



REBIRTH OF
PLANET
EARTH

Our home planet gets farther from God's original creation every day. Sin has wreaked havoc on nature and humankind. Both humans and planet Earth need a complete restoration.

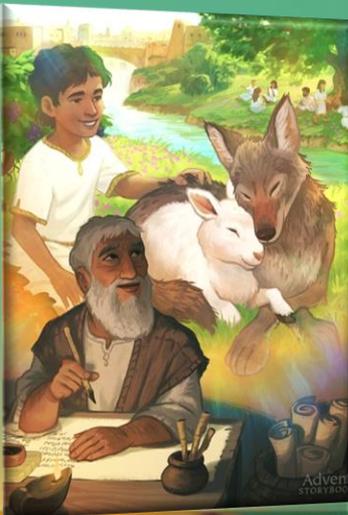
God's original plan was to gradually restore everything with the people of Israel, starting from Jerusalem. Since Israel rejected Him, He adjusted His plan.



-  **The process of restoration. Isaiah 65:17-25**
-  **Divine restoration. Isaiah 66:1-18**
-  **Human cooperation for restoration:**
 -  **Sharing the message. Isaiah 66:19-20**
 -  **Universal priesthood. Isaiah 66:21**
 -  **Final restoration. Isaiah 66:22-24**

THE PROCESS OF RESTORATION

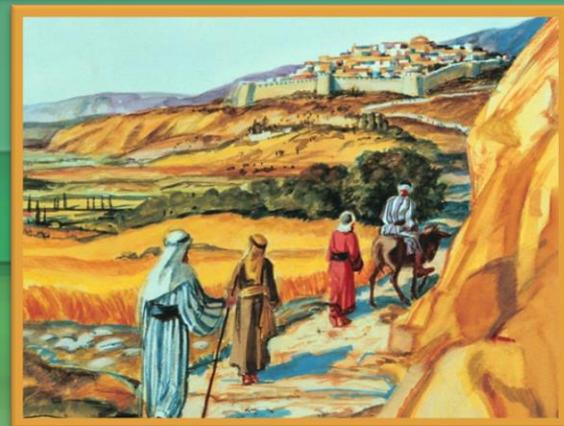
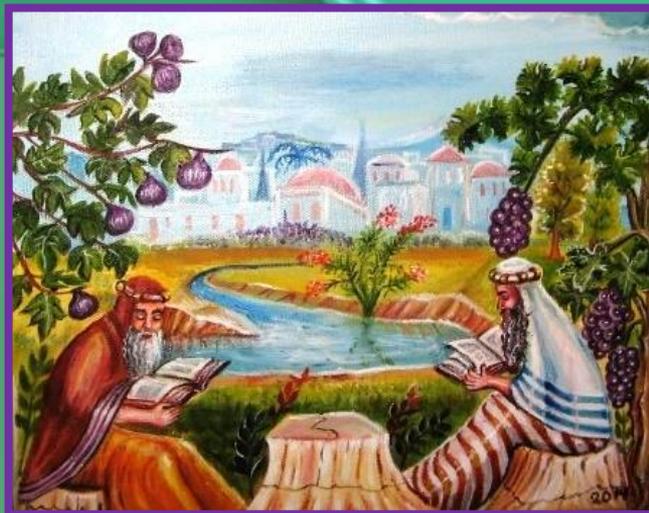
**"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind."
(Isaiah 65:17)**



In the new Earth, "the lion shall eat straw like the ox" (v. 25). Nature will return to its original perfect state.

God did not want to make a drastic, instant change. He wanted to improve the situation bit by bit. Jerusalem was meant to become a place where life expectancy would be more than 100 years (v. 20), the land would give abundant produce (v. 21), and people would live in peace (v. 22).

People from other nations would come to Jerusalem, and everyone would accept the Gospel. Then God would restore the whole world, and give humans eternal life.



DIVINE RESTORATION

“It shall be that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see My glory.” (Isaiah 66:18)

God takes care of those who “tremble at My word” (v. 2, 5) when bringing restoration. His restoration involves:

Rejecting the hypocrites (v. 3)

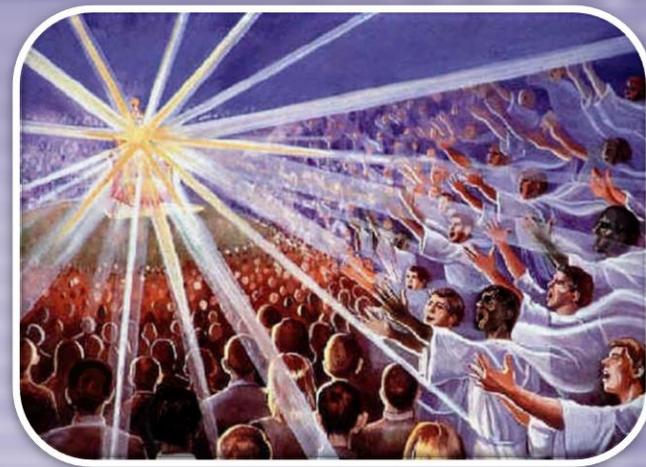
Restoring the humble (v. 5)

Punishing those who hurt the saints (v. 5)

Comforting the believers (v. 13)

Destroying the idolaters (v. 17)

God's intent is to restore everyone. He wants everyone to accept His invitation: this is His greatest desire (1Tim. 2:4).



