



**Mustard Seed Sunday School Lesson Summary for May 13, 2007
Released on Wednesday, May 9, 2007**

"Our New Home"

Lesson: Revelation 21:1-8.

Read: Revelation 21:1-8.

Devotional Reading: 2 Peter 3:10-18.

Background Scripture: Revelation 21:1-8.

Time: about A.D. 96

Place: from Patmos

GOLDEN TEXT: "He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God" (Revelation 21:3b).

SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT:

Revelation 21:1-8

1And 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.

2And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, 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.

4And 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.

5And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

6And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

8But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

TEACHER'S NOTES ON THE LESSON

The Bible does not reveal a great deal about the believer's heavenly home, but the book of Revelation does say that our Father in heaven has good plans for our future. The present earth and what it holds-crying, dying, sickness, pain, all "former things" (21:4)-will be done away with forever. He promises He will "make all things new" (vs. 5).

Among those new things will be a wondrous city, which John in his vision saw descending from God. It is the future dwelling place of the church, Christ's bride. The city's descent is coupled with God's declaration that He Himself will live there among His people. Since God presently lives in every believer even now through the indwelling Holy Spirit, we can expect this future dwelling to be special and better (cross reference Phil. 1:23). It is touching that the Creator of the universe would yearn to have His people with Him. *We are just that special to Him; the apple of His eye, the desire of His heart. Hallelujah!*

Our limited minds cannot grasp all this, and perhaps that is one reason the Lord tells us so little about heaven. But, we can appreciate that what is coming will indeed be better, and we can look ahead with both expectancy and thanks.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God has wonderful plans for the people who have come to the Lord Jesus for forgiveness and life.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God plans to replace the old earth and its sadness with a new earth and a heavenly city.
2. God plans to live with His people.
3. God is now inviting people to come, believe in Jesus, and receive the life they need for living with Him.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS:

For Telling the Lesson, make four flash cards reading "new," "gone," "everlasting life," and "free."

For Helping to Remember, each child will need finger paint and a sheet of white paper. Take a supply of paper towels.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Judy's family was going to move. One day she found Dad and Mom at the kitchen table doing something with paper and pencil. "What are you doing?" she asked.

"Making plans," Dad said.

"When you move," Mom explained, "you do not just go. You must decide where you will live and what kind of house you will need. How close is the school? How far away is work? You want the home that is best. So you plan ahead."

The Bible says God plans ahead. He has planned a special place for His people to live together with Him forever. We shall hear about that place today.

TELLING THE LESSON:

Jesus' friend, John, was getting to see some things that will happen someday. John learned that many things will be brand-new. (Show "new.") He saw the new earth people will live on. He saw the new sky they will look up at. Then he saw a beautiful city coming down from God.

A loud voice from God's throne said, "Look! God's home is with people. He Himself will live among them. They will be His people.... I am making all things new." (Show "new.") God Himself has planned those new things, and all of them are good.

He has planned something else too. Some things will be gone. (Show "gone.") This old world will be gone because there will be a new one. (Show "new".) The sad things that are in the world today-sickness and hurting and crying and dying-will be gone forever. (Show "gone.")

Then John heard the Lord Himself speaking. The lord told him "Write down these things, for they will really happen."

Then the Lord said something about today. You see, God wants people with Him in that beautiful place. But people must have everlasting life to live there. (Show "everlasting life.") And none of us have that kind of life unless we get it from Him.

We cannot get eternal life by going to Sunday school. (Show "everlasting life.") We cannot buy it with money. We cannot be good enough to get it.

No, God wants to give it to people. He calls it the "water of life." He says, "I will give it to anyone who is thirsty for this kind of life. It is free." (Show "free.")

Now, suppose it is a hot day. You are thirsty, and you hear that Mr. Smith's store is giving away free lemonade. What do you do to get some? You go to Mr. Smith and ask. What do you pay? Nothing. It is a present. It is free. (Show "free.")

Getting God's gift of everlasting life is much like that. Jesus has already taken the punishment for the wrong things we have done, so God can give everlasting life free to anybody who comes to Jesus for it. He said, "Let the one who is thirsty come" (cross reference Rev. 22:17).

You have no doubt heard the expression "There is no such thing as a free lunch." But salvation is truly free.

So that is what God has planned, boys and girls. That is what He is saying to people in the world today.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

If you belong to the Lord Jesus now, you will live in His beautiful heavenly home someday. Thank the Lord for helping you believe in Jesus so that you can live there with Him.

