

9 “**But as it is written**, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9

10 “**But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit ...**”
1 Corinthians 2:10

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed ... For prophecy never came by the will of man, but **holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**” 1 Peter 1:19, 21

“**These are written**, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through His name.” John 20:31

ICR: The New Heavens and New Earth

“For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.” (Isaiah 65:17)

There is a glorious future awaiting the redeemed. Although God’s primeval creation of the heavens and the earth is eternal (note: Psalm 148:6 “He also established them forever and ever ...” NKJV), these are now groaning in pain under the effects of sin and the curse. When the Lord returns, they will be “delivered from the bondage of corruption into ... glorious liberty” (Romans 8:21), God will make them all new again, with all the scars of sin and death burned away by His refining fires (2 Peter 3:10 “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.” NKJV).

There are four explicit references in the Bible to these “**renewed**” heavens and earth. In addition to our text, which assures us that they will be so wonderful that this present earth and its heavens will soon be altogether forgotten, there is the great promise of **Isaiah 66:22** “For as the **new heavens** and the **new earth**, which I will make, shall remain before Me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.” Thus, that heavens and earth will remain eternally, and so will all who dwell there, with their **true spiritual children**. Note also that both God’s “creation” and “making” powers will be applied to the **new heavens** and **new earth**, just as they were to the first (**Genesis 2:3** “... He rested from all His work which God had created and made.”)

The third and fourth references are in the New Testament. “Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for **new heavens** and a **new earth**, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (**2 Peter 3:13**). Not only will no sin be present there, neither will the results of sin and the curse. “And I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away... And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: **for the former things are passed away**” (**Revelation 21:1, 4**).

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ICR: The Mystery of Darkness

“And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.” (**Revelation 22:5**)

The Bible reveals that “God is light, and in Him is no **darkness** at all” (**1 John 1:5**), and also that, in ages to come, there will be no more

darkness. God promises twice that there shall be “no night there” ([Revelation 21:25: 22:5](#)), in the very last references to night in the Bible.

Why, then, is there **darkness**, and where did it come from? God gives the answer: “I am the Lord, and there is none else. I form the light, and create **darkness**” ([Isaiah 45:6-7](#)). Light was always in and with God, but the **darkness** had to be created! And, it has a purpose, serving as a contrast to the light.

Men and women were created to love and have fellowship with their Creator, not as robots but in freedom. **Darkness** thus served as the choice that could be made against God and the light, for those so minded. Satan and his hosts of fallen angels and wicked spirits have become “the rulers of the **darkness** of this world” ([Ephesians 6:12](#)). The tragedy is that ever since Adam, men have “loved **darkness** rather than light, because their deeds were evil” ([John 3:19](#)), and so have been practicing “the works of **darkness**” ([Romans 13:12](#)), and deserving nothing but “the blackness of **darkness** forever” ([Jude 13](#)).

But **our Creator** has become our Redeemer. He “hath called you out of **darkness** into His marvelous light” ([1 Peter 2:9](#)), paying the great price for our redemption on the cross. The Father “hath delivered us from the power of **darkness**, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son” ([Colossians 1:13](#)); we are now free to enter into the eternal fellowship with God that He had planned before the world began. We should “have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of **darkness**, but rather reprove them” ([Ephesians 5:11](#)). HMM

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