MINISTÈRE DU PASTEUR CLÉMENT SALOMON · BIBLE STUDY #13

Heaven and the New Earth

The home God is building — and the door is open

Grann Odette built her little house in Port-au-Prince one cinder block at a time. Every block was a sacrifice — a month without meat, a dress she never bought. It took her eleven years.

On January 12, 2010, it took less than a minute for the walls to crack.

Years later, her grandson Jonathan sat with her under a mango tree and asked the question children ask: "Grann, when we go to heaven, will we just sit on clouds and play harps all day?"

She laughed and opened her old Bible. "Clouds? No, pitit. Listen to this." Her finger stopped on a line in Isaiah. *"They shall build houses, and inhabit them."* She tapped the page twice. "You hear that? Houses. And nobody will ever crack mine again."

Grann Odette was right. And what the Bible says about our forever home is far more real — and far better — than most people have ever been told.

Not a cloud. A new earth.

Most of us picked up our picture of heaven from cartoons: white robes, fluffy clouds, and nothing much to do. But the last pages of the Bible describe something very different:

> *"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea."*
>
> **Revelation 21:1 (KJV)**

A new **earth**. Solid ground under your feet. God had promised it long before, through the prophet Isaiah: *"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth"* (Isaiah 65:17). And the

apostle Peter held on to the same promise:

> *"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."*
>
> **2 Peter 3:13 (KJV)**

God is not throwing His creation away. He is making it **new** — the way He meant it to be in Eden, before sin broke everything.

The best part: God moves in

A house is only a house. What makes it *home* is who lives there with you. Listen to the loud voice John heard from heaven:

> *"Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."*
>
> **Revelation 21:3 (KJV)**

In Eden, sin separated us from God. For thousands of years since, He has been working to close that distance — through the sanctuary, through the prophets, and most of all through Jesus, who came and lived among us. The whole Bible story ends with God and His people **living together again**, face to face (Revelation 22:4).

The things that will never come back

Now read slowly. This is a list of everything that will be gone forever:

> *"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."*
>
> **Revelation 21:4 (KJV)**

No more funerals. No more hospital waiting rooms. No more phone calls in the middle of the night. No more goodbyes at the airport. Isaiah paints it too:

> *"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing."*
>
> **Isaiah 35:5-6 (KJV)**

And notice who wipes the tears. Not an angel. Not a helper. **God Himself.** Every tear you ever cried in secret, He saw — and one day He will wipe the last one away.

> This is a promise about God's future, not a promise about how any sickness will turn out today. Today we pray, we trust, and we get good care. But on that day, pain will be finished — for good.

A real life — with real work and real joy

Here is where Grann Odette's verse comes in. God describes life on the new earth with the most ordinary, beautiful things:

> *"And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them."*
>
> **Isaiah 65:21 (KJV)**

Building. Planting. Eating the fruit of your own work — and nobody takes it from you (Isaiah 65:22). Even the animals will be at peace: *"The wolf and the lamb shall feed together… They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD"* (Isaiah 65:25).

John saw more:

> *"And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb… And there shall be no more curse… And they shall see his face."*
>
> **Revelation 22:1, 3-4 (KJV)**

A river of life. The tree of life, open again (Revelation 22:2). No more curse — the curse that started in Eden (Genesis 3:17) is finally lifted. Heaven is not boring. It is life the way it was always supposed to feel.

Bigger than your imagination

And still, every picture in this study is too small. Paul put it this way:

> *"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."*
>
> **1 Corinthians 2:9 (KJV)**

Think of the most beautiful place you have ever seen — the mountains of Kenscoff at sunrise, the water at Labadee, your grandmother's kitchen on a Sunday morning. God says: *you have not seen anything yet.*

"I go to prepare a place for you"

So how do we get there? The night before He died, Jesus made His friends a promise:

> *"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."*
>
> **John 14:2-3 (KJV)**

"If it were not so, I would have told you." Jesus does not make empty promises. He is coming back — really, visibly — to gather His people, including those who sleep in the grave (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; see our studies *"The Blessed Hope"* and *"What Really Happens When We Die?"*). The Bible then describes the holy city coming down from God (Revelation 21:2) and the earth made new — the home He has been preparing all along.

And the door is open. The price was paid at the cross, not by you:

> *"And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."*
>
> **Revelation 22:17 (KJV)**

Freely. You cannot buy a single block of that house. You do not have to. Eternal life is *"the gift of God... through Jesus Christ our Lord"* (Romans 6:23). All that is left is to say yes to Him.

The heart of it: a home where your name is expected

Grann Odette never got her cracked house fixed. She rests now, waiting for the morning of the resurrection. But she did not die hopeless. She died holding a promise from a Carpenter who knows how to build — and who said He is preparing a place with her name on it.

There is a place for your name too. Not because you are good enough — none of us are — but because Jesus is good, and He wants you home.

Before you close this — one question

If Jesus came back today, would you be ready to go home with Him? Or has life's pain made heaven feel far away, like a story for someone else?

It is not too late, and it is not too far. We would be honored to pray with you, study the Bible with you, or walk with you as you get to know the Jesus who is preparing a place for you.

Would you like to know more about Jesus, study the Bible, or go deeper on this topic? Reach us today:

📞 **903-748-9353** · ✉️ **jils19802012@gmail.com**
Or leave a comment, send us a direct message, and **subscribe + follow** on YouTube and Facebook.

