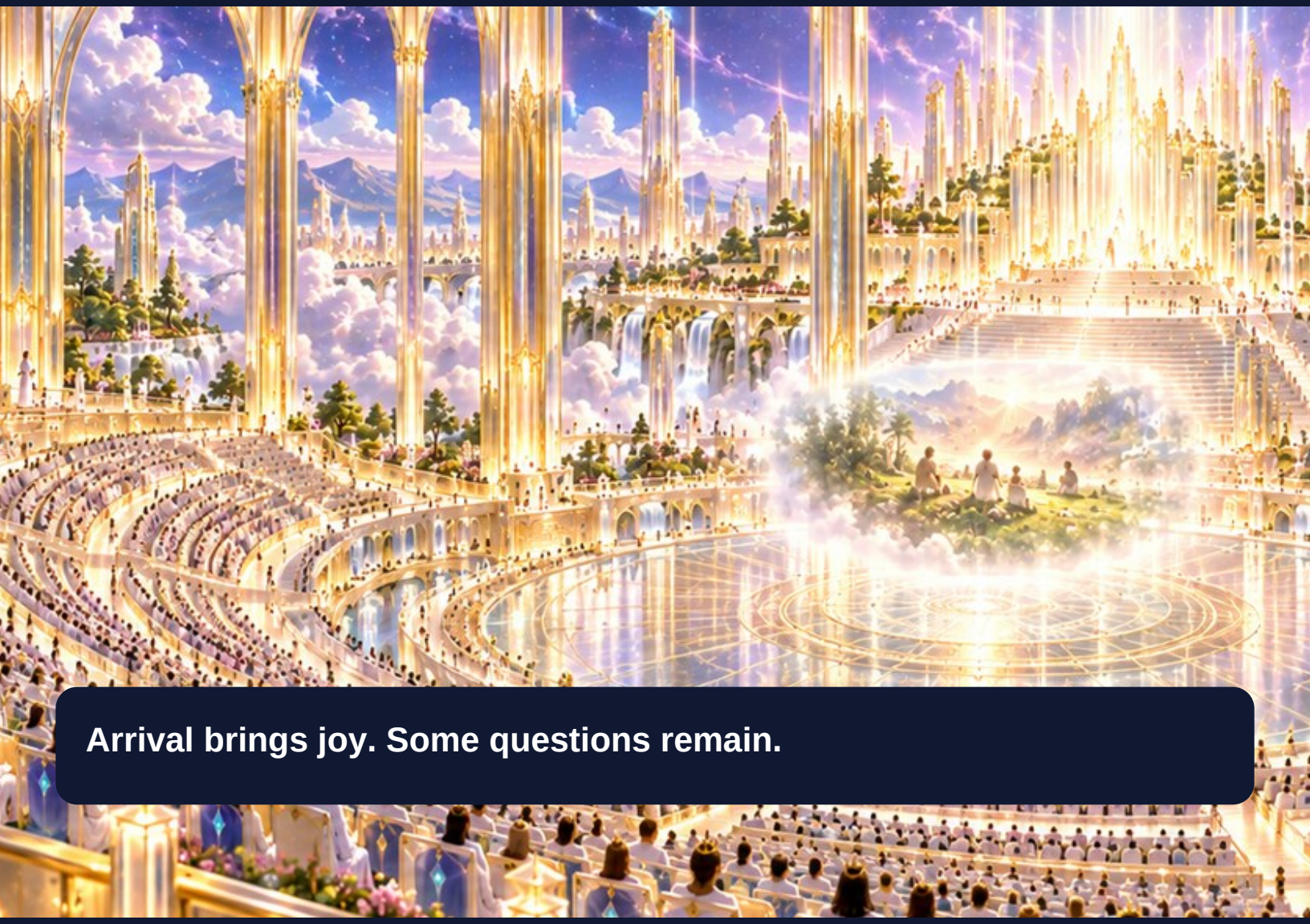
ISSUE 12 / VOLUME 2



Arrival brings joy. Some questions remain.

TEARS IN HEAVEN?

Why do the redeemed have serious work and unresolved sorrow after arriving?

WATCH / NOTICE / ASK

Stay with the narrator’s question



Existing movie environment concept / final scene still to be selected

Why do the redeemed have serious work and unresolved sorrow after arriving?

Return to this part of Heaven’s Diary. Describe what the narrator sees, what surprises him, and what he has not yet understood. Read the Bible before accepting the story’s explanation as a doctrine.

