



#### **Apostles Creed**

... the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

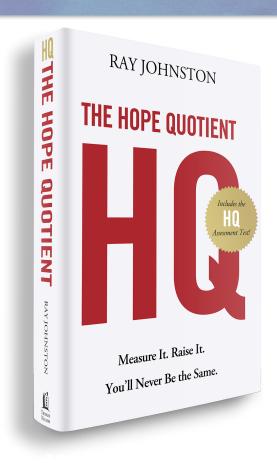
Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

<sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

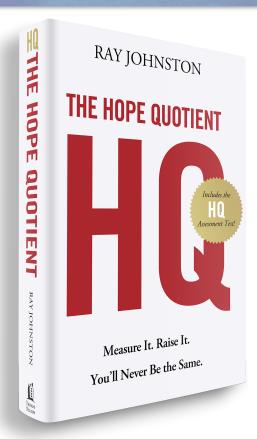
<sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. 8 But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

#### 1. How hope can shape your life



"Hope can seem like cotton candy, which tastes good at first, but there's nothing to it. *Real hope* is a deep and powerful force."

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"Hope can seem like cotton candy, which tastes good at first, but there's nothing to it. *Real hope* is a deep and powerful force." Writing to people experiencing severe persecution, John is reminding his friends that although it may seem

like Caesar is the real ruler, God is firmly in charge of the world & the future. Continue to trust in God, a rich future awaits!





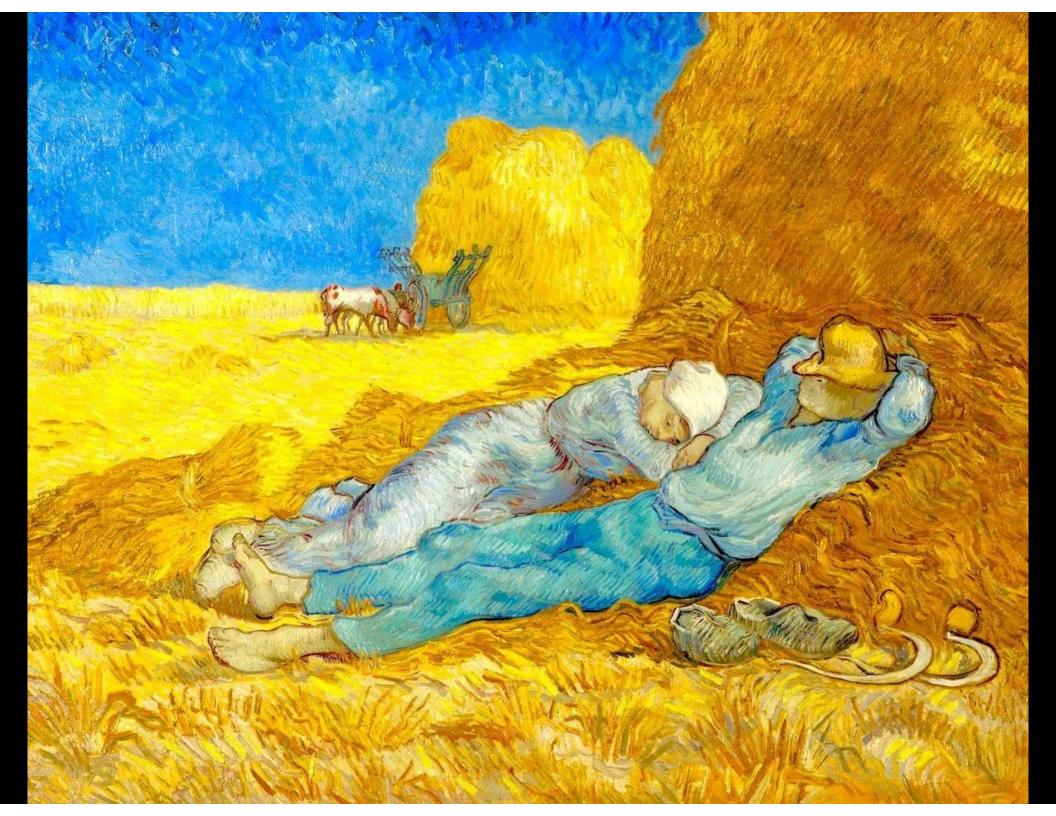
#### World War 2



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#### 1. How hope can shape your life

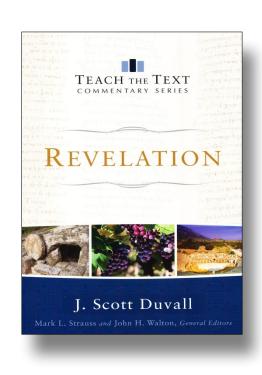
Hebrews 11:1 Faith means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it.

# A. A NEW world and a huge NEW garden/city!

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe, in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. -John 14:1-3

#### B. A **NEW** relationship with God!

God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. -Revelation 21:3



Teach the Text by Duvall pg 297

God really does want to live among his people. One could easily argue the God's primary goal and hence the goal of the entire Bible, is God fulfilling his purpose to live among his people. God's heart is relational to the core.

### C. ANEW way of living!

No more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. -Rev. 21:4

The Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him -Rev. 22:3

#### 3. Who gets to enjoy this future?

Those who are *victorious will inherit* all this... <sup>8</sup> But the cowardly, the unbelieving... *-Revelations* 21:7-8

#### 3. Who gets to enjoy this future?

The "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega" is a reminder that God made it possible for us to enjoy this future! He did what we could not do for ourselves. However that doesn't mean our choices now don't matter. John challenges his friends, "we are called to be conquerors rather than cowards. Readers are

confronted with two choices we have in life: follow God, or conform to they world. As long as we live in this fallen world, we will always need both assurance and warning."