Don't miss what's next. Ten men were healed by Jesus — only one came back to say thank you, and Jesus noticed. Our next devotional: *"A Heart of Thanksgiving."* Subscribe now so it reaches you the moment it's out. If you wait, you'll have to come find it. 🔔

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Viewer Handout

Heaven and the New Earth — pocket version

5 truths to remember

1. God's final promise is not endless clouds but a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1; 2 Peter 3:13).
2. The best part of that home is that God Himself will live with His people (Revelation 21:3).
3. No more death, sorrow, crying or pain — God will wipe away every tear (Revelation 21:4).
4. It will be real life: building, planting, peace, the river of life, and seeing His face (Isaiah 65:21-25; Revelation 22:1-5).
5. Jesus is preparing that place and coming back for us — and it is a free gift to whoever will receive it (John 14:2-3; Revelation 22:17).

Memory verse

> *"I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself."*
>
> **John 14:2-3 (KJV)**

Think & pray about it

- What picture of heaven did I grow up with — and how does the Bible's picture change it?
- Which tear or loss am I most longing for God to wipe away?
- Who do I want to see in that home — and have I told them about the invitation?

FOR TEACHERS & SMALL GROUPS

Presenter Bullet Sheet

- **Open with the story** (Grann Odette's cracked house) — ask: "When you were a child, what did you imagine heaven would be like?"
- **Point 1 — A real new earth:** Revelation 21:1; Isaiah 65:17; 2 Peter 3:13. God restores His creation; He does not discard it.
- **Point 2 — God moves in:** Revelation 21:3; 22:4. The whole Bible story ends with God and His people together, face to face.
- **Point 3 — What will never return:** Revelation 21:4; Isaiah 35:5-6. No death, sorrow, crying or pain. Stress: a promise about the future, not a guarantee about any illness today.
- **Point 4 — Real life, real joy:** Isaiah 65:21-25; Revelation 22:1-5. Houses, gardens, peace among animals, the river and tree of life, no more curse.
- **Point 5 — Beyond imagination:** 1 Corinthians 2:9.
- **Point 6 — How we get there:** John 14:2-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Revelation 21:2. Jesus returns for His people; the holy city comes down; the earth is made new. Point to the "Blessed Hope" and "When We Die" studies.
- **Christ-centered close:** Revelation 22:17; Romans 6:23 — the home is a free gift paid for at the cross; Jesus is the Carpenter preparing a place.
- **Appeal:** invite each person to say yes to Jesus' invitation and to name one person they want to invite too. Offer prayer and Bible study.
- **Close:** memory verse (John 14:2-3) + tease the next devotional ("A Heart of Thanksgiving").

EVIDENCE-BASED · FACT-CHECKED

10 Myths vs. Facts

Myth	Fact (with Bible)
1. Heaven means floating on clouds forever.	God promises "a new heaven and a new earth," and He will dwell with His people there (Revelation 21:1-3; 2 Peter 3:13).
2. We will be bodiless spirits.	Jesus "shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body" (Philippians 3:21; see 1 Corinthians 15:42-44).
3. Eternity will be boring, with nothing to do.	The redeemed "shall build houses... and plant vineyards" (Isaiah 65:21-22), and "his servants shall serve him" (Revelation 22:3).
4. People go straight to heaven the moment they die.	The dead in Christ rise when Jesus returns (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17); He comes to receive His people to Himself (John 14:3).
5. There will still be sadness and pain there.	"There shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain" (Revelation 21:4).
6. The new earth is only a symbol for a feeling.	Jesus said, "if it were not so, I would have told you" (John 14:2); "the meek... shall inherit the earth" (Matthew 5:5).
7. Sin and evil could start all over again.	"Affliction shall not rise up the second time" (Nahum 1:9); "there shall be no more curse" (Revelation 22:3).
8. You have to earn your place in heaven.	Eternal life is "the gift of God... through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23); "whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17).
9. Heaven is only for a small, special group.	John saw "a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations" (Revelation 7:9); "whosoever believeth" (John 3:16).
10. Thinking about heaven makes people useless on earth.	"Every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself" (1 John 3:3); the hope of a new earth shapes holy living now (2 Peter 3:11-14).

Where this comes from (Sources)

This study is built on the Bible and reflects the published beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Verify everything for yourself:

- The Bible — passages on the new earth: Genesis 3:17; Isaiah 35:5-6; Isaiah 65:17-25; Nahum 1:9; Matthew 5:5; John 3:16; John 14:2-3; Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 1 Corinthians 15:42-44; Philippians 3:21; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Peter 3:11-14; 1 John 3:3; Revelation 7:9; Revelation 21:1-5; Revelation 22:1-5, 17 (King James Version, public domain).
- Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Belief #28, "The New Earth" (see also #25 "The Second Coming of Christ" and #27 "The Millennium and the End of Sin") — official beliefs: https://adventist.org/beliefs
- 28 Fundamental Beliefs (2020 edition, PDF): https://adventist.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/ADV-28Beliefs2020.pdf
- General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists: https://gc.adventist.org/
- Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy* (ch. 42, "The Controversy Ended"), public domain: https://whiteestate.org/ / https://m.egwwritings.org/
- Related studies in this library: *"The Blessed Hope"* and *"What Really Happens When We Die?"* — https://pasteurclementsalomon.org/resources.html · Questions? https://pasteurclementsalomon.org/faq.html

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