

Heaven – Part Four

Will the New Earth Be Familiar Like Home?

- Even in a cursed and fallen state our Earth is still amazingly beautiful.
- We were made to dwell on Earth.
- We were given dominion over the Earth (Genesis 1:26).
- We are going to dwell on Earth for a millennium with Jesus.
- We will be in a familiar but new Earth, with resurrected bodies.

The Bride and the Bridegroom.

- Bridal Covenant language describes God's relationship with His people. Husband and wife.
- God was Israel's Husband and Israel was God's wife.
- Idolatry equaled Adultery
- Going after other gods was playing the harlot or whoredom.
 - When the LORD first spoke through **Hosea**, the LORD said to **Hosea**, "Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD." (Hosea 1:2)
 - And the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods" (Hosea 3:1).
- Jesus is the bride of Christ. He is referenced as the bridegroom in all four gospels.
 - "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. ²⁰ The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day." (Mark 2:19-20)

2019 Book of Common Prayer: Holy Matrimony

Almighty God established the bond and covenant of marriage in creation as a sign of the mystical union between Christ and his Church. Our Lord Jesus Christ adorned this manner of life by his presence and first miracle at a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and it is commended by Holy Scripture to be held in honor among all people.

Jewish Matrimony

- Betrothel – (John 15:16, 19) – the Ketubah
- Departure to prepare a place. (John 14:2)
- The bride waits and anticipates the bridegroom's return. (Matthew 25:1-12)
- The bridegroom returns unexpectedly. (Matthew 25:13)
- The marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9) – the Hupa

Jesus is making a home for us that will suit us perfectly and be familiar to us.

It is also going to be His home! – It will be pure and holy like heaven.

What Will it Mean to See God?

- No one has seen God fully.
- Moses saw His backside (Exodus 33:18-23)
- Paul writes Timothy that no one has seen or can see God. (1 Timothy 6:16)
- Hebrews tells us without holiness no one will see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14)
- David longed for God's presence (Psalm 27:4).

In Jesus We See the Father.

- Matthew 1:23 – Immanuel – God with us.
- John 14:9 – if you have seen Me, you have seen the Father.
- Matthew 5:8 – the pure in heart see God.
- Revelation 22:4 – the veil is lifted, and we will see His face.
- Job 19:25-27 – yet in my flesh I will see God.
- 2 Corinthians 3:18 – we with unveiled face will behold the glory of the Lord and transformed into the same image.
- 1 John 3:2 – we shall be like Him and see Him as He is.
- When we and the earth are forever cured from sin, we will see God.

Westminster Shorter Catechism – “Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.”

What Will it Mean for God to Dwell Among Us?

- Leviticus 26:11-12
- Ezekiel 37:27
- 2 Corinthians 6:16
- Marriage of the God of Heaven with the people of earth. (Ephesians 1:10)
- Hebrews 11:16 – the New Jerusalem is already prepared for us.
- Matthew 6:10 – Lord's Prayer, thy kingdom come to earth as it is in heaven.
- There will be no barrier between us and God.
- His presence will be with us constantly.

Being With Jesus.

- **Current Dispensation while on Earth**
 - Matthew 28:20 – I am with you always even to the end of the age.
 - John 14:18 – I will not leave you as orphans.
 - John 16:7 – I will send you the Holy Spirit to help you.
 - John 16:13-15 – HS will lead us to truth, reveal Jesus, glorify Jesus, and declare Jesus.
 - Colossians 3:1-4 – our lives are hidden with Christ in God
 - Ephesians 2:6 – we are seated with Christ in the heavenly realms.

- **Upon Death**

- 2 Corinthians 5:8 – when we die, we are in the presence of the Lord.
- Philippians 1:23 – I desire to depart and be with Christ.
- Luke 23:43 – today you will be with me in paradise.
- John 17:24 – I want those you have given me to be with me where I am.

How Will We Worship God?

- I Corinthians 13:12 – now our vision is impaired but one day will see clearly.
- I Corinthians 2:9 – eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it entered the heart of man.
- Ephesians 2:7 - in the ages to come.
- Revelation 5: 13-14 – the multitudes from every language and tribe and nation
- Revelation 7: 9-12

God is infinite and eternally interesting and inexhaustible.

Nothing is more fascinating than God; the more we probe the more we want to know.

Once we see God fully for who He is we will overflow in gratitude and praise.

We are created to worship God (if we do not, will worship something else.)