

# How hope can shape your life.

Revelations 21:1-8

Foundations - Part 11 Noah Largent 11/24/19



## 1. How hope can shape your life:

Ray Johnston observes, "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 seems like Caesar is the real ruler, remain steadfast! God is firmly in charge of the world & the future. Don't allow your hope to be diminished, continue to trust in God, a rich future awaits!

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.  
& Rev. 22:3; Prov. 3-5; 2 Cor. 5:7

## 2. What the future looks like (verse 5):

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

Rev. 21:1 I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. & John 14:1-3

### B. A NEW relationship with God!

Rev. 21:3 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.

-Genesis 17:7; Jer. 31:33; Zech. 2:10-11; John 1:14

### C. A NEW way of living!

Rev. 21:4 no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. Rev. 22:3 the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him

-Rev. 21:1-5; 22:1-5; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; Phil. 3:21; Rom. 6:5-8; Zeph. 3:9; 1 Cor. 15:35-58

## 3. Who gets to enjoy this future?

**Revelations 21:7-8** Those who are victorious will inherit all this...

<sup>8</sup> But the cowardly, the unbelieving,

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 the world. As long as we live in this fallen world, we will always need both assurance and warning." -Teach the Text: Revelation pg.298

**21:7 "He who overcomes" (or: are victorious/conquers)** This is a PRESENT ACTIVE PARTICIPLE, which is a continuing reference to the doctrine of perseverance amidst a time of terrible persecution. This phrase occurs throughout the letters to the seven churches (cf. Rev. 2:7,11,17,26; 3:3,5,12,21), which link the opening chapters of the Revelation to the conclusion.  
- Bob Utley, [freebiblecommentary.org](http://freebiblecommentary.org)

"The narrative connects with anyone who understand the language of the Bible, the hope of the new Jerusalem include the fulfillment of all human needs, including hunger, thirst, relationship, and a relationship with God."  
-New Application Commentary, Revelation by Keener pg503

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