

'After These Things'

5.6 The New Heaven and New Earth

This is culled directly from the Synopsis on the first part of Rev 21.

Note:

Revelation 21:1-5 gives us the v.9 – ch. 22:4 is the millennial city.

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

There was a new heaven and a new earth; but no more sea — no separation, nor part of the world not brought into an ordered earth before God. Here we do not find any mediatorial kingdom. The Lamb is not in the scene. God is all in all. No sorrow or crying more, no earthly people of God distinct from the inhabitants of the earth. These are God's people, and God is with them Himself, but withal His tabernacle is with them. This is the holy city, New Jerusalem.

The assembly has her own character, is the habitation of God in a special way, when the unchanging state comes, and all is made new. God is the end, as the beginning. Him that is athirst now God will refresh with the fountain of the water of life — the overcomer shall inherit all things. The world for the Christian is now a great Rephidim¹.

This is the twofold portion of the final blessedness: he shall have God for his God and be His son. Those who feared this path — did not overcome the world and Satan but had walked in iniquity — would have their part in the lake of fire. This closes the history of God's ways.

¹ Rephadim was the place of the battle against between the children of Israel and Amalek, shortly after going over the Red Sea. *'The LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation'* (Exodus 17:16).

