

**What Sort of Ending Is This? A Tension Filled Finale, Part 4  
New Heavens and a New Earth: A Short Break From The  
Tension**

**Isaiah 65:17-25 (cf. Revelation 21:1-5)**

- I. What Can We Expect For Certain?
  - A. This “newness” will be made by the Messiah (51:16)
  - B. It will endure, as will the people inhabiting it (66:22)
  - C. Righteousness will dwell there (2 Peter 3:13)
  - D. Per Revelation 21:1-5
    1. It is absent of the dwelling of evil (No sea)
    2. It is connected with the “New Jerusalem”
    3. It is connected with the everlasting dwelling of God with mankind
    4. It is connected with the overturning of the first/former things: tears, death, mourning, crying, pain)
    5. It is somehow already in process by the work of Jesus
  - E. There seems to be a continued “curse” upon the enemy of God and His people (serpent eating dust)
- II. Where Must We Be Cautious?
  - A. Metaphor versus literal
  - B. Accommodation versus prophetic preciseness
  - C. Example from our text:
    1. “For the youth will die at the age of one hundred”
    2. Literal or metaphor?
    3. About the final consummation of all things or just a unique historical event
  - D. The importance of understanding accommodation
    1. Examples from Revelation 21 & 22
    2. No sun or moon
    3. No sea

4. No nighttime
    5. Tree of life
  - E. The greatest problem now – new Gnosticism
- III. Where Can We Find Hope?
  - A. Things as they are presently are not how they will always be
  - B. God is not finished with the people or place that His glory dwells
  - C. The future hope will exceed all of our expectations
  - D. We can see glimpses of the future hope unfolding in our present reality
  - E. We should not embrace any theology that causes us to lose sight of or stand directly against the things clearly revealed to us in God’s Word
  - F. Jesus has begun a work of redemption that is not less than the salvation of sinners; yet, it is also a work of restoration holistically of all creation.