If you are not sure you have everlasting life but you are thirsty for it, be sure to talk to me after Sunday school.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Let the children finger paint a picture of the heavenly city. Encourage them to tell their families at home about God's good plans for everyone who "comes to Jesus" for everlasting life.

EXPLAINING THE GOLDEN TEXT:

"He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God" (Revelation 21:3b).

To "dwell" means to live. God dwells with His people today. He will never leave us. Someday He will live with us in a special, wonderful way in His home in heaven.

Physical death is the normal end of physical life. Yet God will one day put an end to that too (see 1 Cor. 15:26), for we will live with God one day.

MUSTARD SEED LESSON ACTIVITIES:

Our New Home

H A K U N E F D M I W Y T P S
L G E Q U I N Y N U Y Z B A U
U E E R R A A P T S R E S S F
F M T S B T K T O U G G E S M
H O T S X A P N N I A A A E H
T T U Y H B L P N U W E N D X
I H K K Z E A N N W O R R O S
A G B H L R I M N X N F Q C H
F H O G E N M E L A S U R E J
D D P D G A I N H E R I T C E
W E I L T C V D W E L L R C A
L R A T A L N E N D Q Y A W R
B V V T E E H I N A I F E H T
I U F H H Y A W A N G K T N H
A T Q E L M V N G P Q M J U S

ALPHA
BRIDE
DWELL
FAITHFUL
GOD
INHERIT
OMEGA
SEA
TABERNACLE

AWAY
CRYING
EARTH
FIRST
HEAVEN
JERUSALEM
PAIN
SON
TEAR

BEGINNING
DEATH
END
FOUNTAIN
HUSBAND
NEW
PASSED
SORROW
TRUE

27 of 27 words were placed into the puzzle.

Our New Home Solution

+ A + + N E F D + + + + + P +
L G + + U I N + + + + + B A +
U E + R R A A + + S + E S S +
F M T S B T + T O + G + E S +
H O T S + A + N N I + + A E +
T + U + + B + + N U W E N D +
I H + + + E + N + W O R R O S
A G + H + R I + + + + F + + +
F H O + E N M E L A S U R E J
D + P D G A I N H E R I T C E
+ E I L + C V D W E L L R + A
+ R A + A L N E N D + Y A + R
B + + T + E + I N + I + E + T
+ + + + H Y A W A N + + T + H
+ + + + + + + + G P + + + + +

(Over,Down,Direction)

ALPHA(5,12,NW)
AWAY(9,14,W)
BEGINNING(13,2,SW)
BRIDE(1,13,NE)
CRYING(14,10,SW)
DEATH(1,10,SE)
DWELL(8,11,E)
EARTH(15,10,S)
END(8,12,E)
FAITHFUL(1,9,N)
FIRST(7,1,SW)
FOUNTAIN(12,8,NW)
GOD(2,8,SE)
HEAVEN(4,8,SE)
HUSBAND(2,7,NE)
INHERIT(7,10,E)
JERUSALEM(15,9,W)
NEW(13,6,W)
OMEGA(2,5,N)
PAIN(10,15,NW)
PASSED(14,1,S)
SEA(13,3,S)
SON(10,3,SW)
SORROW(15,7,W)
TABERNACLE(6,4,S)
TEAR(13,14,N)
TRUE(3,4,NE)

A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH
(REVELATION 21:1-7)

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

1. "Now I saw a (NEW, OLD) heaven and a (NEW, OLD) earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea."

REVELATION 21:1

2. "Then I, John, saw the holy city, (NEW, OLD) Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

REVELATION 21:2

TRUE OR FALSE:

3. "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, The tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.' " REVELATION 21:3

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

4. "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more _____ for the former things have passed away."

