

## **The Last Tears**

**By: David Burruss**

There is something deeply tender about the promise in Revelation 21:4. It says, "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

I have read that verse many times. I have quoted it at funerals. I have held onto it during personal loss. But when you slow down and really think about it in context, it becomes even more powerful.

Because just a few verses earlier, we are confronted with a sobering reality.

Revelation 20:15 says, "And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." Then Revelation 21:8 speaks of those who reject God and says that "their part will be in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

That is not abstract theology. That is eternal separation. And when we think about that honestly, it hits close to home. These are not just strangers in some distant story. This could be friends or family. People we grew up with. People we prayed for. People we begged to turn to Christ.

So what happens in heaven when we realize that some chose to reject God? Would there not be sadness? Would there not be grief?

Naturally, yes. Love grieves. Love cares. If we can feel deep sorrow now over someone walking away from God, how much more intense would that awareness be in eternity?

And that is what makes Revelation 21:4 so personal.

It does not say our tears never existed. It does not say we never felt sorrow. It says God will wipe away every tear. That implies there were tears to wipe.

I picture that moment. Standing in eternity. Fully aware. Fully awake. Seeing clearly what sin did. Seeing clearly what grace offered. Perhaps there are tears as the weight of justice settles in. Tears as we understand the full story of redemption and rejection.

And then God Himself draws near.

Not an angel. Not a distant decree. God.

He wipes away every tear.

This tells me something important. Heaven is not emotional numbness. It is not pretending hard truths do not exist. It is complete healing. It is perfect understanding. It is alignment with the heart of God in a way we cannot grasp right now.

Genesis 18:25 says, "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" In eternity, that question will be fully answered. We will see that He has always been just. Always been merciful. Always been patient.

Right now, we wrestle because we see through human attachment and limited perspective. We love deeply, and we should. But in eternity, our love will be purified. Our understanding will be complete. There will be no confusion about God's decisions. No lingering doubt about His goodness.

**Psalms 16:11 says, “In Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” Fullness of joy leaves no space for hidden grief. It is not that we stop caring. It is that sorrow itself will have no more place to live.**

**Revelation 21:4 continues, “There shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Passed away. Not managed. Not minimized. Gone.**

**The broken system of this world will be over. Sin will no longer wound. Rebellion will no longer separate. Death will no longer steal. There will never again be the possibility of losing someone.**

**And I find comfort in this. The last tears we ever cry will be wiped away by God’s own hand. He does not leave us to process eternity alone. He personally closes the chapter on sorrow.**

**But this truth also stirs urgency in me.**

**If the reality of the lake of fire is real, and it is, then today matters. Conversations matter. Prayer matters. Love expressed in truth matters. There is still time for names to be written in the Book of Life. There is still grace being extended.**

**One day there will be a final tear. One last moment of sorrow as the former things pass away. And then God will wipe it away forever.**

**No more crying.**

**No more loss.**

**No more pain.**

**Only the unbroken joy of being with Him.**