants to silence worship.
- He wants to keep us in the grip of sin.
- He wants to steal the joy of sacrifice

Want To Learn More? This handout, small group questions, sermon manuscript and the audio files of the sermon are available at:

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Next Week: The New Jerusalem - Welcome to the heavenly city!
Two Weeks: Pastor Greg Speaking



Faith Evangelical Free Church

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When Heaven Gets Better

Revelation 20:11-21:8

The Bible has a big picture

Creation Past Genesis 1-2	Present Genesis 3 - Revelation 20	Creation Future Revelation 21-22
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- Original pure mankind → Fallen, corrupted, dying mankind → Vastly improved, perfect, sinless, undying, exalted through Christ mankind.
- Original pure earth → Fallen corrupted earth → Renewed, incorruptible, vastly improved sin free earth united with heaven.
- Original Adam ruled the earth → Satan usurps reign from Adam, Christ (second Adam) conquers Satan's rule on earth but doesn't fully exercise his rights → Christ exercises his full rights to rule and re-delegates the right to rule to redeemed man over a vastly improved new creation.
- God is in heaven but walks with man in Garden of Eden → Man cut off from God because of sin but God restores through Jesus → God moves heaven to new earth and dwells with man permanently.

Why restore all things?

and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. Acts 3:20–21 (NIV)

that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. Romans 8:21 (ESV)

“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain. Isaiah 66:22 (ESV)

Will the earth be destroyed or renewed?

Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, Psalm 102:25–26 (ESV)

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. 2 Peter 3:10 (ESV)

New - something that existed but appears in a new way.

What will the new creation be like?

Greater creation beauty

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. Psalm 145:3 (ESV)

Continual growth in joy and pleasure.

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11 (ESV)

Freedom from the results of sin.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:4 (ESV)