



**WORD**

<sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." **REVELATION 21:3,4**

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God is changing us daily. We are being transformed into the image and likeness of Jesus by His grace and by the power of His Holy Spirit. One day, this process of being made holy will be complete. This may be too big for us to grasp now, but as God has promised, we can boldly claim and hope for this future. Let us take a closer look at this promise.

**1 No more pain**

*I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.*

**ROMANS 8:18**

Paul explains the *present sufferings* He went through in 2 Corinthians 11:24-28. In our own lives and in this fallen world, we face pain and suffering. But Paul says that these sufferings are nothing compared to what he is looking forward to—the glory that will be revealed in us. Why can we persevere amidst the pain we experience in this world (John 16:33)?

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**2 No more sin**

<sup>54</sup>When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." <sup>55</sup>"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

**1 CORINTHIANS 15:54,55**

Romans 6:23 says that the wages of sin is death. As long as sin is present, death is inevitable. However, Jesus has already defeated sin and death with His finished work on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:25,26). Through Him, we can claim the promise of eternal life. Since when did our battle with sin and death start? How did Jesus win this battle for us?

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**3 No more decay**

<sup>42</sup>So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; <sup>43</sup>it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power . . .

**1 CORINTHIANS 15:42,43 (READ ALSO 1 CORINTHIANS 15:44,49.)**

Knowing that our bodies are perishable, sickness, aging, and death are real for us. We try to stop or slow these down through medicine, technology, or healthy living. However, God's promise clearly says that at the time of resurrection, our new, glorified bodies will no longer decay—just as how He intended it to be in the first place. Before the fall of Adam and Eve, how was man described as God's creation (Genesis 1:26-31)?

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