



## Full Circle

*“God saw everything he had made and behold ... “*  
Behold what? Was it good? Not just good.  
God Himself said, *“it was very good”*  
(Gen.1:31). Enter testing and sin. Adam  
and Eve brought God’s curse not only  
upon themselves but also on the rest of  
creation (Gen.3:17-19). Was God’s  
magnificent effort simply a sand castle to

be wasted by two of His disobedient children?

No, God is not as shortsighted as some seem to think. Early on God introduced the idea of redemption for mankind (Gen.3:15) and that redemption will include the rest creation. After all, God’s curse on man included his environment. It would not make sense to redeem man and omit that which pertains to man.

Their testing, in effect, announced God’s long-term investment in what eventually will be much greater. When the time comes for God’s faithful to be resurrected and death itself to be erased from their very nature, the *“whole creation”* will benefit as well.

*[19] The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed . . . [21] that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God . . . the whole creation has been groaning . . . Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:18-23*

Some think the earth itself will be completely destroyed as per scriptures like 1Pet. 3:10 and Rev. 21:1. Actually heaven(s) is also included. But the term *“heaven and earth”* is the language of the prophets, meaning basically, everything as we know it. It is not earth itself or even heaven itself but the broad scope of things these represent, governments and people in high places and all other things of this present age.

John R Rice, Philadelphia School of the bible, 1865 wrote, “In those passages which speak of the *“passing away”* of the earth and heavens, the original word is never one which signifies termination of existence, but . . . to pass as a man through a bath, or a ship through the sea, . . . to pass from one place or condition to another . . . it never means annihilation, or the passing of things out of being. . .”

Peter says, *“We look for a new heavens and new a earth wherein dwelleth righteousness* (1Pet.3:13), i.e., God’s promised Kingdom. Notice that Rev. 21:1 speaks not of making all new things but of *“making all things new”*. Accordingly, Peter speaks of the coming *“. . . times of restitution of all things spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.”* (Acts 3:21).

This is all very close to the heart of God. Jesus taught us to honor God in our prayers by giving priority to His holiness and His coming Kingdom. *“Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven”* (Mt.6:9-10).

Jesus is returning in great power and great glory and great vengeance on those who, *“. . . will not listen to the good news of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with eternal ruin and exclusion from the presence of the Lord and his glorious might, when on that Day he comes to be honored in his people, and wondered at in all who believe in him . . .”* (2Thes.1:8-9, American).

God’s creation will come full circle as, similar to the *“very good”* in the beginning, *“. . . the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea”* (Hab.2:14). You can be part of it.

Send for the book, DARING TO DIFFER, by S. Hatch, Th. M.

Countryside Bible Church, 217 S. Highway J, Peculiar, Missouri  
Don Ward, Pastor. Call 816-529-2940

Mail: 500 S Aspen Dr, Raymore, MO 64083

[www.countrysidebiblechurch.org](http://www.countrysidebiblechurch.org)

[www.mindspring.com/~anthonybuzzard/articles.htm](http://www.mindspring.com/~anthonybuzzard/articles.htm) or