

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**Revelation 21****Revelation 21**

Revelation twenty-one introduces us to the reality of the end of the Millennium and the beginning of the eternal state for everyone who are followers of the Lord Jesus. John said, ***"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth passed away."*** (Revelation 21:1) The phrase is most often translated as "went away" but that does not mean it was disintegrated. It is the same language used in II Corinthians 5:17, ***"Therefore if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new."*** This is practically the same phrase that is used in Revelation 21:1. This is instructive, because when you and I became followers of Jesus we did not cease to exist, but we were not as we were before. Yes, we were the same person, but now totally different. My entire outlook on life changed. My thinking changed. My language changed. My habits changed. When I meet people who knew me before I became a follower of Jesus and who know me now, they say,

you are like a different person. It is like the old Tony died and you are a brand-new person. Am I? Yes, I am in some ways, but not in others. One day I will be a totally new body, soul, and spirit. However, I will be the same recognizable person for the Bible says, I will ***"be known even as I am known"*** in heaven. The new heaven and the new earth are going to be the same place only totally different. God is going to so purify the universe from the curse of sin that it will be totally different than it is now, but the same. There will be characteristics that will be noticeably different. ***"There will be no more sea"*** but that does not mean there will not be water. As we will see there will be a river that runs from the throne of God. There will be trees that bear fruit. We will get into more of this in chapter twenty-two. Sufficient at this point to say, that the heavens and the earth will be radically changed and purified before eternity and the new Jerusalem will be ushered in.

Prayer and Action Steps

Father, thank you that there will be a new heaven and a new earth and that you will be with us throughout all eternity.

Amen