REVELATION 21:4

TEARS DEATH HAPPINESS SORROW CRYING PAIN

TRUE OR FALSE:

5. "Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to John,

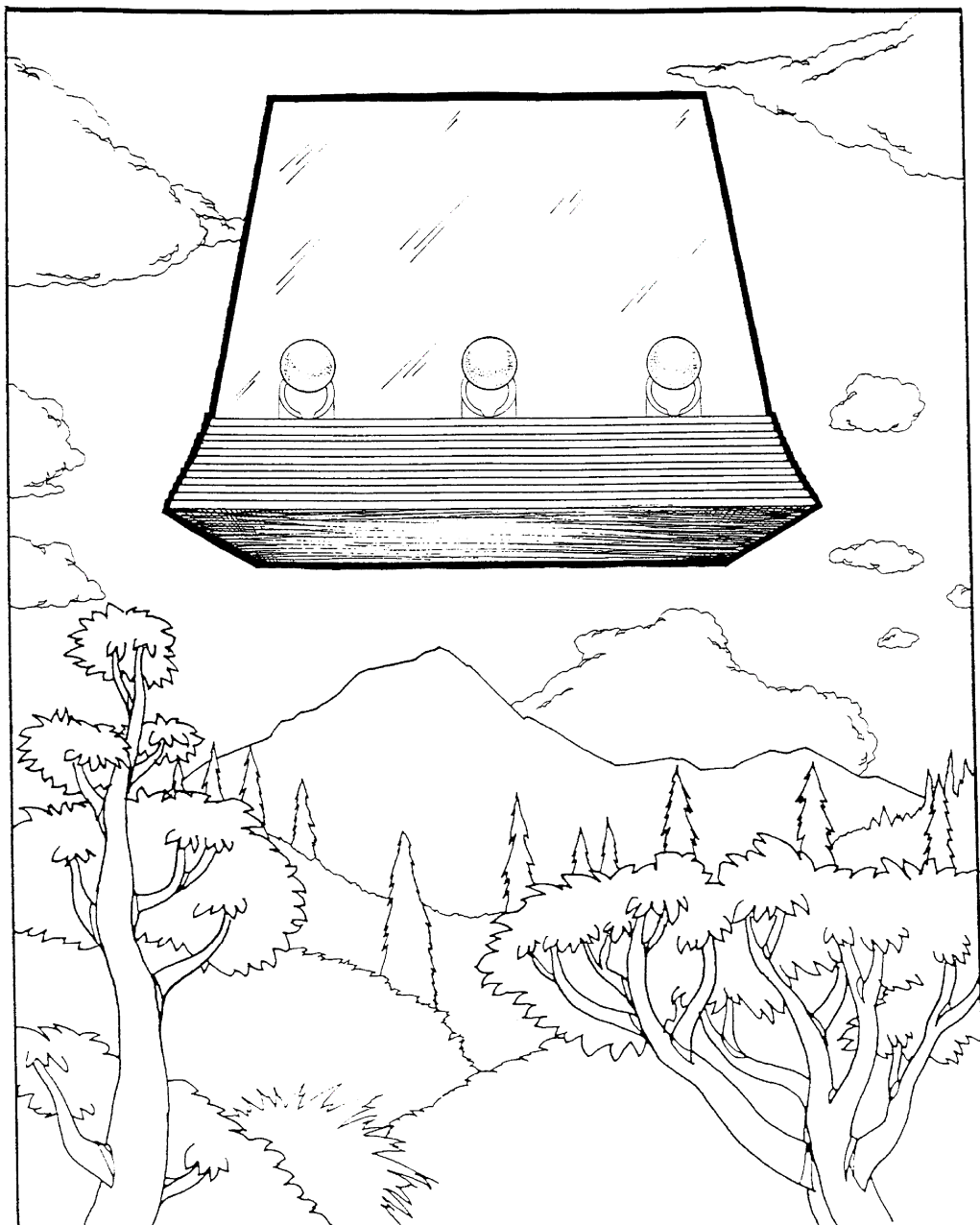
'Write, for these words are true and faithful.' " REVELATION 21:5

TRUE OR FALSE:

6. "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son." REVELATION 21:7

MEMORY VERSE:

"He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God" (Revelation 21:3b).



John "saw a new heaven and a new earth..."

REVELATION 21:1

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

1. "Now I saw a _____ heaven and a _____ earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea."
REVELATION 21:1

2. "Then I, John, saw the holy city, _____ Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."
REVELATION 21:2

TRUE OR FALSE:

3. "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, The tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.' " REVELATION 21:3

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

4. "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more _____ for the former things have passed away."

REVELATION 21:4

TEARS DEATH HAPPINESS SORROW CRYING PAIN

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

5. "Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to John, 'Write, for these words are _____ and _____.' "
REVELATION 21:5

TRUE OR FALSE:

6. "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son." REVELATION 21:7

Lesson Summarized By:

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Jesus Is All Ministries

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Have a Blessed Mother's Day, to all you Moms!