

What will the resurrected Earth
be like? Part 5
Will the new Earth have sun,
moon, darkness, and oceans?

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1. Will I miss the old Earth?

Do people talk about how much they miss...
The horse and buggy?
Killing, cleaning, plucking their own chickens?
Daily walking to school 5 miles?

Have you ever bought an airline ticket and been upgraded from economy to first class? Did you regret the upgrade? Did you spend your time thinking, "What am I missing out on by not being in the back of the plane?"

Everything about first class is better than economy. Why is first class better?

No lines at check in
First on, first off,
Extremely comfortable – more room, better chairs (foot rest, reclines into a bed, massage, Semi-private bathroom, etc)
Better service
Better food and beverages
More entertaining
More opportunity to be productive

The upgrade from the old Earth to the new Earth will be vastly superior to that from economy to first class. It may feel more like an upgrade from the baggage hold to first class.

No. Everything about the new Earth will be better.

2. Will the new Earth have a sun and moon?

"The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp." Rev 21:23

"The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory." Is 60:19

"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all." 2 Cor 4:17

None of these versus actually says there will be no more sun or moon. They say that the New Jerusalem will not need their light. Why?

Because God himself will be the light source for the New Jerusalem

"...for the LORD will be your everlasting light,..." Is 60:19
"...the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp...." Rev 21:23b
"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Yes. There will be sun and moon.

3. Will there be night on the new Earth?

"There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever." Rev 22:5

If there is no night how can there be a sunrise or a sunset?
Everyone, all over the world loves a beautiful sunset or sunrise.

Is the word "night" here referring to the deeds of darkness?
Lots of bad things happen at night: Crime, drunkenness, idol worship, prostitution, drugs, etc.

So which is it? Will there be night on the new Earth or will there be light 24/7.

I think that the best test to determine if something will be a part of the new Earth is to go back to Genesis and see if it was a part of God's original design.

“God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.” Gen 1:5

Now remember at this point in time, God had not created the sun. Gen 1:5 is telling us that there was light and there was darkness and darkness was a part of what God called: “very good.”

Darkness itself is not evil.

There are also many good things that happen at night: family time, relaxation, entertainment, meals, etc.

In our world there is either darkness or light or varying stages in between. But Gen 1:5 tells us that even though God is light, there can still be darkness.

Yes, there will be darkness on the new Earth.

4. Will there be oceans?

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.”
Rev 21:1

If there are no more seas then there are no more beaches, snorkeling, sea creatures, surfing, etc.

To the people in Bible times, the seas represented cold treacherous waters that separated nations, destroyed ships and drown loved ones.

“To the ancient peoples, the sea was frightful and fearsome, an awesome monster, a watery grave. They had no compass and on a cloudy day, their ships were absolutely lost without the stars or the sun to guide them.” Steven Lawson

So the sea presented a vast barrier for nations, continents, and people. The prospect of “no more sea” was very positive for the original readers.

Were there seas before there was sin?

“And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.” Gen 1:9-10

Yes. There will be seas on the new Earth.