

## The New Earth

*"And I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth: for the first Heaven and the first Earth were passed away"*

### **Revelation 21:1**

Not all the stones mentioned in the wall and foundation of the Holy City can be positively identified. However, many of the characteristics of Jasper seem to indicate the reason God chose to use it so abundantly. Jasper is inlaid or studded into the walls and also forms the first foundation. Could God have attached special importance to it because this precious stone is so like the people He has chosen to live in the New Earth?

Jasper is a fairly common mineral. Though not hard to find, it is classified as a gem because, when it is highly polished, it shines beautifully.

Jasper comes in many colors –white, red, gold, brown, black, and occasionally, a lovely green. Some pieces are one solid color, some are of two colors, and some combine many colors. Sometimes the stone is streaked, or it may appear as flowing, wavy bands known as rainbow jasper.

Note how the characteristics of Jasper are like the redeemed who will one day live in that Holy City. People of all nationalities and races will be there. The New Earth will have many types of personalities, abilities, and talents. The ignorant and the learned, the poor and the rich, the black and the white here on Earth will find themselves in the New Earth as a community of equality, dignity, and beauty---all transformed by the grace of God. Like Jasper, they may be of different hues, but they will all carry the same shine from the transforming power of God.

### **Preview**

Some scientists tell us that this Earth will dry up, the last human being drinking the last drop of water. Some say that an asteroid will hit our Earth and all life will be destroyed. Some predict this Earth will be destroyed by aliens from other planets. Some foresee glaciers of ice several miles high that will submerge this Earth. Others predict that AIDS or some other plague will end life. Still others think that we will evolve into god-like beings and do away with war and crime so that this will be a near-perfect world.

All these are human surmising's. God has told us some sure things about the future of this Earth. He who made this Earth in the beginning knows the future. And God has some marvelous surprises for us.

**1 Corinthians 2:9** hints at the wonders. *"Eye hath not \_\_\_\_\_, nor \_\_\_\_\_ heard, neither have entered into the \_\_\_\_\_ of man, the things \_\_\_\_\_ hath prepared for them that \_\_\_\_\_ him."*

### **Points to Ponder**

The Bible calls the inheritance of the saved a country (**Hebrews 11:14-16**). Here, our Saviour will lead His people to fountains of living waters. He will introduce them to the Tree of Life, which yields its fruit every month. Its leaves are for the service of the nations. The ever-flowing streams are as clear as crystal. Beside them are waving trees that cast their shadows upon the pathways of the righteous as they go from place to place. The broad plains swell into beautiful hills with mountains nearby that are covered with verdure, plants, and trees---the perpetual habitation of animals and birds. In these peaceful surroundings, God's people make their homes.

Lesson 28 - The New Earth  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS BELIEVE . . .

God created this world to be inhabited, and he will come back to this planet again when it is made new once more.

**Isaiah 65:21-22:** "And they shall build \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ them; and they shall plant \_\_\_\_\_, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another \_\_\_\_\_; they shall not plant, and another \_\_\_\_\_; for as the days of a tree are the days of my \_\_\_\_\_, and mine elect shall long \_\_\_\_\_ the work of their hands."

### Nuts and Bolts

1. When Jesus comes again, what will happen to this Earth?

**2 Peter 3:10-12:** "But the day of the \_\_\_\_\_ will come as a \_\_\_\_\_ in the night, in which the \_\_\_\_\_ shall pass away with a great \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ shall melt with fervent \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ also and the works that are therein it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ up. Seeing then that all things shall be \_\_\_\_\_, what manner of \_\_\_\_\_ ought ye to be in all holy \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, looking for and hastening unto the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the \_\_\_\_\_, wherein the Heavens being on \_\_\_\_\_ shall be dissolved, and the \_\_\_\_\_ shall melt with fervent \_\_\_\_\_?"

2. Will the New Earth be a real place?

**2 Peter 3:13:** "Nevertheless we, according to his \_\_\_\_\_, look for \_\_\_\_\_ Heavens and a \_\_\_\_\_ Earth, wherein dwelleth \_\_\_\_\_."

3. What will people in the New Earth be like?

**Philippians 3:21:** The Saviour "shall \_\_\_\_\_ our vile \_\_\_\_\_, that it may be \_\_\_\_\_ like unto his \_\_\_\_\_ body, according to the working whereby he is \_\_\_\_\_ even to \_\_\_\_\_ all things unto Himself."

Jesus, after His resurrection, had a real body of flesh and bones (**Luke 24:36-43**). So, will the righteous---after the resurrection or translation---have real bodies. (**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53**).

4. What city will be the capital of the New Earth?

**Revelation 21:2:** "Then I John saw the holy \_\_\_\_\_, New \_\_\_\_\_, coming down from \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_, prepared as a \_\_\_\_\_ adorned for her \_\_\_\_\_."

