

Life Group Notes

Sunday 10 March 2019

Speaker: Sean Green

Title: The Final Mountain

Passage: Revelation 21:9 – 22:6

Sean spoke about the final mountain in Revelation 21. The book of Revelation is written in a style that is called apocalyptic, which is highly symbolic, which can seem bizarre to 21st Century western readers.

READ Rev 21v9-22v6

A High Mountain: The primary theme of Revelation 21 is the church in the eternal age. The church, God's people is described both as a 'bride' and like 'a holy city dressed as a bride of Christ'. The church will be the eternal city of refuge, people built together, secure and in close community.

The wall & gates: This heavenly city, the church is bounded by a broad high wall (you are in or you are not). These gates and foundations stones of the city represent the unity and continuity of the people of God, 'the community of saving faith' in both OT & NT. The gates are guarded by eternal, powerful, created beings loyal to God, there is no possibility of unauthorised entry.

A vast cube: This city was laid out like a cube, as long, as it was wide, as it was high, it was 1400 miles in each direction! This is symbolic language for a vast church! The church in glory will be a multitude that no-one can count, from every tribe & nation. We will be amazed at the huge number and diversity of the redeemed.

A dazzling bride: John goes on to describe the beauty of the city dressed as a bride (Apocalyptic writing can seem bizarre!) but is difficult to capture on words. If nothing else, the eternal church John is describing is something of great beauty and value, close to God's heart ... this is us in the future. Wow!

God is the Temple: John did not see a temple in the city because now God is the sanctuary. He no longer confines his tangible presence to one place. God will no longer dwells in us, we will dwell in Him. Only those whose names are written in Lambs book of Life will be allowed to enter the city.

The River of Life: In this city is now the throne of God, the symbol of His presence and authority, and from this flows the river of Life. On each side of the river grew a tree of life, there will never a barrier keeping God's people from life and healing in the age to come.

The church, the city dressed as a bride will reign forever in a blessed and exalted state, they share in His royalty. AMEN!

Suggested questions:

1. Which of the mountains most resonated with you (Eden, Ararat, Moriah, Sinai, Zion, Mount, Gethsemane, Hebrews or Revelation)?
2. On a scale of 1 to 10, where are you with 'church fatigue'? How can you better glimpse 'the bride on the aisle'?