ALL THINGS NEW

The One who sits on the throne says, 'Behold, I am making all things new'

And He said, 'Write, these words are faithful and true'

Revelation 21:5

Part 1: Who is 'The One who sits on the throne'?

Isa. 65:17; Matt 19:27-29

SEVEN Things NEW – New <u>People</u> (Hearts); New <u>Heavens;</u> New <u>Earth;</u> New <u>City;</u> New <u>Temple;</u> New <u>Starry Host;</u> New <u>Paradise</u>

Jesus is making all things new in <u>two</u> phases, initiated by His two <u>arrivals</u>

Jesus' first arrival initiated 'all things new' for the **inner person**Jesus brought a New <u>Covenant</u>

Jesus initiated a New <u>Way of Living</u>

Jesus offers a New <u>Heart</u>

Col. 1:27; 2 Cor. 5:17

Jesus' Resurrection Offer: To make 'all things new' in you!

- New relationship with Him full of forgiveness and grace
- New power to build good and overcome bad
- New <u>character</u>— love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control

Our Response:

We can <u>reject</u> His Resurrection Offer **or** we can <u>surrender</u> to Him How surrendered are you today? 0%, 10%, 50%, 100%?

Auburn Grace Community Church - Easter Sunday 2023

Life Group Discussion Questions - April 9, 2023

Revelation 21:5 And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true."

DISCOVER

- 1. Why should Jesus make all things new? Is the making of new things still in process or are we in a holding pattern? Why can't we make all things new by ourselves, without God? When will the making of new things be completed? How do you envision relationships with others changing? What will be new in your relationship with God?
- 2. What is great about new beginnings? When have you been given a fresh start in life? Explain the experience and the opportunity involved. What role does the church play in giving people a fresh start? What do you wish to be made new in your life? Will the process ever end?
- 3. Why did Jesus choose the people He engaged with after His resurrection? Who would you have chosen to meet? What is the resurrection offer available to all today? What new power is given to us upon salvation? What does the new power(s) enable us to do? What makes you feel powerful?
- 4. What convinces you that the Word of God is faithful and true? What doubts have crept into your mind over the years? How do you deal with doubt? Do you know anyone that doesn't have an occasional doubt about the promises of God? If someone says they have no doubt, do you believe them? Explain your reasoning.

EXPLORE

- 1. Read Isaiah 65:17 and Matthew 19:27-29. Do you find it to be a relief that former things will not be remembered? Why so? In Matthew, Peter asked the question that many were likely thinking- "Is it wrong to ask God questions that begin with 'what about me'?" How did Jesus give hope to Peter and the other disciples?
- 2. Read 2 Corinthians 3:18 and 5:17. What do you see changing in yourself based on these scriptures? Is there any reason those changes can't be in process now? What did Paul mean when he said old things passed away?
- 3. Read 1 Corinthians 13:13. What new character traits does Jesus want us to have? How did Jesus simplify the commandments when asked which was the greatest? Read Matthew 22:34-40. Are these descriptions of what our hearts should be like or rules to follow? Explain your reasoning.

EXPERIENCE

- 1. How has walking with God changed you on the inside? Compare your old self to your new self and tell the group of the changes including the changes that are inside your heart. Colossians 1:27 includes the text, "Christ in you, the hope of glory". How would you explain this to someone who is not a believer or someone just beginning their faith walk?
- 2. What specific changes are you looking forward to when Jesus makes all things new? Do the changes you hope for match up with scriptural prophecy?
- 3. How surrendered are you today? What is left for you to surrender? What steps should you take to address those areas in your heart that have not be given fully to God? What oppresses you today that holds Jesus back from making you what He wants?

PRAY

Pray... God, you know that we love to hold onto old things that are close to our heart. Please give us a thirst and understanding of how we can be more useful by letting go of old things that are an encumbrance to your mission. We know we can do nothing apart from you. You give us hope for what we can become through your power. Amen.

Apply... Listen to conviction from the Holy Spirit and submit to His will in surrendering your whole heart to God. If there is a hidden area of sin, then confess to a trusted brother or sister, as a first step, so He who began a good work in you can carry it to completion.