

Lent, Day 40
Saturday, April 20, 2019
Holy Saturday

Revelation 21:1-8

I remember preparing to get married. Sarah and I rented an apartment. We got our furniture moved into it but we didn't move in. We had to have the wedding ceremony and then we moved into it. After that wedding service our life together began in a way it hadn't before that. We moved into our home together and we did life together. We no longer belonged to our parents as we had before that. In a sense, everything had become new.

This is a similar sense of what is happening in our passage, only much more! A whole new order of being has begun. The old heaven and the old earth pass away (old creation) and a new heaven and a new earth has come to be (new creation). All of the things which plagued the old world have gone too: the sea, death, its result, and those who have ranged themselves against God. Heaven and earth will no longer be separated and God and his people will no longer be separated. We will live with God and he with us in his new good creation.

This isn't just information for us to look forward to. Like getting ready for married life together, we are called to prepare for that great marriage. This is a call for us to live in that future in the present. To live faithfully to God because that life together has already begun: the Spirit of God/Christ dwells with us and our lives are hidden with Christ in heaven (which is why the New Jerusalem is let down from heaven).

Prayer

Lord, help us to see the future you have prepared for us and to prepare ourselves for you. Amen.