

Connect timeless truths with today's news.

A NEW BRIDE AND A BURNED HOME

Steve and Andrea Ward of Mariposa County, California, were married last month under a wooden arch in the yard of what was to be their home. Shortly after their wedding, a wildfire broke out, quickly expanding to more than 15,000 acres and forcing over 6,000 residents to evacuate—including the Wards. The fire did take their home, burning it to the ground in a matter of minutes. The newlyweds were allowed to return to the site late last month, where almost everything was gone. The wooden arch had burned away, except for part of its base. “If I gotta prioritize keeping her safe versus keeping the house safe,” said Steve Ward of his new bride, “I’m gonna take her.... What was more important that was built in that ... was strong bonds and a stronger love.”

A NEW BRIDE AND AN ETERNAL HOME

The Bible concludes with an account of heaven and the glorious eternity that believers will share with the Lord. In today's passage, the new Jerusalem descends from heaven adorned as a bride arriving at her wedding. The home the Lord will share with his beloved will never burn or fade, and every tear will be wiped away, replaced by joy.

1. When were you most affected by a fire?
2. What's the funniest newlywed story you know?
3. What are you most looking forward to about heaven?

Additional Resources

These videos and materials are for your personal use. If you show videos in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.

Music Video, Traditional: [“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” by Emu Music](#)

Music Video, Multicultural: [“Opening Prayer” by Nashville Life Music](#)

Music Video, Contemporary: [“Here's To the One We Love” by ICF Worship](#)

[Guzik's Commentary on Revelation 21](#)

[Matthew Henry's Commentary on Revelation 21](#)

[JFB Commentary on Revelation 21](#)