

The Text: Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-5

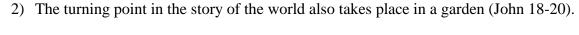
Easter's Gardens Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-5 p. 1041 April 1, 2018

Introduction

In	this	sermon we	learn East	er tells the	story of	the world	a story that	begins and	ends in a	garden
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The biblical account of the stor	y of the world can	be summarized as	"The Story	of Three	Gardens:"

1)	It is not insignificant that the story of the world begins in a garden (Gen 1-3).
	The First Garden: Adam, Eve, and the Beginning of the World



The Second Garden: Jesus and the Salvation of the World

3) The story of the world makes clear that the goal of history is located in a garden (Rev 20-21).

The Third Garden or the Garden-City: God, his People, and the Renewal of the World

Response

• Easter tells the full story of the world – and your story!

Sunday Text Questions for Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-5 (Easter)

April 1, 2018 Pastor Mickey Klink

1)	Starter Question: How do you celebrate Easter?
2)	Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
3)	Revelation 21:1-2 (see also 21:6) speaks of the New Creation. Why do Christians often imagine a departure from creation when this passage describes the renewal of creation (new = renewed)?
4)	How does a biblical understanding of a "renewed creation" help explain the goal of human history, or change the way you look at the world?
5)	How does Revelation 21:3 describe the relation between God and humanity in the New Creation?
6)	How does Revelation 21:4 give comfort and hope to Christians who are living in the fallen world or yet-to-be-renewed creation?
7)	How does Revelation 22:1-2 describe a Garden-City, and why is "garden-city" important in light of the full biblical story?
8)	What does Revelation 22:3-5 tell us about the nature of life in the New Creation (pay close attention to the details in the text)?
9)	How does Easter tell the full story of the Bible, and the goal of the story?
10)) What is the purpose of Easter, and why is it good for the church to celebrate it annually?

Further study this week: Genesis 1-3 on the First Garden (Mon); John 18-20 on the Second Garden, noting especially 18:1, 19:41, and 20:15 (Tues); Revelation 21-22 on the Third Garden or Garden-City (Wed); Matthew 28 and Mark 16 on the Resurrection and Great Commission (Thurs); Luke 24 on the Resurrection and Ascension (Fri).