

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

“Behold! I am making all things new!” (Revelation 20.11-21.8)



Review of Revelation 20.1-10

1. Satan bound for a 1000 years (Rev 20.1-3)
 - a. Satan bound at Christ's first coming (Matt 12.29; Luke 10.17-20; John 12.31-32; Col 2.13-15; Heb 2.14; Matt 16.18-19)
 - b. Satan bound “so that he might not deceive the nations” (i.e., so that the Gospel might advance throughout the nations; cf. Rev 16.9-16; Acts 26.15-23)
 - c. Satan is bound, but is active (cf. 1 Cor 4.3-4; 11.13-15; 1 Pet 5.8)
2. The first resurrection: the life and reign of the saints (Rev 20.4-6)
 - a. Vindication and victory (cf. Rev 6.9-11; 2 Tim 2.11-12)
 - b. Resurrection on the Last Day (Is 26.19-21; Dan 12.2; John 5.28-29; Acts 24.14-15; 1 Cor 15.51-55)
 - c. “the first resurrection” (spiritual resurrection after death to heavenly life/reign in intermediate time)
 - d. “first” (this present age; temporal) vs. “new” (age to come; eternal) (cf. Rev 21.1-5)
3. The Last Battle (Rev 20.7-10)
 - a. The Last Battle recapitulated (cf. Rev 16.12-16; 19.17-21; 20.7-10; Ezek 38-39)

A Summary Statement on the Doctrine of Last Things

The communion and mission of the saints is future oriented and motivated by Gospel hope. The church confesses in the Nicene Creed: “[Christ] rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father and will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and there will be no end to his kingdom ... we wait for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the coming age.” Based on the Creed, the church has traditionally articulated the doctrine of last things under four headings: (1) the second coming of Christ, (2) the last judgment, (3) the resurrection of the dead, and (4) the life of the coming age.

1. ***The Second Coming of Christ.*** The same Lord Jesus Christ who was bodily resurrected on the third day and ascended to the right hand of God on the fortieth day, will come again on the last day. Christ’s second coming is bodily, visible, and glorious. He will come again to judge the living and the dead in the last judgment and to gather the saints with him in the consummated and eternal Kingdom of God in the new heavens and the new earth (cf. Matt 25.31-35; Acts 17.31; 2 Tim 4.1, 8; 1 Pet 4.5; Matt 25.31-35; Rev 7.13-17; 11.15-19; 14; 19-22). The time of Christ’s second coming is known only to God the Father (Acts 1.7).
2. ***The Last Judgment.*** All men will stand before Christ the judge on the last day, both the living and the dead, who will be resurrected on that day to stand for judgment. The saints, whose names are written in the Book of Life, will enter eternal rest and peace in the glorious presence of the Triune God. The condemned, whose names are not written in the Book of Life, will be cast into outer darkness and the lake of fire forever and ever (Dan 12.1-3; John 5.28-29; 12.44-50; 2 Thess 1.7-8; Rev 20.11-15).
3. ***The Resurrection of the Dead.*** The second coming, resurrection, and last judgment are coterminous events, which will happen on the last day, appointed by the Father. All men and women will be resurrected on the last day (Acts 24.15). The wicked will be resurrected for everlasting condemnation; the righteousness will be raised for eternal life (Dan 12.2; John 5.28-29; Acts 24.14-15). Just as Christ was raised on the third, so the saints will be raised on the last day (John 6.39-44). The resurrection of the body is not simply a resuscitation, but transformation and glorification by the Holy Spirit (thus, even the saints who are alive when Christ returns will be transformed), for Christ “will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body” (Phil 3.21; cf. 1 John 3.2; Rom 8.11; 1 Cor 15.51). The resurrected body is spiritual and glorious, immortal, and incorruptible (1 Cor 15.42-54).
4. ***The Life of the Coming Age.*** In justice and holiness, God condemns the wicked to hell for eternity. Those who refuse to repent and turn to Christ in obedience and faith will be cast into outer darkness and fire, where there will be weeping and torment without rest for ever (Matt 25.36; 2 Thess 1.9; Rev 14.10-11; 20.10-15). Those who repent and turn to Christ in obedience and faith, enter the eternal rest and peace of the Triune God in the new heavens and new earth: “*they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.*”¹⁶ *They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.*”¹⁷ *For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.*” (Rev 7.15-17)

Revelation 20.11-21.8

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

21:1 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.² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God."⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."⁶ And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment."⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."⁸ But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

The Last Judgment (20.11-15)

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

1. Revelation 20.11-15 is the blossom of 11.18: "The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth."
2. "a great white throne" (cf. Rev 4.2; 5.7; Dan 7.9)
3. Cosmic cataclysm: "earth and sky fled away" (so too, the sea in 21.1)

Revelation 6:12-14 When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood,¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale.¹⁴ The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. (cf. Is 13.9-13; 24.1-6, 19-23; 34.4; Ezek 32.6-8; Joel 2.10, 30-32a; Joel 3.15-16; Hab 3.6-11; 2 Sam 22.8-16)

Revelation 16:20 And every island fled away, and no mountains were to be found.

