



GOSPEL
OF THE
SKULL
CRUSHER

THE GLORIOUSLY GOOD NEWS
OF GOD'S PLAN TO FIX EVERYTHING



GOSPEL
OF THE
SKULL
CRUSHER

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*To Sarah, Kaylee, Ellie, Levi, and Ruby—my greatest joy
in this life.*

*So you will always know what makes my heart burn
more than anything else.*

*May you always cling to the hope of His appearing,
and never stop longing for the day when every tear will be
wiped away, and Jesus makes all things new.*

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CHAPTER 1

THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS



“BEHOLD, I AM MAKING ALL THINGS NEW” (Rev 21:5). In one of the concluding passages of the Bible, while sitting on His throne in heaven, the Lord God Almighty makes this most beautiful declaration. What exactly does God mean when He says He’s going to make everything “new”? From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible declares the best news imaginable: the day is coming when God will purify the entire universe from all evil and restore it to its pristine and perfect state, as it was in the beginning. Imagine the paradise of Eden restored, but even better! Both new and improved, far better than the original. The future, as described by the biblical prophets, looks like a paradise kingdom more glorious than we could ever begin to imagine. The best part? The crowning joy is the reality that at that time, Jesus Himself will be physically present, sitting on His “throne of glory” in Jerusalem, reigning as King over all the earth (Matt 19:28). No doubt, some readers will find these descriptions strange, as they are rarely taught in most churches. However, this is precisely what the Bible teaches. There are numerous phrases and ways in which this time is described throughout the pages of Scripture. Jesus Himself described this glorious age in various ways: “the age to come” (Mark 10:30), “the renewal of all things” (Matt 19:28), “my kingdom” (Luke 22:30), and sometimes simply, “the resurrection” (Matt 22:28). The Apostle Peter described it as “the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time” (Acts 3:21). The Apostle Paul took it a step further, stating that “the whole creation groans” for this time (Rom 8:22). I find this concept truly fascinating. What does it mean that creation itself is groaning for its own renewal? The reality is that every man, woman, and child has been created with a deep inward longing for a world that is, quite frankly, much better than this one. Whenever I read about the return of Jesus and the many glories to follow, my heart throbs with a yearning so intense that sometimes it hurts. Have you ever felt such a deep longing? There are times when meditating on these things can overwhelm one with emotion. The reason that it resonates so profoundly with everyone who hears it is because this is what we were all created for!

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This current, broken, corrupt, tired, and wicked age is not what we were made for. We were made for a better world, for what the whole Bible refers to as “the age to come.”

THE END OF THIS WICKED AGE

As profoundly as this vision of a renewed creation resonates within and excites all of our hearts, *it gets even better*. Not only does the Bible promise the restoration of paradise, but it also promises a world cleansed from all corruption and evil. We all sense it: Something is profoundly wrong with the world. Few need to be convinced. While there is certainly tremendous wonder, beauty, and joy to be experienced here and now, the truth is that nearly everything is broken. From politics to the education system, law enforcement, science, the medical world, and even the Church itself—everything is fundamentally tainted and fractured. Far worse, not only are the systems of this world in shambles, but so are we. Corruption is not merely external; it is within all of us.

The simple act of being born guarantees that we will experience sickness, pain, and eventually death. Worse still, we all wrestle with our sins—more than we’d like to admit. Corruption has infiltrated every pocket of the human experience. All of us have stubbornness, pride, and rebellion in our hearts. As Isaiah the prophet said, “We all went astray like sheep; we all have turned to our own way” (Is 53:6). We’re all sinners, living in a very broken world. Walking righteously feels like a constant uphill battle, at times exhausting.

This is precisely why God’s plan to heal all of creation, *including us*, is such incredibly good news! We all groan for the renewal of all things. We long for a world and a time when the struggle will finally be over. We ache for those coming incandescent days when righteousness, joy, peace, and justice will triumph both outwardly and inwardly.

Imagine a world without all of the struggles we now face. We long for an end to the cosmic loneliness that haunts humanity, when our Creator Himself will live and dwell amongst us forever. We yearn for a different world, one without sickness, death, infidelity, divorce, anxiety,



IN THE BEGINNING



WALKING IN THE GARDEN IN THE COOL OF THE DAY

depression, addiction, overdoses, or suicide. We groan inwardly for a world without dictators, corrupt politicians, predatory ministers, and wars. The list goes on and on. Yes, the Bible declares that all of these things will soon come to an end!

Thus, the good news is double-sided. On the one hand, the Bible promises the restoration of paradise. On the other hand, it also promises the end of everything that makes this age so thoroughly exhausting. When God says, “Behold, I am making all things new,” He means it! While God Almighty expressed the gloriously good news, “Behold, I am making all things new,” John the Apostle declared the flip side of the coin, stating: “the darkness is passing away” (1 Jn 2:8).

AN ANCHOR OF HOPE

This message has the power to elevate and strengthen us emotionally, significantly affecting how we live and act. When we embrace and internalize it, we find great encouragement for our spirits. I can personally testify to this truth because I’ve experienced it time and time again. As the writer of Hebrews said, “This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast” (Heb 6:19). When the storms of this life rage, the biblical vision of the coming kingdom becomes our unshakable, immovable foundation.

Meditating on this “kingdom that cannot be shaken” (Hebrews 12:28) doesn’t just comfort us—it roots us. It stabilizes us. It empowers us to press on. As Hebrews 6:18 says, it is through this hope that we are “greatly encouraged.”

The return of Jesus and His kingdom is also one of the most powerful motivators to personal holiness. As the Apostle John wrote: “When He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure” (1 John 3:2–3).

Today, too many Christians have their minds trapped in the endless cycles of bad news—the latest tragedy, outrage, or scandal. However, we must learn to lift our eyes and redirect our attention to the good news.

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The darkness will not last forever. The dawn is coming.

Among all of the various visions of the future, all of the religious or philosophical narratives that mankind has to offer, nothing is more encouraging to the human heart. It is for this reason and so many others that this story needs to be told. We must be deliberate about regularly encouraging one another with this hope, “all the more as you see the day drawing near” (Heb 10:25).

RECOVERING THE GOOD NEWS

Ask most Christians what “the Gospel” is, and you’ll typically hear a message about how to be saved. But rarely do we hear what we are saved unto. When asked what the Gospel is, they will often cite John 3:16 and stop there.

Many tend to believe that the good news is little more than this: become a Christian, and after you die, you escape hell and will go to heaven forever. While the Bible does teach that the souls of the righteous who’ve died are presently with Jesus, it does not teach that the faithful will become disembodied souls in some spiritual plane, forever. Jesus didn’t die merely to save our souls; He came to redeem all things, both in heaven and on the earth (Ephesians 1:10).

Although the return of the King and the establishment of His Kingdom is the primary focus of all expectation, longing, and hope throughout the entire Bible, today, such hope is rarely preached in the churches. The cry of the early Church was powerful and hopeful: “*Maranatha!*” The cry of the early Church was not simply “Hallelujah” (Praise the Lord), but also, “Come Lord Jesus!” The Apostle Peter went so far as to exhort all believers to emphatically, “fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 1:13). Why have we strayed from this cry for Jesus’s return? How have God’s people strayed so far from the simplicity of this cry for the return of Jesus and the glorious kingdom He will establish?

The good news is that the Maranatha cry is returning. At the end of the Book of Revelation, the Apostle John foresaw the last-days Church

united in one voice, crying out, “Come!” (Revelation 22:17). Even now, the Church is beginning to reclaim the fullness of the Gospel—and with it, the Maranatha cry that echoes and resounds down through the ages: *Come, Lord Jesus!*