

Why is there a new heaven and a new earth?

The Bible speaks of the existence of a new heaven and a new earth. Since the earth that we live on and the heavens that we see are gorgeous, the necessity for a new one can be perplexing.

1. What is the context of the thought?

Isaiah **65:14-19**

2 Peter **3:10-14**

Isaiah **66:17-24**

Revelation **21:1-5**

The LORD is communicating that in the fullness of His redemptive work that He will also create a new heaven and a new earth that has never been touched with the great wickedness of sinful humanity. There will be no sin nor sorrow nor wickedness of any kind. In order to create a new heaven and a new earth, the current one will cease to exist.

2. What is wrong with the current heaven and earth?

Romans **8:18-23**

Psalm **73:3-9**

Genesis **3:17-19**

Isaiah **24:1-6**

2 Peter **3:3-7**

Deuteronomy **11:16-20**

The current heavens and earth are corrupted as a result of the great sinfulness of mankind. Although it was man who sinned against God, the earth was also affected by man's sinfulness and thus marred even the earth. As an example, the earth now has thorns and thistles which are a direct result of Adam's sin against God. Throughout history there have been multiple bouts of drought on the earth. Drought is also a sign of the curse that is upon the earth because of Adam's sin.

3. Why might some doubt the need for a destruction of the current and the creation of a new?

Psalm **19:1-4**

Psalm **97:1-6**

Job **9:1-10**

Psalm **50:3-6**

Acts **14:15-17**

Job **38:22-27**

The heavens and earth are a great testimony of the reality of God and of His continual intervention of the affairs of man. Without God, would the rains and plants and animals continue to exist? The heavens truly declare the glory and riches of God.

4. Why can't the current one just be repaired?

Ezekiel **11:17-20**

Haggai **2:11-13**

Ezekiel **36:24-28**

Revelation **21:22-27**

Just like the only hope of mankind to be holy and clean before God is to have a NEW, not a repaired, heart so must the earth be made NEW so that all that is defiled about the heavens and the earth will be completely, totally, perfectly purged from existence. If the current heavens and earth were to remain and just repaired, it would always be stained with the reality of sin and defilement.