

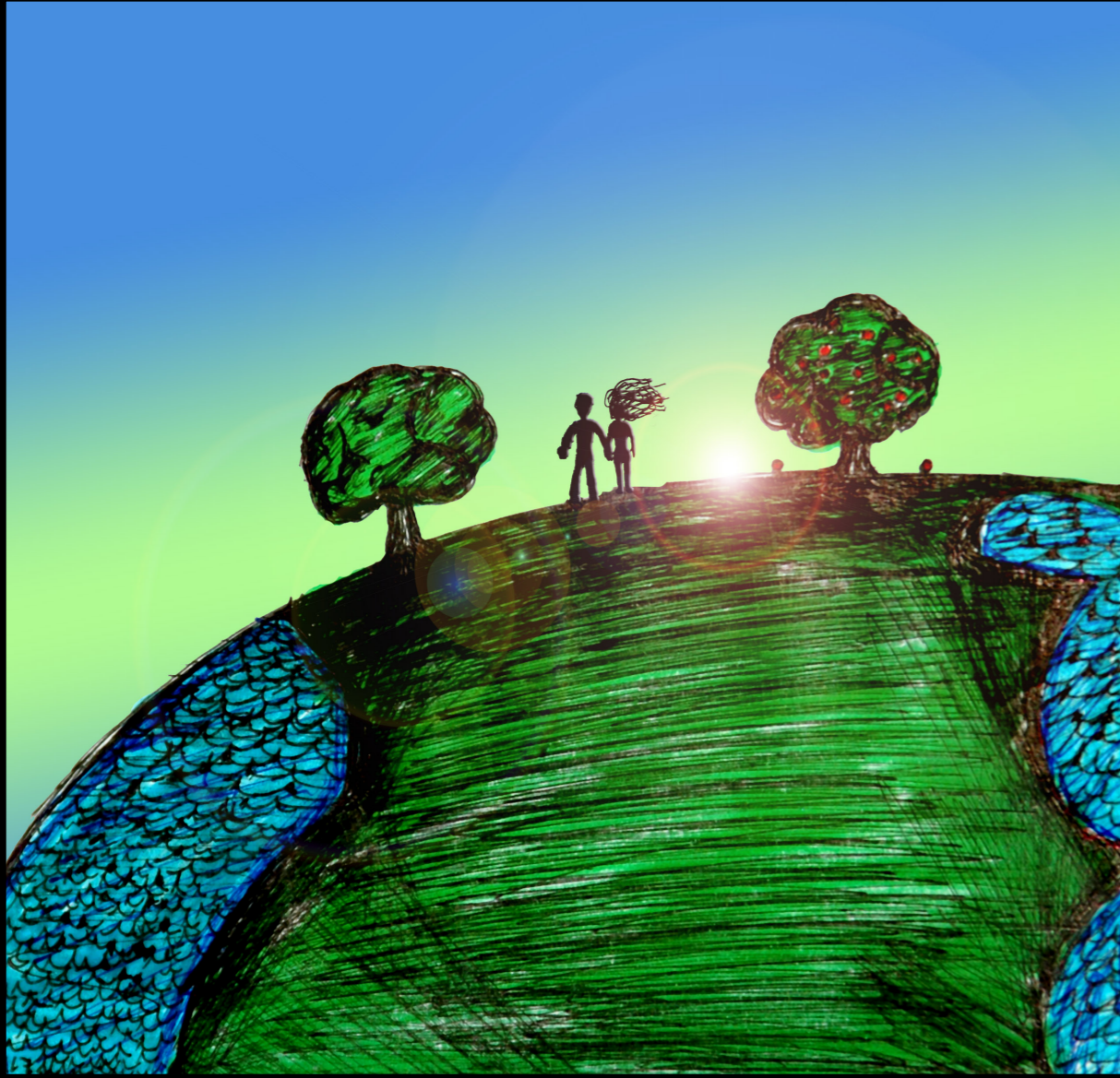
Faith & Heaven

what is waiting for those who are victorious in the pursuit of Christ?



¹ Now ***faith*** is being
sure of what we hope for
and ***certain*** of what we do not ***see***.

*11:2 This is what the **ancients** were commended for.*



*3 By **faith** we understand that the universe was **formed** at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible....*

⁶ And **without faith** it is **impossible**
to please God,...

because...

anyone who comes to him **must believe** that he
exists and that **he rewards those who**
earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 12

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses,

let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

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What great cloud of witnesses?



¹³ [All of the **Hero's** of the Old Testament] were still **living by faith** when **they died...**



³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about **Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah**, about **David and Samuel** and the **prophets**, ³³ who through **faith** conquered kingdoms, **administered justice**, and gained what was promised; who **shut the mouths of lions**, ³⁴ **quenched the fury of the flames**, and **escaped the edge of the sword**;

whose weakness was turned to strength;

and who **became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies**. ³⁵ **Women received back their dead, raised to life again.**

about.

There were others...

who were **tortured**, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. ³⁶ **Some** faced **jeers** and **flogging**, and even **chains** and **imprisonment**.

