

The New Creation

God had the new creation in mind from the start ...

- The Sabbath day always pointed forward ([Genesis 2:2 according to Hebrews 4:1-4](#))
- The first marriage “refers to Christ and the church” ([Genesis 2:24 according to Ephesians 5:31-32](#))
- It wasn't naïve of God to plant the tree of the knowledge of good and evil ([Genesis 2:17](#))
- Christian's names were written “before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain” ([Revelation 13:8](#))

... and it was always going to be better

- Heaven's “new song” about redemption ([Revelation 5:9-14](#)) is louder than its creation song ([Revelation 4:11](#))
- The new Jerusalem is like Eden, but better

GENESIS 1-2	REVELATION 21-22

The new creation is this world liberated, transformed, purified

- a superficial reading of 2 Peter 3 says God will scrap this world and start over, but...
- the new creation is *this world* “set free” ([Romans 8:21](#))
- the new body is *this body* transformed ([1 Corinthians 15:35-49](#); NB “spiritual” in v44 ≠ non-physical)
- a more careful reading of 2 Peter 3 shows this world will be purged of evil and refined.
 - consider Peter's analogy with the flood ([v6, compare Genesis 6-9](#))
 - consider the refining effects of fire ([v7, compare 1 Peter 3:7; Malachi 3:2-4](#))
 - consider that it is the ungodly specifically that are destroyed ([v7, compare 2:5-6](#))

The new creation has already begun

- Jesus' resurrection on the “first day of the week” hails the dawn of a new creation ([John 20:1, 15, 22](#))
- “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation” ([1 Corinthians 5:17, see also Ephesians 2:10; 2 Corinthians 4:6](#))