

# First and Last

## Books of the Bible

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(Edited and Adapted)

In the beginning, this world was created perfect and flawless for its purpose. At the end, after the introduction of sin, death and change, it will experience redemption and renewal and will be made perfect, glorious and eternal, ideally and fully equipped to be man's home for evermore, in the presence of God, his Creator and Saviour.

Note the following comparisons between the world in its original state and the world in its final state:

### **The Book of Genesis**

*The Original World*

### **The Book of Revelation**

*The Eternal World*

Division of light and darkness  
(Genesis 1:4)

No night there (Revelation 21:25)

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Division of land and sea (1:10)

No more sea (21:1)

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Rule of sun and moon (1:16)

No need of sun and moon (21:23)

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Man in a prepared Garden (2:8, 9)

Man in a prepared city (21:2)

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River flowing out of Eden (2:10)

River flowing from God's throne (22:1)

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Gold in the land (2:12)

Gold in the city (21:21)

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Tree of life in the midst of the  
Garden (2:9)

Tree of life throughout the city (22:2)

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Bdellium and the onyx stone  
(2:12)

All manner of precious stones (21:19)

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God walking in the Garden (3:8)

God dwelling with His people (21:3)

A number of other similar instructive comparisons could be made. Study of each would show that the particular characteristics of the first world were suited for a man in a state of probationary innocence; whereas the corresponding characteristics of the eternal world will be designed for man in a state of everlasting redemption.

Perhaps a more striking contrast can be noted between the characteristics of the world under God's curse and the eternal world renewed:

**The Book of Genesis**  
*The Cursed World*

**The Book of Revelation**  
*The Eternal World*

Cursed ground (Genesis 3:17)

No more curse (Revelation 22:3)

Daily sorrow (3:17)

No more sorrow (21:4)

Thorns and thistles (3:18)

No more pain (21:4)

Sweat on the face (3:19)

Tears wiped away (21:4)

Eating herbs of the field (3:18)

Twelve manner of fruits (22:2)

Returning to the dust (3:19)

No more death (21:4)

Evil continually (6:5)

Nothing than defileth (21:27)

Coats of skins (3:21)

Fine linen, white and clean (19:14)

Satan opposing (3:15)

Satan banished (20:10)

Kept from the tree of life (3:24)

Access to the tree of life (22:14)

Banished from the Garden (3:23)

Free entry to the city (22:14)

Redeemer promised (3:15)

Redemption accomplished (5:9, 10)

For these and many other reasons, it is evident that an understanding of Genesis is vital to an understanding of Revelation.