



ALL THINGS NEW

REVELATION 21 & 22

GOAL

▶ **To give children a glimpse into the glories of heaven through the eyes of the Apostle John.** To help them understand that Heaven is a real place where Jesus rules and reigns. It is perfect, beautiful, new, eternal, and bright. Encourage them that in this glorious paradise, there will be no more tears or sorrow, no more wrong-doing, and no more darkness. Old things will pass away, and all things will become new. Help children see that Jesus is the only way to Heaven; He alone is truth and the giver of eternal life.

CHARACTERS

▶ **John:** The Apostle John, known as “the disciple whom Jesus loved,” was exiled on the Island of Patmos where he received an amazing revelation from God. He wrote down all that he saw and heard before he died, and the book of Revelation stands as the last written words from God to His church. John was transformed from an impetuous “son of thunder” to a humble and great leader—a fierce force for truth, no matter the cost.

MEMORY VERSES

▶ **Revelation 21:3-4:** 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. 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.”

Matthew 6:19-21: 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.



OVERVIEW

▶ **Revelation 21 and 22:** The beloved Apostle John was in a dark prison on the island of Patmos when the discouragement of persecution and loneliness was broken with a vision of Heaven. He saw an eternal kingdom in which its greatest beauty is the unveiled glory of God. It is a place of perpetual brilliance, beauty, love, and joy. It is also a place where Jesus rules in righteousness. The curse of sin is destroyed and the effects are gone with it. There will be life in place of death, peace in place of war, health in place of sickness, clarity in place of confusion, light in place of darkness, and friendship with God in place of separation and brokenness.

SUGGESTIONS

▶ **What does the Bible say about Heaven?**

- 1. It's perfect:** Sin will be gone and so will the destructive effects of sin, such as hurt, loneliness, sickness, injury, war, hate, and death; because those things are gone, there will be no more sorrow and tears. Satan will no longer have any control. The Prince of Peace will rule.
 - 2. It's beautiful:** The capital city of God's kingdom is described as a bright and beautiful city paved in gold and adorned with precious jewels. Flowing from the throne of God is a clear river. The Tree of Life that was taken away from sinful man will stand on either side of the river as big and glorious as ever, promoting health and eternal life.
 - 3. It's where Jesus lives:** Sin ruined the special relationship God had with mankind, but Jesus broke the curse of sin that caused separation. Now, we enjoy His presence through His Holy Spirit, but some day, we will see His face!
 - 4. It's new:** We will be new creatures capable of great thoughts, deeper understanding, complete wisdom, boundless love, and endless joy.
 - 5. It's eternal:** The beauty of Heaven and a perfect relationship with Jesus will never end.
 - 6. It's bright:** Artificial lights as well as the sun and moon will no longer be needed because the glory of God will illuminate His kingdom.
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PRE-LESSON ACTIVITY



A-Z Pockets and Stuff

Separate the class into teams of about 5-10 students. Have each person in each group search their own pockets, purses, backpacks, and what they are wearing for articles that begin with each letter of the alphabet. The team to come up with the most possessions that begin with each letter of the alphabet wins.

Discussion: All these things such as coins, jewelry, clothing, shoes, etc. are temporary. The true, lasting treasures are the treasures of Heaven.

MEMORY VERSES MEANING



Revelation 21:3-4: One of the most beautiful things in the Garden of Eden was the relationship God had with Adam and Eve. This relationship was severed by sin and disobedience, but it will be completely restored in Heaven where a face-to-face friendship with God is eternally enjoyed.

Matthew 6: 19-21: Make Heaven your priority. The things you store up for yourselves here on earth will lose value over time, become worthless, and eventually burn—they will only satisfy for a moment. A life given to God creates value that is eternal.

POST-LESSON ACTIVITY



Sparkly Heaven | Supplies: construction paper, markers, glue, flat plastic gems and sequins, gold glitter, children's Bible.

Have the students close their eyes and imagine what Heaven looks like while you read aloud Revelations 21:10-27, or paraphrase in your own words. Tell the students that they get to make a picture of what Heaven might look like. Once they're done drawing their picture, have them coat the bottom with glue and sprinkle gold glitter over the glue to show that Heaven has streets of gold. Then the students can add plastic gems and/or sequins to the picture.



TAKE HOME



How is Heaven going to be different than what we experience now?

- 1. It's perfect:** Talk about how sin affects each child: sadness, hurt feelings, loneliness, sickness, pain, and death. Talk about how it will be different in Heaven.
- 2. It's beautiful:** Talk about how sin destroys beauty. Imagine if our own streets were gold and our homes were adorned with precious jewels. How long do you think it would take for someone to come along and these precious metals and gems?
- 3. It's where Jesus lives:** How will our communication with God be different? Talk about how we will be able to talk with God face-to-face!
- 4. It's new:** Talk about the limitations of our bodies. We get tired, we get sick, our minds only function to a certain extent, our understanding is limited, and we don't see other people the way God sees them. Talk about how being new will change all of that.
- 5. It's eternal:** Talk about how in this life we will experience death, but in eternity we will never die. Talk about the treasure in Heaven and how it is eternal.
- 6. It's bright:** What are the different sources of light we use here on earth now? Talk about how the light of God's glory will illuminate the entire kingdom.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: God revealed a glimpse of the glories of Heaven to whom?

A1: God revealed a glimpse of the glories of Heaven to the Apostle John.

Q1b: Why is being grounded one of the worst punishments?

TN: Being grounded means that we cannot be with our friends and do fun things with them. The Apostle John was exiled to the island of Patmos. He was cut off from friends and family as punishment for not recognizing the emperor of Rome as divine. The emperor used exile as a punishment for many Christians, but while exile did remove these people from their families, friends, and Roman society, it didn't remove them from the presence of God. While John was in exile, he continued to hear from God; in fact, God gave him a glimpse into Heaven.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: What is unveiled and visible in Heaven?