Psalms 102:25-27 Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. ²⁶ They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, ²⁷ but you are the same, and your years have no end.

Isaiah 51:6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

2 Peter 3:7-12 But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. ⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. ¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

4. “the dead, great and small, standing” (20.12, implies resurrection; cf. Dan 12.1-2; John 5.28-29; etc.)
5. “books were opened ... dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done” (20.12; cf. Dan 7.9-10; 12.1-2)
6. “Then another book was opened, which is the book of life” (20.12; cf. Rev 3.5; 13.8; 17.8; Phil 4.3; Luke 10.20)

Revelation 13:8 and all who dwell on earth will worship it [the beast], everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.

Revelation 17:8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come.

Revelation 1:4-7 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

Revelation 5:9-10 And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

7. “Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire” (21.13; lake of fire = second death) (21.4cf. 1 Cor 15.54-55)

Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

8. “if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire” (21.15)

“Behold! I am making all things new!” (20.11-15)

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. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” ⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. ⁸ But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

1. “a new heaven and a new earth” (cf. Rom 8.19-23)

Isaiah 65:17-19 “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.”

Isaiah 66:22 “For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain.”

2. “the sea was no more” (various connotations in Revelation)¹
 - a. the origin of cosmic evil (4.6; 12.18; 13.1; 15.2)
 - b. the unbelieving, rebellious nations who persecute God’s people (17.1-2, 6)
 - c. the realm of the dead (20.13)
 - d. the location of the world’s idolatrous economy (18.10-19)
 - e. a body of water (5.13; 7.1-3; 8.8-9; 10.2, 5-6, 8; 14.7)

➤ the sea was no more = tears, death, mourning, crying, pain are no more

3. “And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.” (20.2)

Isaiah 52:1-10 Awake, awake, put on your strength, O Zion; put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for there shall no more come into you the uncircumcised and the unclean. ² Shake yourself from the dust and arise; be seated, O Jerusalem; loose the bonds from your neck, O captive daughter of Zion. ³ For thus says the LORD: “You were sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without money.” ⁴ For thus says the Lord GOD: “My people went down at the first into Egypt to sojourn there, and the Assyrian oppressed them for nothing. ⁵ Now therefore what have I here,” declares the LORD, “seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Their rulers wail,” declares the LORD, “and continually all the day my name is despised. ⁶ Therefore my people shall know my name. Therefore in that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here I am.” ⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” ⁸ The voice of your watchmen-- they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹ Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has

¹ G. K. Beale, *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary on the Greek Text*, NIGTC (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999), 1042.

comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Isaiah 61:10-62:5 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. **62:1** For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Ephesians 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

4. Covenant dwelling: "Behold, the dwelling place ["tabernacle"] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." (20.3-4)

Hebrews 11:10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Hebrews 12:22-24 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 13:12-14 So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³ Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.

Exodus 6:7 I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

Song of Solomon 2:16 My beloved is mine, and I am his.

Leviticus 26:11-13 I will make my dwelling among you, and my soul shall not abhor you. ¹² And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people. ¹³ I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves. And I have broken the bars of your yoke and made you walk upright. (cf. Ezek 43.7)

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵ What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷ Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, ¹⁸ and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

Ezekiel 37:26-28 I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore.²⁷ My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.²⁸ Then the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is in their midst forevermore.”

Isaiah 35:10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

5. “Behold, I am making all things new” (cf. Is 43.18-19; 65.17-19; 66.22; 2 Cor 5.14-17)

2 Corinthians 5:14-17 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

6. “These words are trustworthy and true”

7. “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end” (cf. Rev 1.8, 17; 16.17)

Isaiah 41:4 Who has performed and done this, calling the generations from the beginning? I, the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he.

Isaiah 44:6 Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

Isaiah 48:11-13 For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another.¹² “Listen to me, O Jacob, and Israel, whom I called! I am he; I am the first, and I am the last.¹³ My hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand forth together.

8. “To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment”

Psalms 36:8-9 They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.⁹ For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

Jeremiah 2:13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Isaiah 49:8-10 Thus says the LORD: “In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages,⁹ saying to the prisoners, ‘Come out,’ to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’ They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture;¹⁰ they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. (cf. Rev 7.13-17; Is 55.1-3)

John 4:10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” (cf. John 7.37-39)

9. “The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

Revelation 2:26-27 “The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations,²⁷ and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father.”

Revelation 12:10-11 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

2 Samuel 7:14-15 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵ but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.

Psalms 89:26-29 He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.’ ²⁷ And I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth. ²⁸ My steadfast love I will keep for him forever, and my covenant will stand firm for him. ²⁹ I will establish his offspring forever and his throne as the days of the heavens.

10. “But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

Deuteronomy 18:9-12 “When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. ¹⁰ There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer ¹¹ or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, ¹² for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you.

John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

1 John 2:1-6 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. ³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

1 John 2:22 Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

1 John 4:20 If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

1 John 5:10-11 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.