³⁷ **They were put to death by stoning**; they were **sawed in two**; they were **killed by the sword**.

They went about in sheepskins and goatskins,

destitute,

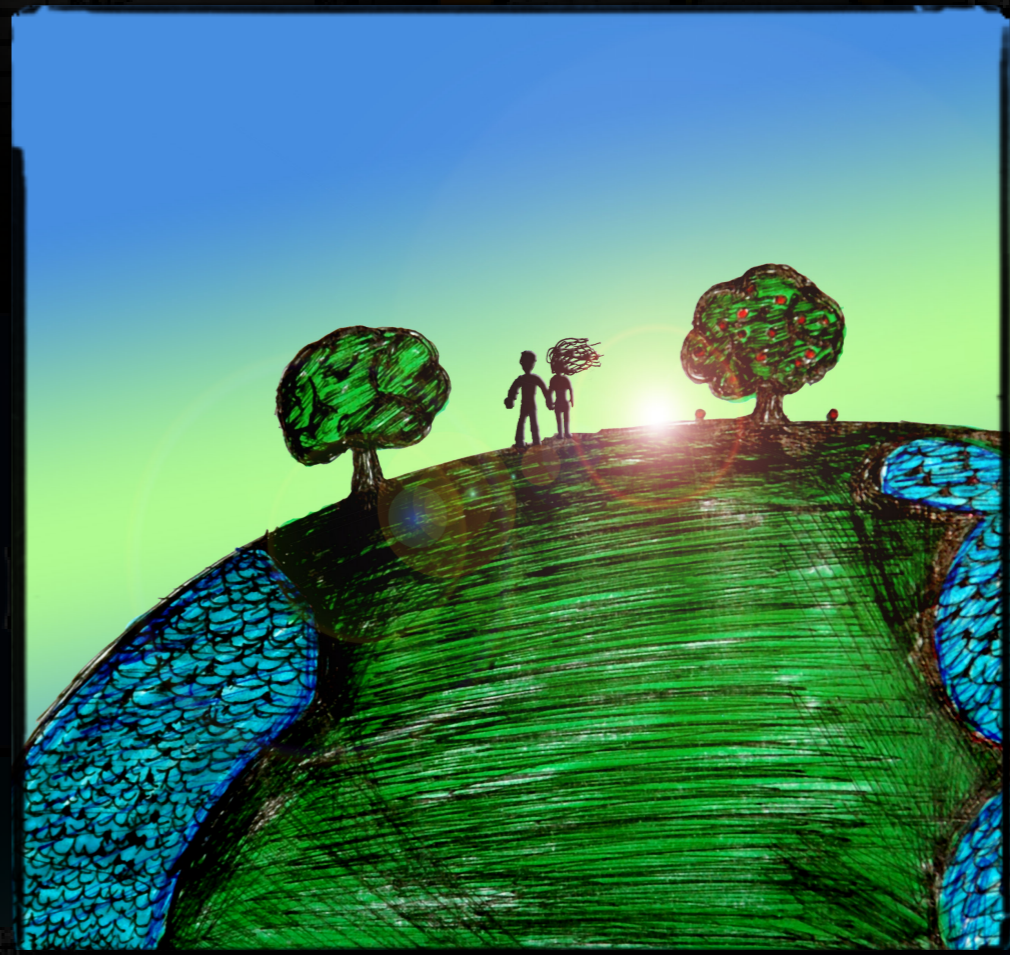
persecuted

and mistreated—

³⁸ ***the world was not worthy of them.***

They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ *These were all commended for their **faith**, yet **none of them** received what had been **promised**.*



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*let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin
that so easily entangles. And...*

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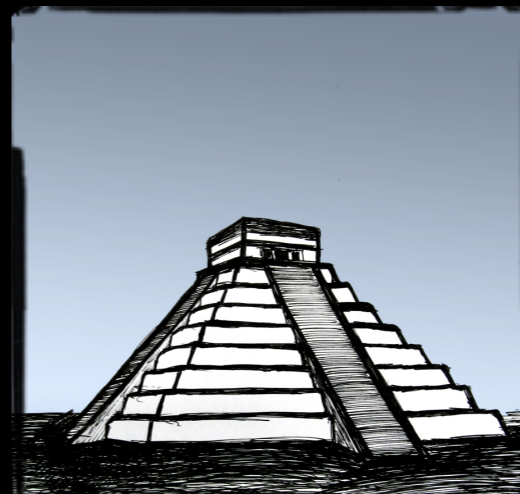
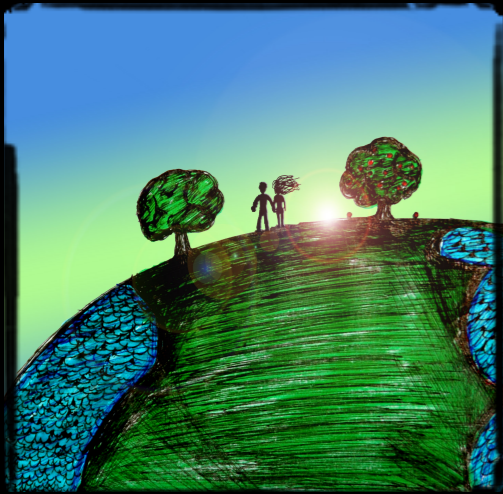
3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

