

All Things New: Awakening to a Hope That Restores

November 30, 2025 | Revelation 21:1-5



The Advent season is a time when we intentionally slow down. For many of us, we live very instant and fast-paced lives. Advent invites us to **breathe**, to **reflect**, to **pray**, and to **listen** to the Lord. Advent is a season of waiting, a season of preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ, and a season where we pay attention to the gentle ways God is calling us into His story.

Advent reminds us that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Jesus came near to fulfill God's promises. *God is near. Hope is alive. God is making all things new.*

Revelation 21 shows the consistency of scripture; just as the people of God waited for the coming of Messiah, we remember His first coming, and we await the return of our King.

Observation: What is happening here?

Revelation 21:1-5 - A new heaven and new earth

- **v. 1:** John sees a *new heaven* and a *new earth*. The first heaven and earth have passed away, and there is no longer any sea.
- **v. 2:** The *holy city*, the *new Jerusalem*, comes down from heaven, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.
- **v. 3:** God's dwelling is now with humanity. He will dwell with them, they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them.
- **v. 4:** God will wipe away *every tear*. There will be *no more death*, mourning, crying, or pain. The old order has passed away.
- **v. 5:** God declares from His throne: "*I am making everything new!*" These words are trustworthy and true.

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John 6:47 (ESV) "*Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.*"

Interpretation: What can we learn?

Hope begins with God making all things new

- As Revelation 21 has shown us, God takes what is broken and makes all things new.
- God is the God of transformation, renewal, and restoration; This is **Hope**.
- A consistent theme in scripture is Hope. From the first coming, to the second coming.
- Hope is a part of *who God is*: Holy, strong, righteous.
- He renews, rebuilds, and restores.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 21:1-5; Isaiah 65:17-19; Titus 2:11-14*

Hope awakens us to live differently today

- Hope moves us from *darkness* to *light* (transformation). Let us answer this call!
- Let us consider Romans 13: **Wake up**, cast off darkness, put on Christ. Live!
- Advent is a season of spiritual awakening; a time to rest, reflect, and response.
- If Christ is making all things new, we live as *new creation people* now.
- **Scriptures:** *Romans 13:11-14; Ephesians 5:14; Colossians 3:1-4*

Hope transforms us from the inside out

- Isaiah 2: From *swords* to *plowshares*; from fear to hope. In Christ, he is our Hope.
- Let us participate in transformation from the inside out. This transformation is ongoing.
- Advent transforms us from living in *fear*, to responding to **grace** and **truth**.
- God is not only restoring the world but also restoring *us*. (Think of Kintsugi Art)
- **Scriptures:** *Isaiah 2:4; Micah 4:3; Matthew 5:9*

Application: How should we live?

Live as people of the New Creation

- Begin each day with: "*Jesus, make me new today.*" Let God continually transform you.
- Look for one area where God is restoring you. Be grateful for this restoration.
- Let your words and deeds show that you are living in Christ's hope.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 21:5; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:18-25*

Wake up to the hope of Christ

- Identify one area of spiritual sleep. Are you awake or asleep to Christ's hope?
- Replace slumber with intentionality. Respond and live in the Hope of Christ.
- Embrace spiritual practice through Scripture, prayer, and community.
- **Scriptures:** *Romans 13:11-12; Ephesians 5:8-14*

Share the hope of Christ with others

- Turn one "*weapon*" in your life into a "*tool*." Instead of waging war, share hope.
- Choose one relationship to cultivate and pour into.
- Live as a peacemaker in your community.
- **Scriptures:** *Isaiah 2:4; Romans 12:18; Matthew 5:23-24*

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