



The Real Hope: A Series in Revelation 11/11

Ollie Ryan – 30th August 2026 (watch talk [here](#))

Zoom Out

This final talk concludes the Revelation series by focusing on "**The Real Hope**" found in Revelation 21-22. Throughout Revelation, John has been pulling back the curtain on spiritual reality, showing that despite pressure, suffering, temptation and opposition, **Jesus is victorious and God's kingdom will ultimately prevail**.

The climax of Revelation is not humanity escaping earth to go to heaven, but **God coming to dwell with His people in a renewed creation**. John sees a "new heaven and new earth" where God declares, "*I am making everything new.*" The emphasis is not on God abandoning creation and starting over, but on restoring, renewing and transforming what He loves.

Key Verse

"He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!'"
Revelation 21:5

Zoom In

Ollie highlighted three responses to this hope:

1. Anchored in Hope

Revelation was written to encourage believers to remain faithful under pressure. The promise of a future where God dwells with His people, wipes away every tear, and removes death, mourning and pain gives Christians a secure hope that sustains them in present difficulties. Christian hope is not escapism. It is a future reality that shapes how we live today. Whatever our circumstances, our confidence rests not in current situations but in God's promise to make all things new.

2. Amazed by Hope

The imagery of the New Jerusalem, with its precious stones, open gates and glorious light, is designed to inspire wonder. John uses vivid symbols because human language struggles to describe God's future kingdom. Many of the images communicate profound truths:

- No more sea = no more chaos, fear and division
- Gates never shut = complete security
- No night = no danger or darkness
- God's presence = intimacy, worship and belonging

The message is that everything which causes fear, grief, suffering and separation will ultimately be overcome.

3. Anticipating with Hope

Revelation ends by returning to themes from the Garden of Eden. Scripture's story comes full circle. The God who created the world will remake and restore it. The final invitation is twofold:



- The Church cries, "**Come, Lord Jesus.**"
- The world is invited, "**Come to Jesus.**"

Therefore, Christian hope is not passive waiting. As we look forward to Jesus' return, we invite others to receive the free gift of life found in Him.

Press In

Discuss:

- How is Christian hope different from wishful thinking or optimism?
- How can future hope shape the way we live in the present?
- In what ways can we help one another remain anchored in hope?
- Why do you think Revelation ends with an invitation to "come"?
- Who around you might be spiritually thirsty and in need of the hope Jesus offers?

Reflect

Take a few moments of silence and consider:

1. What part of God's promised future most encourages you today?
2. Where do you currently need hope in your life?
3. Which fears, burdens or disappointments are weighing heavily on you?
4. How might God's promise to make "everything new" change your perspective on those challenges?
5. What does it mean for you to "come to Jesus" in this season?

Pray

Spend some time in smaller groups sharing and praying with one another.

Thank God

- For His faithfulness throughout history.
- For the victory of Jesus over sin, death and evil.
- For the promise that He is making all things new.

Pray for Yourself

- Ask God to strengthen your hope.
- Bring before Him any fears, griefs or uncertainties.
- Pray for endurance and faithfulness in following Jesus.

Pray for Others

- For those experiencing suffering, loss or discouragement.
- For friends and family who do not yet know Jesus.
- For the church to live with hope, joy and eternal perspective.