

"The New Paradise"

Sunday Morning Message by Ray Reynolds (February 23, 2014)

Introduction: Our family often gets caught up watching HGTV and other home project shows. Shows like Flip This House, Rehab Addict, Treehouse Masters, and Extreme Makeover: Home Edition. In the latter show everything builds to the moment when someone shouts, "Move that bus!" We see the overwhelming joy of people as they see and enter into a new home tailor-made for just them. This is a picture of the Book of Revelation. We finish **The Story** with this message. Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. Revelation Reveals The Victory of Christ (Revelation 1-3)

- A. The Lord has not and will not abandon us.
- B. The Lord stands with His people.
- C. The Lord walks with His people.

II. Revelation Reveals The Center of the Universe (Revelation 4-20)

- A. What is at the center?
- B. What happens at the center?
- C. What is welcome at the center?

III. Revelation Reveals The Restoration of All Things (Revelation 21-22)

- A. God creates a new heaven and new earth for His redeemed people.
- B. There are clear contrasts between Genesis and Revelation.
- C. We all need to be restored.

Conclusion: I am sad to know that this series on **The Story** is coming to an end. I hope we can see the seamless story of God from Genesis to Revelation. It is your story. It is my story. It is God's story. Most of all it is the greatest story ever told! I also hope we realize we may have finished reading **The Story**, but we must go on living **The Story**. Revelation closes with the promise of a new heaven, a new earth, and a new Jerusalem. The question that remains is: Will you be there? Imagine the angels shouting, "Move that bus!" Will you enter into the home prepared for you? God wants you there, but you have to decide if you want to be there. Can you pray the prayer of **Revelation 22:20**? Are you ready for Jesus to return quickly? If not, make some changes while you still can. Then, start living **The Story** in your own life. May God's grace be with all of us!