

Hospitality

Study 5

Week Beginning 12-7-09

Revelation 21:1-8, 22:1-5

Two Paradises

We have two descriptions of Paradise in the bible.

Compare the description in Genesis 2:8-18, 3:8 to our reading.

What is the main feature that gives Paradise its glory?

Do you prefer the description of Paradise in Genesis or in Revelation? Why?

Discuss the statement "To be a redeemed people is better than to be an innocent people."

Do you agree with it? Why or why not?

The New Creation

Read Genesis 3:14-19. How does it relate to Revelation 21:4 & 22:3

Not all will be saved

Revelation 21:7 states "He who overcomes will inherit all this."

What does it mean here to overcome?

Revelation 21:8 gives a list of those who will be excluded from this reward. Given that we have all sinned, what hope is there. See 1 John 1:9 and Psalm 103:12.

Paul tells us that God wants everyone to be saved - 1 Timothy 2:3-4. The above two verses clearly indicate that will not happen. With so much at stake, what is it that prevents people from being saved. When is it too late to be saved. (see Hebrews 9:27).

Our Response

These verses in Revelation give a glimpse of the wonderful reward God has prepared for his people. How does (and should) that impact on how we should treat others?

We also see that in the end God excludes many people. How does (and should) that impact on how we should treat others?