

## Volume 6 Chronicle 2018030401 Three Heavens

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Text 1: Genesis 1:1-5 ASV: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was waste and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep: and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

Text 2: Genesis 1:7-8 ASV: And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

Text 3: Revelation 21:1 ASV: And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth are passed away; and the sea is no more.

The first heaven was created on the first day for the first person. Thus saith Jehovah, Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool (Isaiah 66:1 ASV). Jesus said; Heaven and earth shall pass away (Mark 13:31 ASV).

Many do not understand why God would destroy His first created heaven, which is His present throne. It is going to be destroyed because Satan and his followers defiled and polluted it. He was the great anointed cherub that covereth all of God's sanctuaries on this earth with his protective, instructive, and guiding power. He was called Lucifer the great shining one. He was the son of the morning. We read, Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till unrighteousness was found in thee (Ezekiel 28:15 ASV). So he lost his name and position. Instead he became the leader of darkness – dragon, serpent, devil, Satan.

God made him a prince over this world in the beginning when he was perfect, but because iniquity was found in him he will never become king. Jesus has been made King.

Satan speaks with a forked tongue, the serpent. He says what he knows to be false. He is the deceiver, the devil. He misleads. He and his armies have drenched this planet with blood, the old red dragon. Satan has defiled this planet, God's footstool. He has polluted God's sanctuaries. He has defiled the presence of God with his rebellion. He is there, constantly accusing, meeting with the sons of God, in God's presence, always there to lie.

Satan will be cast out of heaven and God will destroy him and all his followers, both angelic and physical. And the new heaven and the new earth will not be defiled nor will the sanctuaries be polluted (Revelation 12:1-9, 20: 1-15).

The second heaven was created on the second day to give comfort to this planet which was created second and which is second in God's affection.

God created man in His own image and likeness. Luke makes an interesting observation in reporting the genealogy of Jesus: the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God (Luke 3:38 ASV). There is no question about the love of God for mankind.

There are two reasons why the second heaven was created. First, it was created to take away the sea water from the earth that man and animal life could have a dwelling place. Second, it was created to hold other planets in their proper orbits, that they could give aid and comfort to the earth. God said Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters (Genesis 1:6 ASV).

Some eternal day there will be a payback, and we will see how God called it all out of moisture and pushed that moisture back so that His

choice for man's residence might have life and seasons and provision and heat and gravity and every other basic so necessary to existence.

This second heaven encases us. This planet is wrapped in three protective bodies. First, the second heaven. Second, the water – the moisture that the firmament pushed hither and yon away from this planet and its circulatory system. Third, there is the throne of God. God has encased and filled all His creation. The entire created universe is God's Body.

Mankind receives navigational direction from the stars. The sun makes life possible. God arranged it all.

When the first heaven is destroyed, the second heaven will also be destroyed. Peter uses the plural. He says; But the day of the Lord will come as a thief; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall be dissolved with fervent heat, and the earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up...looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, by reason of which the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat (II Peter 3: 10, 12 ASV).

When God created the second heaven, He created it to carry enough water from the earth that the humans and animals and the fowl might have dry land to live and dwell on. But when the folk became so wicked in the day of Noah and the animals and the fowl became so unfriendly, cruel, and vicious, God opened the windows of heaven and let the water destroy all flesh except those in the ark. Heaven can destroy or save.

That mighty inundation swirled with a broken filthy planet. It was a defiled, polluted envelope of water that was separated – that there might be a firmament in the midst of the waters,... that it divide the waters from the waters (Genesis 1:6). That stench ascended and polluted the firmament. So the second heaven will also be

destroyed. Sin has left its mark on this heaven as well. The third heaven will be created. Three is a redemptive number. This heaven will be God's redemptive heaven which will have His redemptive throne. There He will administer a redemptive people in a redemptive universe.

Paul said; I know a man in Christ, fourteen years ago caught up even to the third heaven (II Corinthians 12:2 ASV). He was speaking of the apostle John. John says; a door opened in heaven, and the first voice that I heard, a voice as of a trumpet speaking with me, one saying, Come up hither, and I will show thee the things which must come to pass hereafter. Straightway I was in the Spirit: and behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and one sitting upon the throne (Revelation 4: 1-2 ASV).

He recorded later, And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and earth were passed away... That is still to be.

The third heaven is not yet needed. God creates only when it is needed. God created food when the hungry multitude needed it. God's command accomplishes it at once.

God wants us to know that He will erase everything that has been spoiled by sin on earth and in heaven. He is not going to use the devil's furniture or decorations. He will provide a clean, holy, undefiled, and unpolluted earth and heaven. This is why God gave John a preview. He wants every disciple to know His intentions. He told John to write it in a book.

I have that book and it is a precious incentive to me. Jesus thinks enough of me to provide an absolute unsoiled, unused universe for me. He's not going to house me in something that old devil has tramped through.

Jesus said heaven and earth shall pass away (Mark 13:31). Peter using

the plural says the heavens shall pass away with a great noise (II Peter 3:10). Moses wrote about it. He said And the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them (Genesis 2:1 ASV). John, too, was inspired when he wrote; And this is the message which we have heard from him and announce unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all (I John 1:5 ASV).

When He appeared on Mount Sinai, the sight of the glory of the Lord was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel (Exodus 24:17). So God caused a dark cloud to hide His brightness from them. Moses had to place a veil over his face. The reflection, after he had been in God's presence, was too much for the public. That true light will bathe a new earth.

What will production be? What magnificent growth will affect plant and animal?

Those on a new earth subject completely to a new heaven will be led at all times accurately by the Holy Spirit. There will be no disobedience. Paul summarizes it when he says; For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye live through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Holy Spirit, they are the sons of God (Romans 8:13-14).

There was a third reason why the second heaven was created. Israel was instructed to build a tabernacle. And the Lord said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy place within the veil before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark; that he die not; for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat (Leviticus 16:2).

That veil was rent top to bottom at the death of Jesus. Through His obedience I may now enter God's presence. I need not die. The tabernacle was a picture of the real tabernacle of God. So is my body a picture. The real me lives in this miniature and miraculous world-the

body. What happened in picture at Calvary will happen for good in the future. The veils that are between the believer and God's mercy seat will be torn away. That heaven will be moved aside. Destroyed. In that moment I will know as I am known. Likewise, this body will be changed and there will be nothing between myself and my Savior. Moses tells us there were two heavens created. Peter tells us two heavens will be destroyed. Paul tells us there is a third heaven. John tells us that only one new heaven will be needed. There will be no more sea and no more veil. There shall be no night, and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever (Revelation 22:5).

God's plans are published. That is why you can predicate your choice. It isn't a blind choice. I have made my choice. This is the moment for yours!