

# What Will Heaven Be Like?

February 12, 2023 Message Notes TEXT: JOHN 14:2-3, REVELATION 21-22, 1 CORINTHIANS 15

What will heaven be like? Heaven will be like a new city, a new garden and a new home. Nothing impure is allowed. The happiness of heaven isn't being lazy forever. It's the satisfaction of co-laboring with God in his work.



# NOTES

"In my Father's house are many rooms.....I am going to prepare a place for you and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me so you also may be where I am."

John 14:2-3

### Jesus taught that heaven is real and every New Testament writer affirms it.

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away .... And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven .... "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." .... And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" .... Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. It flowed down the center of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, with a fresh crop each month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations. *Revelation 21:1-5, 22:1-2 NLT* 

### Heaven will be like a new city, a new garden and a new home.

We will have new bodies and new names, sing new songs, experience new community. There will be a new government with true liberty and justice for all. New in kind, yet familiar.

The tragedy, sin that soiled and spoiled culture and creation in this life is now gone forever.

Heaven's city is a place of security - completely safe and sound.

There's no cause for fear. Nothing impure is allowed.

## Heaven's city is a place of productivity.

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us..." *Titus 3:5 KJV* 

God's "servants will serve him." *Revelation 22:3* 

"Well done, good and faithful servant. You've been faithful in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things." *Matthew 25:23*  The happiness of heaven isn't being lazy forever. It's the satisfaction of co-laboring with God in his work.

"Do you not know that we will judge angels?" 1 Corinthians 6:3

"Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne." *Revelation 3:21* 

#### Heaven's city is a place of growth and learning.

"Now we see through a glass dimly; but then we will see face to face. Now we know in part; then we will know fully, even as we are fully known." *1 Corinthians 13:12* 

In heaven, life's great mysteries will be revealed.

#### Heaven's garden is a place of immortality.

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death." *1 Corinthians 15:26* 

Mortality will put on immortality, corruptible will put on incorruptibility. This perishable will be clothed with the imperishable. Death's going to lose its sting.

"Then the angel showed me the river of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb...." *Revelation 22:1* 

- You're not going to be some disembodied spirit floating around like a ghost in the afterlife.
- You're not going to be reincarnated as somebody else.
- You're not going to be dissolved into some cosmic Nirvana of nothing.

#### Our heavenly bodies are going to be like Christ's.

There, our bodies will be full of glory, no longer subject to sin. The impulses of a rebellious and fallen nature - all gone.

#### Heaven's garden is a place of fulfillment.



"Just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven." 1 Corinthians 15:49

#### This is God's guarantee to everyone who belongs to Christ.

"What we will be has not yet been made known, but we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." *1 John 3:2* 

- Did Jesus have identity in his resurrection?
- Was Jesus still Jesus in his resurrected body?
- Did Jesus walk, talk, touch and be touched?
- Could Jesus travel at the speed of thought?
- Did he ascend into heaven transcending the present laws of physics?
- Did he eat and drink?

So will you.

Heaven is like a new home. Our heavenly home is a place of joy, identity and love.

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, neither has it entered the mind of man what God has prepared for those who love him." *1 Corinthians 2:9* 

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." *Revelation 21:4* 

It's going to be like going home with all the lights on. A place prepared for you with your place at the table, your room in the house.

#### Can you know you're going to heaven? Yes!

"To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12

Jonn I:12

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Rely on the one who triumphed in his body over sin, death and the grave.



We don't get in based on our own authority or our behaviors. We are soiled with sin.

"Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they might have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood."

Revelation 22:14-15

"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." *Revelation 21:27* 

How do you get your name in the Lamb's book of life? You've got to choose.

"The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come! Whoever is thirsty, let them come; whoever wishes let him take the free gift of the water of life." *Revelation 22:17* 

"The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people." *Revelation 22:21* 

- You've got to choose to come to the water by God's grace.
- Turn away from your sin by God's grace in Jesus Christ.
- We get our names in the Lamb's book of life by His grace.
- We get into heaven by using Christ as the door.

"Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life." *1 John 5:12* 

- Do you have the Son? Have you turned to Jesus Christ for grace?
- Have you trusted him to forgive your sin by his work on the cross?
- Have you welcomed his resurrection Spirit into your life by faith in his promise?

Do it now!