

"Our longing for heaven is a longing for God"

(Randy Alcorn, Heaven, p. 165)

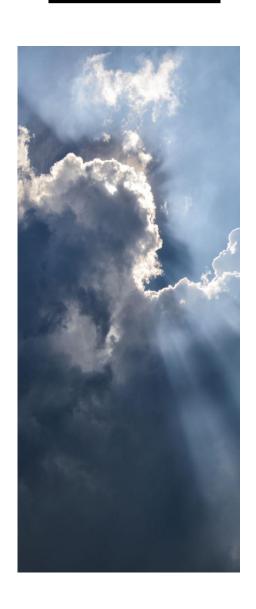
LONGING FOR HEAVEN

Worship in heaven will differ from worship now by 7 measurements:

purity, proximity, longevity, clarity, intensity, capacity, and satiety



SEVEN WAYS HEAVENLY WORSHIP WILL DIFFER FROM WORSHIP NOW



- **Purity** We will be holy worshippers without sin
- **Proximity** We will be happy worshippers being in God's presence
- Longevity We will be happy worshippers forever!
- **Clarity** We will be more insightful worshippers
- Intensity We will worship with more intense delight
- **Capacity** We will worship in fulness over the immensity of God's glory
- Satiety We will worship while thoroughly satisfied

Westminster Shorter Catechism: "the chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever"

Thomas Watson explains this, "what is enjoying God for ever but to be put in a state of happiness?" and such a happy state will come as we are in "immediate communion with God" (*A Body of Divinity*, p. 23)

WORSHIP IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Our happy worship will never end because "those heavenly streams of joy are continually running" and, "We shall never enjoy ourselves fully till we enjoy God eternally"

(Thomas Watson, A Body of Divinity, pp. 25-26)

HAPPY WORSHIP FOREVER

John Piper pointed out that the hope of believers "is not only that they might see the glory of God, but that they might somehow be given a new strength to savor it with infinite satisfaction—not the partial delights of this world, but, if possible, with the very infinite delight of God Himself"

(The Pleasures of God, p. 311)

MORE INSIGHTFUL WORSHIP

(1 Jn 3:2; 1 Cor 13:12; Heb 12:23; Rom 8:11; 2 Cor 5:1-2; Phil 3:21)

"Seeing God will be dynamic, not static. It will mean exploring new beauties, unfolding new mysteries—forever. We'll explore God's being, an experience delightful beyond comprehension"

(Randy Alcorn, Heaven, p. 187)

MORE INSIGHTFUL WORSHIP

Jonathan Edwards explains, "As they increase in the knowledge of God and of the works of God, the more they will see of his excellency; and the more they see of his excellency...the more they will love him; and the more they love God, the more delight and happiness...will they have in him"

(quoted in Alcorn, Heaven, p. 191)

MORE INTENSE DELIGHT

"Ezekiel's aim was to put the glory of heaven on display...all [the details of the vision] picture God's glory...Heaven is a realm of inexpressible glory". Ezekiel and John are both "describing a scene of breathtaking glory and dazzling beauty—surpassing the limits of human language... John is using these comparisons to precious jewels to picture the breathtaking beauty of heavenly glory... glory that exceeds our ability to imagine" (John MacArthur, The Glory of Heaven, pp. 81-3)

IMMENSITY OF GOD'S GLORY

We will enjoy God and worship Him from both our contemplation of Him and our possession of Him as our God. He wrote, "there shall be a loving of God…a tasting of his sweetness; not only inspection but possession"

(Thomas Watson, A Body of Divinity, p. 25)

WORSHIP THOROUGHLY SATISFIED