**If I Should Die Before I Wake**

**I’ve Got A Mansion Just Over the Hilltop: Creation Is Not A Ghost**

**Week 2**

**Romans 8:19-23** “For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”

1. **Paradise Restored**
2. Salvation restores humanity to its original calling and purpose

**Genesis 1:28** “fill the earth and subdue it”

**Isaiah 11:9** “the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea”

**Isaiah 51:3** “For the Lord comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord”

**1 John 3:8** “the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil”

**Hebrews 13:14** “For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come”

**Revelation 21:1-2** “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God”

1. **The Garden becomes the city of God**

**John 14:3** “I go to prepare a place for you”

**Hebrews 11:16** “God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city”

1. **Romans 8:21** “creation itself will be set free”
2. **Bringing Order to the Garden**: **Isaiah 60:1-22**

**Psalm 24:1** “The earth’s is the Lords and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein”

**Zechariah 13:8-9** “In the whole land, declares the Lord, two thirds shall be cut off and perish, and one third shall be left alive. And I will put this one third into the fire and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested”

**2 Peter 3:12** “the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn”

**Revelation 21:5** “Behold, I am making all things new”

1. Judgement purifies, not annihilates
2. The Holy City = Garden + “the filling of the earth”