

# Living Lent | Saturday, March 11

David Donnan

## “Will the new heavens and new earth have a Nintendo Switch?”

Today's Reading: Isaiah 65:17-25

*“See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.”*

**Isaiah 65:17-19 ESV**

### **Encouragement for the Lenten Journey:**

This is the question my son would ask me. He is really good at asking these types of questions when it is time to go to bed and he doesn't want me to leave the room. My short answer is this, “If God thinks we need a Nintendo video game console there, then God will make sure we have it.”

To be honest, I do not care if we have video games in the afterlife or not. There are going to be too many amazing things going on. This list in Isaiah brings tears to my eyes: no infant deaths, long lives, no meaningless work, peace among creation, and joy! I cannot wait for this day.

Yet, part of what it means to be a Christian is we do not have to wait

until the consummation of the new heaven and new earth. We enjoy the foretaste of God's kingdom here and now. Our eternal life begins when we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and we put our whole trust in Him.

As Christians, we pray “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done.” In doing so, we acknowledge there is a gap between God's kingdom and our world. However, until then, our churches, our families, and even ourselves serve as little outposts of God's kingdom.

While God has given us some idea of what is to come, we can be the type of people who help the world see a hint of this reality here on Earth. My challenge for you today is two things.

First, spend some time meditating

on what the afterlife will be like based on the verses we have read. Here is a hint: it is going to be amazing and beautiful.

Second, ask “How can I help further God's kingdom today?” I challenge you to call someone today and share the peace of God with someone as a foretaste of what is to come. Ask the Holy Spirit to lay someone on your heart who you can encourage with the hope of our Lord. Then pick up the phone, write a card, or send a text.

Today, we can be glad and rejoice. Today, we can share that joy with someone.

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### **Contributor and Contributing Body of Christ:**

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