"A New Heaven"

Revelation 21:1-8

November 24, 2019

Joni Eareckson Tada writes in her book, *Heaven Your Real Home*, "I'm an <u>artist</u>. I have to confess, though, I've never succeeded in painting a picture of <u>heaven</u>. People ask me why and I haven't come up with a good answer, except to say that heaven <u>defies</u> the blank canvas of the artist. The best I can offer are scenes of breathtaking mountains or clouds that halfway reflect something of <u>heaven's</u> majesty. I'm never quite able to <u>achieve</u> the <u>effect</u>."

I. THE <u>LOCATION</u> OF HEAVEN: Revelation 21:1-2

A. A new heaven and a new earth presuppose that the old heaven and earth will be renovated.

2 Peter 3:10

- B. Our Heaven will be on the New Earth.
- C. "It seems to me that some cosmical change having passed upon this material world in which we dwell, and in its regenerated form will be the final abode of redeemed humanity. That, I think, is the natural interpretation of a great deal of scriptural teaching."

 Alexander Maclaren
- D. The new Jerusalem will come down out of heaven by God <u>prepared</u>.

II. THE SIZE OF HEAVEN: Revelation 21:3

A. The tabernacle of God with men ...

B. How large is the new heaven?

- 1500 cubic miles would hold 30 billion families of 5 within a 594 square mile living space.
- C. It is large enough for the entire <u>human race</u>.

"God is not willing that any should perish." 2 Peter 3:0

"God so loved the world that He gave ..." John 3:16

III. THE <u>LAWS</u> OF HEAVEN: Revelation 21:4

- A. The laws that govern heaven will make that place the <u>happiest place</u> that we could ever imagine.
- B. "It's the hope of <u>dying</u> that has kept me <u>alive</u> this long."

 Vance Havner

 "Have a good time at my <u>funeral</u> because I'm not <u>going</u>

 to <u>be there!</u>"

 Tony Evans

III. THE **LONGEVITY** OF HEAVEN: Revelation 21:6-8

- A. There is no teaching on <u>annihilation</u> in the Bible.
- B. The word that best characterizes our world we live in is temporary.
- C. At a cemetery in Indiana, an old tombstone bears this epitaph: