

# Revelation (2)



from Revelation 19; 20; 21; 22

*We touch on two further aspects from the Revelation:*

- *The thousand-year kingdom of peace is explained.*
- *We try to describe the beauty of the new creation and the Holy City in which God and Christ live in eternal fellowship with their own.*

*The Revelation concludes with the reaffirmation of the promise of Christ's return.*

*(No further happenings will be dealt with in Sunday-school.)*

The children learn that God will make a new heaven and new earth.  
We gladly prepare ourselves for our eternal life with God.

## 1

**A**n angel gives Apostle John insight into the still distant future. The Apostle puts into words what will happen after the wedding feast of the Lamb:

"After the wedding feast in heaven, the Lord Jesus will put an end to the machinations of Satan. He will establish a kingdom of peace on earth with the chosen ones which will last for a thousand years. That is why it is called the thousand-year kingdom of peace. What joy will there be! In this kingdom Christ will rule as king. All those who took part in the first resurrection may rule with him as priests of God. They will proclaim the gospel of Jesus to all nations."

## 2

Apostle John also sees a new heaven and a new earth. He writes: "The Holy City, created by God, will come down from heaven to the new earth. It shines and sparkles like gold and precious stones. This city needs neither the sun nor the moon, nor lamps to illuminate it. There is no night or darkness there for the glory of God and Christ shines upon it. The throne of God and his Son is in this city; from it a river flows through the city. All inhabitants serve God. They are allowed

to see him and have his name written on their foreheads. God lives with the people and remains with them for they are his people. Nothing that is impure enters this city, nor anyone who does shameful things or tells lies. That which was before, is gone for ever. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life will enter this wondrous city. The overcomers will inherit all this. They shall rule with God for ever."

## 3

All this Apostle John has seen and conscientiously written down. The Revelation concludes with a renewed promise of Christ's return. Apostle John holds fast to that which an angel, commissioned by the Lord Jesus, has told him: "Behold, I come quickly: blessed is the one who takes the words of this book to heart. The time of its fulfilment is at hand ... Behold, I come quickly! I will bring my reward with me, to give to each one according to what he has done. Blessed are the ones who keep God's commandments and may therefore enter the Holy City."

Apostle John is overjoyed. His hope in the return of the Lord has been strengthened once more. What a wonderful promise! Yes, soon the bridegroom shall come! He will take with him all God's children who await him with pure hearts and in faith! Their names are written in the Lamb's book of

life. They are the heirs of the city of God. The Apostle's heart-felt call rings out: "Yes, Lord Jesus, come soon and grant us all thy grace!"

4



*God and his Son will make a new heaven and earth in which eternal peace shall reign.  
We look forward to this.*

- 1 We summarize the last lesson (9.3) using the pictures as visual aid.
- 2 How can we prepare ourselves today already for this great task? (We should be an example as the Lord Jesus taught through his gospel. We should forgive, keep the peace, bring joy, treat others with love ...). Apostle John saw and wrote down much more. A small section describes the new heaven and earth which God will make. We want to be there with him for ever.
- 3 The present creation is already beautiful. We look at and discuss the four photographs with the children (earth, heaven, water, light).  
The children tell how they imagine the new creation to be. At the conclusion of the lesson they can draw a picture in their book depicting their ideas. (The new creation will be perfect. It will be so beautiful that the earthly creation will be completely forgotten. In the new creation true peace will reign, and God's glory will be revealed.)
- 4 The Revelation concludes with the words of Apostle John: "Yes, Lord Jesus, come soon and grant us all your grace!" We want to echo this call with all our heart. In this connection we discuss the title of the Sunday-school book and the introductory thoughts of the Chief Apostle with the children.