

you envision dwelling in such a place filled with God's presence?

RESPOND

The Bible begins with a powerful account of creation, which is vast and cosmic, but then quickly pivots in Genesis 2 to a more intimate description of paradise in the garden of Eden. God is there. Adam and Eve are there. Other creatures, trees, rivers, and even gold are there. It is an idyllic beginning to human history. How fitting, then, that the final chapter of the Bible includes the following detailed picture of our final, eternal home in heaven:

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 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.

Revelation 22:1-5

What are your initial reactions to these verses? What images do you like best—and what emotions do those images evoke?

Where do you see connections and parallels between the garden of Eden and this description

Horizontal lines for writing responses.

What Happens Next Bible Study Guide

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