5. Find out the following about this great city (**Revelation 2:10-27**)

- a. Number of gates: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Number of foundations: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. The streets of the city are made of: \_\_\_\_\_
- d. The gates are made of: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the source of light for the city?

**Revelation 21:23:** "The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ did lighten it, and the \_\_\_\_\_ is its light thereof."

7. Where will the inhabitants live?

**John 14:2:** "In my Father's \_\_\_\_\_ are many \_\_\_\_\_; if it were not so I would have told you."

Lesson 28 - The New Earth  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS BELIEVE . . .

8. What will the inhabitants do?

**Isaiah 65:21:** "They shall build \_\_\_\_\_ and inhabit them; and they shall \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and eat the \_\_\_\_\_ of them."

9. Will there be marriage in Heaven?

**Matthew 22:30:** "For in the resurrection they neither \_\_\_\_\_, nor are given in \_\_\_\_\_, but  
are as the \_\_\_\_\_ of God in Heaven."

10. Will the inhabitants go to worship there, and if so, how often?

**Isaiah 66:23:** "From one new \_\_\_\_\_ to another, and from one \_\_\_\_\_ to another, shall all  
\_\_\_\_\_ come to \_\_\_\_\_ before me, saith the Lord."

11. What five things will be missing there? (See **Revelation 21:4**)

a. \_\_\_\_\_                      b. \_\_\_\_\_                      c. \_\_\_\_\_  
c. \_\_\_\_\_                      d. \_\_\_\_\_

12. How long will Jesus reign in the New Earth?

**Revelation 11:15:** "He shall reign for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."

13. What will happen to our memories of this old world?

**Isaiah 65:17:** "The \_\_\_\_\_ shall not be \_\_\_\_\_ nor come into \_\_\_\_\_."  
We will not forget the good things God has done. But he will erase the memories that cause remorse,  
regret, disappointment, grief, or anger.

## Words to Remember

**Antediluvian:** Before the flood of Noah

**Translucent:** Transmitting light---transparent

**Antidote:** Remedy for a bad effect

**Eradicate:** To completely remove or destroy

## The Difference Between

**Ambassador:** God has sent us as ambassadors---to be representatives of the Kingdom of God here on  
Earth.

**Witness:** To bear testimony to what one has seen, heard, or experienced personally

**Continuity:** Connected with the former one

**New Earth:** New, not as though it was not there before---but new in terms of transformation and renewal.  
God will renew this Earth and restore it to its original perfection and beauty

## I Truly Believe

Jesus is eagerly waiting to give to each saved person wonders untold and perfect joy throughout the long  
ages of eternity. He has a special place just for you.

Lesson 28 - The New Earth  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS BELIEVE . . .

If it is really the desire of your heart, please place a check in the box that precedes each commitment.

- I am glad Jesus has gone to prepare a place for me
- I am looking forward to living in the New Earth with Jesus
- I accept Jesus as my friend and plan to be with Him forever
- I plan to do everything necessary to prepare to live in the New Earth

### **My Prayer**

Dear Father,

I want to thank you for loving me so much that you plan to share the beautiful New Earth with me forever. I now surrender my life totally to You. Come into my heart. Prepare me to live in that perfect land, where I shall be with you forever. In Jesus' wonderful name I pray. Amen.

---

Signed

## The New Earth

### Quiz

Read the following Bible texts and with the help from the lesson above, answer the following questions by circling "**T**" if the statement is true or "**F**" if the statement is false. (*Hint: There are 6 true and 4 false*)

**KEY TEXTS**            **2 Peter 3:13**            **Isaiah 35; 65:17-25**    **Matthew 5:5**  
**Revelation 11:15;**    **Revelation 21:1-7**    **Revelation 22:1-5**

- 1    T or F    On the New Earth God will provide an eternal home for the redeemed and a perfect environment for everlasting life, love, joy, and learning (see pg. 417).
- 2    T or F    The first Earth was a real and tangible place. The New Earth, however, will be a spiritual place rather than a physical one (see pg. 418).
- 3    T or F    New Jerusalem is the capital city of the New Earth (see pg. 418).
- 4    T or F    New Jerusalem will be illuminated by glorious golden streetlamps (see pg. 419).
- 5    T or F    The inhabitants of the New Earth will be able to design, build, and inhabit their dream homes (see pg. 420).
- 6    T or F    Individuals are so changed when Christ comes that nobody will be recognizable to their friends and family in Heaven and in the New Earth (see pg. 421).
- 7    T or F    Those who spend too much time thinking about the world to come generally are ineffective at living in this world as we await Christ's return (see pg. 425).
- 8    T or F    The underlying motif of the entire New Earth existence is the restoration of what God had planned for His original creation (see pg. 421).
- 9    T or F    Every evil will be eradicated in the New Earth (see pg. 423).
- 10   T or F    We will continue to learn about God throughout eternity (see pg. 423).

All answers are based on the latest upgraded book, *Seventh-day Adventists Believe . . .* 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2005