

A scenic view of snow-capped mountains at sunset or sunrise, with the text "O ZION, LOVELY ZION" overlaid in white. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, and the mountains are reflected in a body of water in the foreground.

O ZION, LOVELY ZION









OUR HABITATION

- For now, this earthly abode is all we have. We have no choice but to live here and accept its limitations, dangers, and natural occurrences. Consider 2 Corinthians 5:1ff.
- The connection between sin and suffering is a general one, not necessarily specific to any one person's sins. It should be noted, therefore, that earthquakes, hurricanes, famines, and disease strike indiscriminately (Lk. 13:1-5). Rain, in whatever amount it comes, falls on both the good and bad (Matt. 5:45).
- Be careful not to blame God – the chaos and carnage is a result of OUR collective sin. As long as sin exists, disorder and every evil thing will come with it (James 3:16, Rom. 5:12).

WHAT WON'T BE THERE

- In some ways, our heavenly abode will be defined by the things that won't be there. Of course, being in the presence of God is the central feature of our heavenly existence, but the Bible writers did not shy away from describing the absence of pain and suffering as being another key component of that eternal life.
- Suffering vs. glory (Romans 8:18ff)
- No death there (1 Corinthians 15:50ff)
- No crying, pain, or mourning (Revelation 21:4)
- No temple, no sun, no night (Revelation 21:22, 23, 25)
- Nobody wicked (Revelation 21:27)
- No curse (Revelation 22:3)



WHAT WILL BE THERE
Hebrews 12:22-24



O ZION, LOVELY ZION
WHEN SHALL I DWELL IN THEE?