



Revelation 21.<sup>3-7</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying,

“Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,  
and he will dwell with them,  
and they shall be his people,  
and God himself shall be with them,  
and be their God.

<sup>4</sup>And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;  
and there shall be no more death,  
neither sorrow, nor crying,  
neither shall there be any more pain:  
for the former things are passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And he that sat upon the throne said,

“Behold, I make all things new.”

And he said unto me,

“Write: for these words are true and faithful.”

<sup>6</sup>And he said unto me,

“It is done.

I am Alpha and Omega,  
the beginning and the end.

I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

<sup>7</sup>He that overcometh shall inherit all things;  
and I will be his God,  
and he shall be my son.

Christmas is a season of promise. In it, we celebrate the birth of a babe with a promising future. In it, we celebrate the birth of a babe that offers all who hear of him infinite possibility. Today’s reading is appropriate to the Christmas season of promise. In it, we hear a host of promises. Initially, the promises are announced by an unnamed herald. But immediately we hear the much more faithful voice of God, Himself, commanding that the Revelator record the promises, assuring him and us that they “are true and faithful.” By these witnesses, we are reminded, as we so often are, of God’s faithfulness and the reliability of his promises. “The words of the LORD,” the Psalmist’s testifies, “are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.”<sup>1</sup> For this reason, God can speak and we can act as if every promise “is done.”

Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

*(edition: june 6, 2024)*

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<sup>1</sup> Psalm 12.<sup>6</sup>