A2: God's glory is unveiled and visible in Heaven.

Q2b: Would you rather hang out with friends in person or chat on the phone?

TN: Chatting on the phone is better than nothing, but hanging out in person is so much better. We can do things together, whereas a phone conversation limits us to just talking. When we go to Heaven, we will be able to talk to Jesus face-to-face. We can do things with Jesus. Our relationship with God will be complete once we are in Heaven.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: What will no longer exist in the New Jerusalem?

A3: Death, sadness, crying, and pain will not exist in the New Jerusalem.

Q3b: How clean are your favorite, most comfortable pair of shoes?

TN: Shoes tend to be most comfortable after we've worn them a lot. As shoes become more and more formed to our feet and the way we walk, they become more comfortable; but they also become dirty. God created the earth, and He declared that it was good; but then man committed sin and we have used the earth and corrupted it. God will come and make everything brand new again, washing away all of the sin and destruction humans have caused on the earth. It will be like having our favorite shoes all broken in and comfortable, but they will be brand new and they will never wear out.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: What tree will live in paradise?

A4: The Tree of Life will live in paradise.

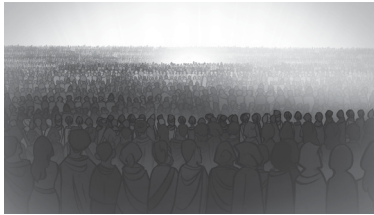
Q4b: What is your favorite kind of fruit?

TN: All fruit and vegetables contain vitamins, natural sugars, and nutrients that help keep us healthy. The Tree of Life bears fruit that gives eternal life. We can eat nothing but fruit and vegetables all our lives, but nothing will benefit us like eating from the Tree of Life will!



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: Will the sun and moon continue to light the earth?

A5: No, the brightness of the glory of the Savior will illuminate everything.

Q5b: How long do you think you could look directly at the sun before it would hurt your eyes?

TN: It wouldn't take long. Looking directly at the sun is really bad for our eyes, and we shouldn't do it. In Heaven and New Jerusalem, there will be no shadow—no darkness of any kind—because God's glory will shine everywhere. It will definitely be bright, but not so bright that we cannot see or that the light will hurt our eyes.

SLIDE 6



Q6a: What does the Lamb of God take away?

A6: Jesus, the Lamb of God takes away the sins of the world.

Q6b: Do we have to live without possessions and comfort in order to go to Heaven?

TN: Not at all! God blesses us with things all the time. This verse aims to remind us that our lives are not about acquiring things for the sake of having them and to make ourselves comfortable, but to live for Jesus. When we get wrapped up and attached in the things of this world, we forget what is truly important: Jesus.



MEMORY VERSES

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BIG IDEA

▷ **Big Idea:** A perfect existence with God awaits us in Heaven.

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CLOSING PRAYER

▷ **Closing Prayer:** Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for the hope of Heaven. Thank You that if we trust You for our salvation, we will one day be in Heaven with You. Amen.



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 1



Many, many, years ago, one act of disobedience brought the curse of sin and death upon all of mankind. This curse brought great sorrow, grief, confusion, sickness, pain, anxiety, and fear, but through the sacrifice of one perfect man, our Messiah, sin's curse was broken. Jesus' death and resurrection meant that one day the effects of the curse would be completely gone. It was on the bleak and gloomy island of Patmos that God revealed a glimpse of the glories of Heaven to the Apostle John. It was on this island, drenched in darkness and the horrors of persecution and loneliness, that John was encouraged with the promise of a much better place.

SLIDE 2



Heaven is a real place where Jesus lives, and in His presence, we will experience great joy and pleasure forevermore. In Heaven, God's glory is unveiled and visible. It is a place where we will enjoy face-to-face friendship with Him. There are no tears because there is no death, pain, or sorrow—there are no broken relationships and no broken hearts. All who are His are new and incapable of hurting or being hurt.



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 3



Heaven and earth will be made completely new, specially created for an eternity of peace, and ruled by the Prince of Peace. When John saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down from Heaven, he heard a loud voice say, "Now God's home is with men. He will live with them, and they will be His people. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, sadness, crying, or pain. All the old ways are gone." Then God said from His throne, with the voice of a proud father about to reveal the greatest gift He could ever give His sons and daughters, "Behold, I am making all things new!" The streets will be made of pure gold and the city will be filled with precious jewels. The great city of our God, the New Jerusalem, will shine in spectacular glory. A crystal clear river will flow from the Messiah's throne down through the city, and those who drink of it will never thirst again.

SLIDE 4



Also, this new paradise will contain the Tree of Life. The tree that mankind had been banished from approaching will be placed out in the open so we may eat from it freely. The tree will feed from the river of life, so its fruit and leaves will never fade away. It is eternal, like everything else in this new and wonderful place where Jesus lives.



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 5



The sun and the moon will no longer light the earth—they will not be needed any longer. The brightness of the Savior's glory will illuminate the great city, which will be built with gold, precious stones, and pearls; and His light will send prisms of color out over the expanse of His kingdom. This is the same city that multitudes of God's people throughout all history have longed for, a city with eternal foundations whose architect and builder is God Himself.

SLIDE 6



Open your eyes, your ears, and your heart. Behold Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world! He is the King; follow Him into His kingdom. Be willing to give up everything to obtain something far greater—the treasures of Heaven that cannot be destroyed, cannot disappoint, and cannot be stolen. "Yes, I am coming quickly," Jesus says. And all those who are His respond, "Come Lord Jesus, come!"