

“The Earth in ruins reveals a magnificence which shows the sight of a Royal Founder and an extraordinary purpose.

Creation glows with a thousand beauties even in its present fallen condition,

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yet clearly enough, it is not as when it came from the Maker’s hand—the slime of the serpent is on it all—this is not the world God pronounced to be ‘very good’.”

—C.H. Spurgeon

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God takes that which is broken, and redeems and repurposes it for His glory.

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<sup>9</sup>But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him”—<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

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<sup>11</sup>For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

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<sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

—1 Corinthians 2:9-12 ESV

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“Our distorted view of Heaven has led to a distorted view of this life. I want to suggest that one of the major reasons temptation is so hard to resist is our priorities are so skewed

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and we are so seduced by this world is because we have no idea of what Heaven is really like. Understanding biblical truth about heaven has very practical implications.” —Chip Ingram

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The Beauty of Heaven Includes...  
**A New Habitat for Humanity!**

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<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility,

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not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

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<sup>23</sup>And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

—Romans 8:18-23 ESV

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“God promises that the glory of His people will demand a glorious creation to live in. So the fallen creation will obtain the very freedom from futility and evil and pain that the church is given. So when God makes all things new,

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He makes us new spiritually and morally, He makes us new physically, and then He makes the whole creation new so that our environment fits our perfected spirits and bodies.” —John Piper

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Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

—Revelation 21:1 ESV

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The Beauty of Heaven Includes...

A New City!

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<sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

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“Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God”... <sup>9</sup>Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying,

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“Come, I will show you the  
Bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

<sup>10</sup>And he carried me away in  
the Spirit to a great, high  
mountain, and showed me the  
holy city Jerusalem coming  
down out of heaven from God,

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<sup>11</sup>having the glory of God, its  
radiance like a most rare jewel,  
like a jasper, clear as crystal. <sup>12</sup>It  
had a great, high wall, with twelve  
gates, and at the gates twelve  
angels, and on the gates the  
names of the twelve tribes of the  
sons of Israel were inscribed—

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<sup>13</sup>on the east three gates, on the  
north three gates, on the south  
three gates, and on the west three  
gates. <sup>14</sup>And the wall of the city  
had twelve foundations, and on  
them were the twelve names of  
the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

—Revelation 21:2-3, 9-14 ESV

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For he was looking forward to the city  
that has foundations, whose designer and  
builder is God. —Hebrews 11:10 ESV

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“The story of God’s saving  
intervention into human history is  
not forgotten here nor swept aside  
to make way for some better  
‘spiritual’ reality... Human history,  
represented by human names, is  
here resurrected in its lasting  
significance.” —Andy Crouch

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The Beauty of Heaven Includes...

**A New Family!**

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“For behold, I create new  
heavens and a new earth,  
and the former things  
shall not be remembered  
or come into mind.

—Isaiah 65:17 ESV

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The Beauty of Heaven Includes...

A New Body!

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For the desires of the flesh are  
against the Spirit, and the desires of  
the Spirit are against the flesh, for  
these are opposed to each other,  
to keep you from doing the things  
you want to do. —Galatians 5:17 ESV

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<sup>1</sup>For we know that if the tent that is  
our earthly home is destroyed, we  
have a building from God, a house  
not made with hands, eternal in the  
heavens. <sup>2</sup>For in this tent we groan,  
longing to put on our heavenly  
dwelling, <sup>3</sup>if indeed by putting it on  
we may not be found naked.

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<sup>4</sup>For while we are still in this tent, we  
groan, being burdened—not that we  
would be unclothed, but that we would  
be further clothed, so that what is mortal  
may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup>He who has  
prepared us for this very thing is God,  
who has given us the Spirit as a  
guarantee. —2 Corinthians 5:1-5 ESV

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I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-44, 49-50

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The Beauty of Heaven Includes...

## A New Identity!

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“A heavenly mind is a joyful mind; this is the nearest and truest way to live a life of comfort, and without this you must needs be uncomfortable. Can a man be at a fire and not be warm; or in the sunshine and not have light?

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Can your heart be in heaven, and not have comfort? On the other hand, what could make such frozen, uncomfortable Christians but living far as they do from heaven?

O Christian, get above.

Believe it, that region is warmer than this below.” —Richard Baxter

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<sup>1</sup>If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

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<sup>3</sup>For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

—Colossians 3:1-4 ESV

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