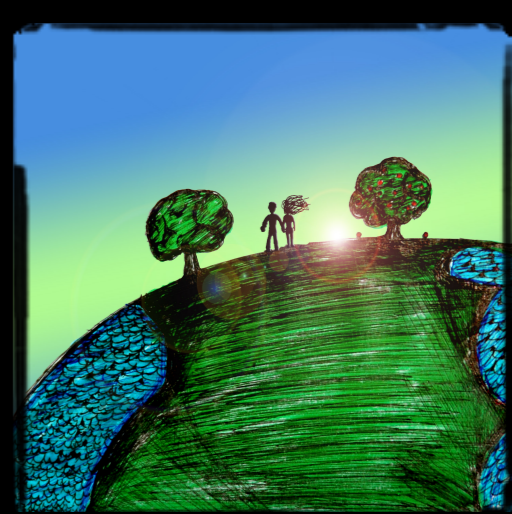


John's Revelation



Revelation 21:1 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," [Isaiah 65:17] for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, **coming down out of heaven** from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.



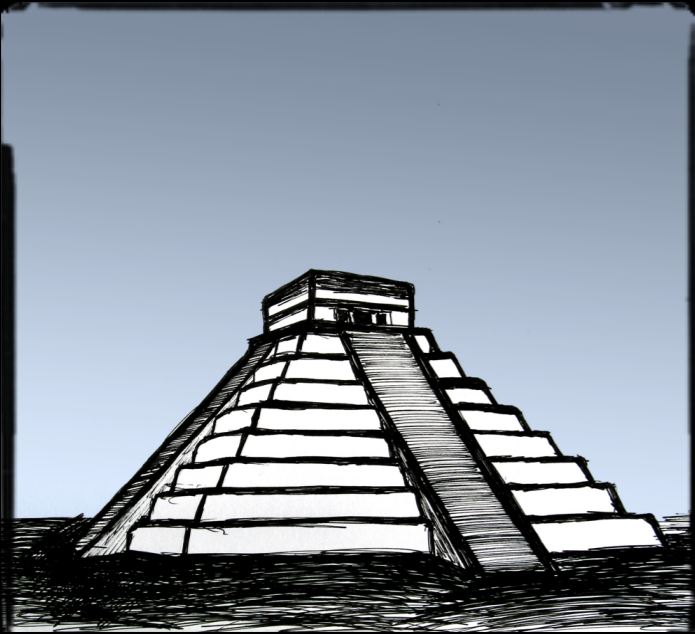


Revelation 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' [Isaiah 25:8] or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 21:6 He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. **To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.** 7 Those who are **victorious** will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. 8 But the **cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars**—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. **This is the second death.**"



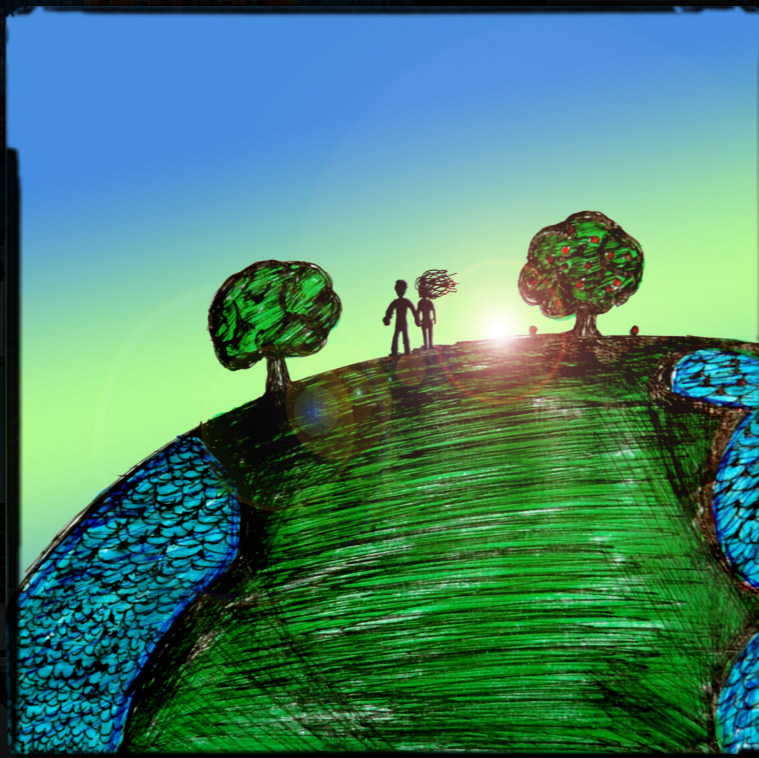


***Revelation 21: 9** One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."
10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, **coming down out of heaven from God.** **11** **It shone** with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ...*

Revelation 21:22 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. 24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. 25 On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. 26 The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. 27 Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.



3 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.



***Revelation 22:4 They will see his face,
and his name will be on their foreheads. 5
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.

