New Heavens and Earth from Isaiah

Isaiah 1, 34, 51, 65, 66 David Rountree

Rev.21:1, 4, 6, 7 New Heavens and Earth in Isaiah Isaiah 1:2-4, 10 Isaiah 34:4-5 Isaiah 13:1, 9,10 Isaiah 51:15-16, 12-13 Isaiah 65:17,18, 20, 21; 66:1-2, 18-20a, 22-24 The new heavens and earth include physical death (Isa. 65:20, 66:24); Home construction and agriculture continue (Isa. 65:21-22); • We still marry and have descendants (Isa. 65:23, 66:22); Prayers are prayed and heard (Isa. 65:24); There is sin and curse remaining (Isa. 65:20, Mat.12:32, Rev.22:15); There is evangelism with Jew and Gentile remaining (Isa.66:19).

Charles Spurgeon said in a sermon on Isaiah 65:17-19:

New Heavens and Earth in Revelation

Did you ever regret the absence of the burnt-offering, or the red heifer, or any one of the sacrifices and rites of the Jews? Did you ever pine for the feast of the tabernacle, or the dedication? No, because, though these were like the old heavens and earth to the Jewish believers, they have passed away, and we now live under new heavens and a new earth, so far as the dispensation of the divine teaching is concerned. The substance is come, and the shadow has gone: and we do not remember it. --Charles Spurgeon, *Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*, vol.xxxvii, p.354.

On Isaiah 65:17 John Calvin said:

For, lo, I will create new heavens and a new earth. By these metaphors, he promises a remarkable change of affairs; as if God had said that he has both the inclination and the power not only to restore his Church, but to restore it in such a manner that it shall appear to gain new life and to dwell in a new world. These are exaggerated modes of expression; but the greatness of such a blessing, which was to be manifested at the coming of Christ, could not be described in any other way. Nor does he mean only the first coming, but the whole reign, which must be extended as far as to the last coming, as we have already said in expounding other passages.

--John Calvin, Commentary on the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, Vol. iv, pp.397-398.

2 Peter 3:11-13

Applications

- 1. Let us find comfort and revival in the reality of the new heavens and earth God has provided us through Christ.
- 2. Our hope is not in our current world burning up but in the rule of Christ catching fire.