God will gather humankind so that everyone may see His glory before the final and total restoration (v. 18).

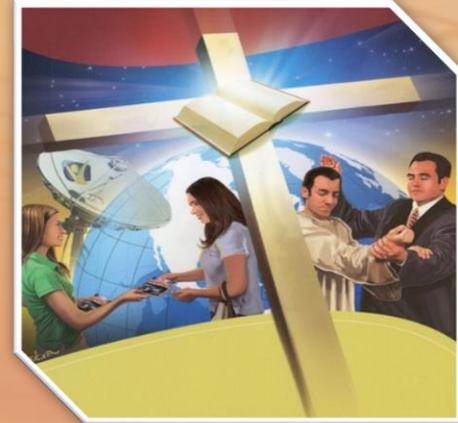


SHARING THE MESSAGE

"I will set a sign among them; and those among them who escape I will send to the nations [...] And they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles."
(Isaiah 66:19)

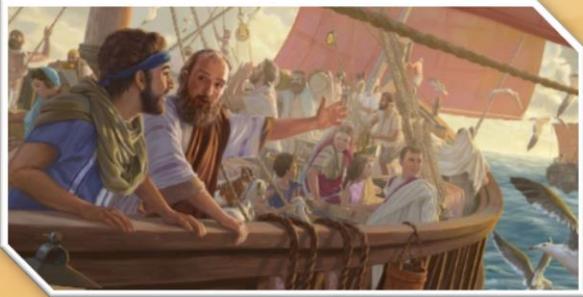
In God's original plan, He would have sent evangelists from Jerusalem to all the four corners of the world after Israel was restored.

However, Israel rejected the Messiah that came to restore them. Therefore, Jesus chose the Christian Church to preach His message (Matthew 28:19-20).



The message reached the known world in one generation (Colossians 1:23). Nevertheless, there is still much work to do.

Those who believe thanks to our work are an offering to God (Is. 66:20). We are "a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God" along with them (Romans 12:1).



UNIVERSAL PRIESTHOOD

“And I will also take some of them for priests and Levites,’ says the Lord.” (Isaiah 66:21)

Who are “some of them” in this verse?

They are the Gentiles. People from every nation who believed and joined the converts (Eph. 2:14).

We are a nation of priests (1P. 2:9). This priesthood is not based on the Levitical priesthood. It is based in the work of our High Priest Jesus instead (Heb. 6:20).



However, the exaltation of the Gentiles does not involve the humiliation of the Jew. Paul compared the people of God with an olive tree. The original branches are the people of Israel, and the Gentiles are scions grafted into the same tree (Rom. 11:17-18).

Everyone is equal in God's Church, and each one of



FINAL RESTORATION

"From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all humankind will come and bow down before me," says the Lord." (Isaiah 66:23)

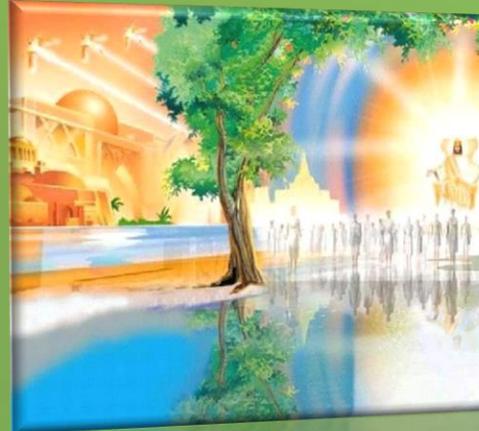
In the final restoration, heaven and Earth will be renewed. The renewed Creation and the restored humankind will remain forever (Is. 66:22).

In the new Earth, "There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain" (Rev. 21:4).



We will worship God together every Sabbath. And we will gather to eat the fruit from the Tree of Life every month (Rev. 22:2). This will happen thanks to the great sacrifice of Jesus for us.

The book of Isaiah ends with a warning: everyone who does not want to live forever will die forever (Is. 66:24; Rev. 20:14-15).



“Fellow pilgrim, we are still amid the shadows and turmoil of earthly activities; but soon our Saviour is to appear to bring deliverance and rest. Let us by faith behold the blessed hereafter as pictured by the hand of God. He who died for the sins of the world is opening wide the gates of Paradise to all who believe on Him. Soon the battle will have been fought, the victory won. Soon we shall see Him in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered. And in His presence the trials and sufferings of this life will seem as nothingness.”

“The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love.”

E.G.W. (The Great Controversy, cp. 42, p. 678)