

The Last Great Day

And the New Heavens and New Earth

“Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month...you shall keep a feast to the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the **eighth day shall be a sabbath**” (Leviticus 23:39). The **eighth day** pictures the greatest event in the history of man. This day pictures the eternal kingdom of righteousness in which those who are saved will live forever.

Out with the Old and in with the New

The seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles marks the end of the physical creation, “...in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up” (2 Peter 3:10).

The seventh day of the feast will be the day of the final judgment. “Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and **its inhabitants shall die** in like manner: but **My salvation shall be forever, and My righteousness will never end**” (Isaiah 51:6). The inhabitants that die are those who never repented of their ways: “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal” (Matthew 25:46).

The number eight means a new beginning. The eighth day is the beginning of a new creation that is superior to the old. “Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for **new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness**” (2 Peter 3:13).

When the seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles ends, the eighth day, which is the seventh annual holy day, will begin. This is the last of the seven annual holy days, and it will usher in the greatest event in the history of mankind. Notice what the apostle John sees in vision.

“And I saw a **new** heaven and a **new** earth: for the **first heaven and the first earth were passed away**; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem**, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, their God. 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).

This is what God’s plan has pointed to from the beginning. On the seventh day of creation, “...God **ended** [3615, *completed, finished*] His work...” (Genesis 2:2). On the seventh annual

holy day, notice what the Creator will say. "...He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things **new**...And He said to me, It is **done** [1096, *to come into being, to transition from one realm to another*]..." (Revelation 21:6). The transitioning from the physical realm to the spiritual realm will have been completed. **This is the Last Great Day!**

"In **the last day, that great day** of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come to Me, and drink. He that believes on Me...out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke of the Spirit, which they that believe in Him should receive..." (John 7:37-39). The ultimate fulfillment of Jesus' statement will be in the Kingdom of God. "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to him that is thirsty of the fountain of water of life freely" (vv. 5, 6).

The Most Holy Place

The New Jerusalem is "...foursquare, and its length is as large as the breadth...twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the height and the breadth of it are equal" (Revelation 21:16). The New Jerusalem is a cube. The only cube in scripture is the Most Holy Place. In the tabernacle it was 10³ cubits, and in Solomon's temple it was 20³ cubits, and the New Jerusalem is 12,000³ furlongs, or about 1500 miles cubed.

"And **the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon**, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the people which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: **for there shall be no night there**" (v. 23-25).

The sun and the moon were created "...to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years" (Genesis 1:14). There will be no need of the sun and moon to determine days, seasons, and years because it will be the eternal Sabbath. The seventh day will never end. The annual holy days will no longer be observed, because they will have all been fulfilled.

Jesus said, "...Till heaven and earth pass [3928, *perish*], one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, **until everything is accomplished**" (Matthew 5:18). Once everything is accomplished, there will be no need to continue observing the days that lead to **the Last Great Day**.

No More Sea and the Third Resurrection

John said, "there was no more sea." Why will the seas cease to exist? Seas are the cesspools of the earth, and they represent carnal man and the way of this world. The false worship of the world is represented by "...the great whore that sits upon many **waters**: with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with

the wine of her fornication....The **waters...where the whore sits**, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues” (Revelation 17:1, 2, 15).

In order to be saved, you must come up out of the sea, which is pictured by baptism. Jesus said to His disciples, “...Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19). In a parable about the Kingdom of God, Jesus said, “...[T]he kingdom of heaven is like a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: which, when it was full, they drew to shore...and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the **end of the world**: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 13:47-50).

Once the good are gathered and the bad are cast away, the fishing expedition is over forever. Those who are saved will be changed, because “...flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither does corruption inherit incorruption....So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, **Death is swallowed up in victory**” (1 Corinthians 15:50, 54).

This will be the third and final resurrection, because all flesh must die, but the righteous will be changed to spirit. “...[F]or the child shall die a hundred years old; but the sinner being a hundred years old shall be accursed” (Isaiah 65:20).

“He that overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: **which is the second death**” (Revelation 21:7, 8). That which the seas represent will be destroyed, and there will be no more sea.

Conclusion: The seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles pictures the final judgment and the destruction of the physical creation. The eighth day pictures the conclusion of God’s plan when there will be “a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness.” The Father and the Lamb will dwell among their people forever in the New Jerusalem. “Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates of the city” (Revelation 22:14).