

What Are We Saved For?

Promise: Christ died for us so that we might inherit the Kingdom
Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg
Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; [Revelation 21:1-7](#); John 16:12-22
(5th Sunday of Easter, 5/15/22)

Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. — v. 3

Lead In – You have repeatedly heard me speak the words from Luther’s Small Catechism of what we are saved from. I mention three things. *He has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil.* This is foundational. But, gloriously, we are not only saved *from*, but we are saved *for!* And this morning I want us to consider what we are freed for. The Second Lesson from the Book of Revelation will help us to do so. For teaching purposes I will list seven things...

- I. **We Are Destined for a New Heaven and New Earth**
- II. **Destined Where the Sea Is No More**
- III. **Destined for the Heavenly City Come Down**
- IV. **Destined for the Bride Adorned For the Groom**
- V. **Destined for Dwelling with our Lord in Person**
- VI. **Destined for Where Every Tear Is Wiped Away**
- VII. **Destined for Where Thirst Is Quenched**

Parting Shot – According to John 5:24 baptized believers are already participating in eternal life: *Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.* At the same time we do not yet see and experience what we will be when our Lord appears. We await the consummation of the Kingdom. Jesus said in John 16 that in this world you will have tribulation. But then He encourages us to be of good cheer, for He has overcome the world. His death and resurrection give evidence of this! In the meanwhile we have little foretastes of the feast to come...

Is 65:(17-25) 17 For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.

Mt 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Ro 8:19-21 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 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.

Re 4:6a And before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

He 11:10 For [Abraham] was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Re 19:7-9 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself

Revelation 21:1-7 ESV

The New Heaven and the New Earth

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ 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.”

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.”

1Jn 3:2-3 (RSV) Beloved, we are God’s children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. And every one who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Mt 5:4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Ps 30:5 Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Jn 4:10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

Jn 4:13-14 Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

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