

Message: ***"Living in Light of Eternity"***

Scripture: Revelation 21:1-8

(06-29-25 Pastor Tony Hao)

The coming new heavens and earth is beyond human description. "We are left grasping for rhetoric and metaphors and symbolism and pictures so that our mind's eye of faith might just scarcely imagine the splendor, the joy, the wonder that we will have in this place." Think about it: no more stillbirths, no miscarriages, no traffic fatalities, no suicides, no loneliness, no anxiety, no panic attacks, no depression, no dementia, no unexplained darkness that won't seem to lift. In eternity, there's no suffering, no sin.

Also, there are two relational analogies here. It's the closest of human relationships we can have. The first described as a bride adorned for her husband, and then it says a father speaking to his child. Those are the two most intimate, most precious human relationships. God is giving us in language we can understand though it won't fully convey this reality. The best, most wonderful, beautiful, sweetest husband/wife relationship, the greatest joy you could ever have as parent and child, will be so far eclipsed in this new heaven, and the new earth. God will be there with His people

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

1. The Irish playwright Oscar Wilde once said, *"I don't want to go to heaven. None of my friends are there."* How would you respond?
2. Do you hate sin as much as you hate cancer? You should. The only reason there's cancer is because sin entered the world. Will you persevere resisting sin?
3. One wedding favorite is the bridal entrance (especially for the groom). Finally! Here comes my Love! That's how God think of us. Is that how you think of Him?
4. Heaven is not just a place — it's the full experience of God with His people. This is the deepest longing of the human soul: to be with God, without fear, shame, or pain. Are we living in anticipation of this fellowship?