

Heaven – Part One

Are You Looking Forward to Heaven?

- John 14:1-3
- Psalm 39:4-5
- Resurrected Life
- Resurrected Body
- Resurrected Earth
- Resurrected Christ

Theological Emphasis on Heaven

- John Calvin -*Institutes of Christian Religion* (15 volumes) – minimal
- Reinhold Niebuhr – *The Nature and Destiny of Man* – Nothing to say about heaven.
- William Shedd – *Dogmatic Theology* – 2 pages on heaven.
- Martyn-Lloyd Jones – *Great Doctrines of the Bible* – 2 pages
- Louis Berkoff – *Systematic Theology* – 737 pages and page 736-737 are on heaven.

Misunderstandings Regarding Taking About Heaven

- 1 Corinthians 2:9
- 1 Corinthians 2:10
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-4
- John – Entire Book of Revelation
- Isaiah – The throne room of God – Chapter 6
- Ezekiel – vision of God – Chapter 1
- Satan's - 2 Corinthians 4:4 – blinds our eyes.
- Satan – Blasphemes God's Person, God's People, and God's Place – Rev 13:6)

Setting Our Minds on Heaven

- Colossians 3:1
- Hebrews 11:16

C.S. Lewis

If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most of the present world were just those who thought most of the next.

Is Our Default Destination Heaven or Hell?

- Matthew 7:13-14 – narrow gate
- Romans 3:23 – all sinned
- Revelation 21:27 – only those whose names are written in the Lambs Book of Life.

What Did Jesus Have to Say About Hell?

- Matthew 10:28 – fear him who can destroy the body and soul in hell.
- Matthew 13:40-42 – sinful and wicked removed, fiery furnace, weeping gnashing of teeth.
- Mark 9:43-46 – cut off that which causes sin better than going to hell.
- Matthew 25:30 – outer darkness, weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- Luke 13:28 – Rich Man and Lazarus.
 - Hell is a real place.
 - Those in Hell are conscious,
 - have desires,
 - Can reason,
 - Long for relief,
 - Separated from God's presence,

“Earth is an in-between world touched by both Heaven and Hell. The best of life on Earth is a glimpse of Heaven; and the worst of life is a glimpse of Hell. For Christians, this present life is the closest they will come to Hell. For the unbelievers, it is the closest they will come to Heaven.” Page 28

Our Temporary Residence in Heaven

- Revelation 21:1-4
- Isaiah 65:17
- Isaiah 66:22
- 2 Peter 3:13
- The present Heaven is a temporary lodging and is where we wait for the return of Jesus, and we receive a resurrected body with a new Heaven and a new Earth.
- Rather than us going up to live in God's home forever, He will come down and live in our home forever.

Physical Things in the Temporary Heaven

- Rev. 4 24 Elders
- Rev 5 Scroll with 7 seals; second Scroll in Chapter 10
- Rev. 6 Four Horses
- Rev 7 144,000 sealed
- Rev 7 Martyrs
 - They speak.
 - They reason.
 - They have memories.
 - They want justice and vengeance for their blood.
 - God answers their request.
- Heb 8:5 – the original tabernacle
- Acts 7 – Christ seen at right hand of God.
- Enoch and Elijah were translated into heaven alive.
- Rev 18:20 – saints, apostles, and prophets rejoice over the fall of Babylon.
- Rev 19:1-5 – thunderous roar of a great multitude shouting hallelujah for God's judgments on the earth.

The Three Phases of Earth

Phase One	Phase Two	Phase Three
Genesis 1-2	Genesis 3- Rev. 20	Rev 21-22
Original Earth	Fallen Earth – Curse	Resurrected Earth
Original Mankind	Fallen Mankind	Resurrected Mankind
Mans Dominion	Loses Dominion	Dominion Restored
Heaven and Earth Together	Separated	Reunited
No Curse	Sin Curse	No Curse
No Shame	Shame	No Shame
Tree of Life open	Closed	Opened Again
Sin Unknown	Sin Known	Sin Removed
No Death	Death	No Death
Make made of Earth	Dies – back to Earth	Resurrected from the Earth
Adam Reigns	Corrupt mankind reigns	Man again Reigns – Kings
Satan in Garden	Satan Judged but remains	Satan Removed
God Walks with Man	Man Separated	God and Man Dwell together.

The New Earth is Part of God's Plan of Redemption

- Romans 8:19-23
- Ephesians 1:10
- Psalm 24:1
- The 8 R's
 - Reconcile
 - Redeem
 - Restore
 - Return
 - Renew
 - Regenerate
 - Resurrection