Read / Observe

Open the Bible together

1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-3

Paul appeals to the saints' future responsibility while correcting disputes within the church. What does he explicitly say about judging? The passage establishes participation, not a detailed procedure for each heavenly case.

REVELATION 20:4-6, 11-15

Separate the scenes of reigning and judgment. Identify the books and the book of life. Adventists understand the redeemed's participation as disclosure of God's justice, not a second opportunity to earn salvation.

REVELATION 21:1-4

Locate the wiping away of tears within the vision of renewed creation. The story imagines a period of sorrow before this final promise. The text does not provide a complete emotional diary of every moment in heaven.

Look deeper

From the passage to Christ

THE CONNECTED PICTURE

Trace rescue → review → final renewal. Distinguish what Revelation explicitly sequences from the story's imagined courtroom procedure. The promise culminates in restored creation.

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

1 Corinthians 6:1–3: What future responsibility underlies Paul's practical counsel? Revelation 20:4–6, 11–15: What scenes of judgment appear? Revelation 21:1–4: Where does the promise of no more tears occur?

EXPLAIN IT IN THREE SENTENCES

First: what the passage says in its original setting. Second: how the Adventist understanding brings the passages together. Third: how the movie illustrates that conclusion. Do not let an attractive scene substitute for the argument. Ask which connection reveals Christ’s work or character.

PHOTOTHEOLOGY / MAP THE TEXT

Trace the biblical movement

1

RESCUE

Christ gathers His people; their hope is secure in Him.

↓

2

DISCLOSURE

1 Corinthians 6:2-3; Revelation 20 / Judgment makes justice visible.

↓

3

RESTORATION

Revelation 21:1-4 / Death and sorrow have no final place.

Use the passages to explain each step. A solid link needs textual support; use a dotted link for an illustration or a proposal that remains uncertain.

A fair objection

Questions worth taking seriously

HOW COULD HEAVEN INCLUDE TEARS?

The final promise is no more sorrow in restored creation. The movie uses the sequence to explore unresolved questions about lost loved ones. Distinguish that interpretation from a verse explicitly describing the timing of every tear.

DO THE SAVED DECIDE WHO GETS IN?

In the Adventist account, the millennial review discloses the justice of decisions already made. It does not make the redeemed replacement saviors or give them authority to overturn Christ’s righteous judgment.

DOES GOD NEED A THOUSAND YEARS TO PROCESS CASES?

Scripture names the millennium and participation in judgment. It does not explain the duration as a case-load calculation. The movie’s courtroom scheduling is narrative imagination; God’s knowledge is not limited like a human court’s.

VISUAL STUDY / YOUR TURN

Build the picture yourself

Write one honest question on a private card. On another, write a promise you can trust while the question remains. No one must read the first card aloud. Use the three-stage map to distinguish present trust from final understanding.

FIRST FRAME	SECOND FRAME	THIRD FRAME
Passage / observation	Passage / observation	Passage / observation

RETURN TO THE STORY

Use your work to answer the opening question. Name one claim you can support directly, one inference, and one detail supplied by the film’s visual staging.

For activities needing more panels or columns, continue on a separate sheet.

A PERSONAL RESPONSE

Let the truth shape your life

READ AND REFLECT

Read the first passage again. Identify what it reveals about God, what it asks of you, and how Christ supplies hope or help. Pray with one specific response in mind.

What question would you most want God to answer? You may write it privately.

MY NEXT STEP

( ) I understand. ( ) I need more study.
( ) I would appreciate a Bible study conversation.

NEXT: Issue 13 / The Open Books

Participation and personal sharing are voluntary. Bring unresolved questions.

Leader companion

Guide the next conversation

75-MINUTE ROUTE

Scene and observation 10 / Bible investigation 20 / Christ-centered connection and map 15 / strongest objection 15 / visual activity 5 / response and prayer 10. Use a second meeting when the questions need it; do not force agreement to finish a schedule.

ISSUE-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

This can touch profound grief. Do not present the lost as a fascinating spectacle. Emphasize God’s sorrow over evil and the promise of complete healing. Offer pastoral care separately from the group discussion.

SOURCE AND INVITATION

Story: Heaven’s Diary transcript, 30:10–32:02. Method: Phototheology Core Method v2. Apologetics sources and editorial limitations are mapped in the accompanying source register. This is new editorial wording, not a verbatim Ivor Myers quotation. Invite a voluntary next step and preserve unresolved questions.