

## HEAVEN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE, BUT WHY?

### Hebrews 11:13-16

#### INTRODUCTION

- A. Questions about heaven:
  - 1. What will we look like?
  - 2. What will we do?
  - 3. Will we know each other?
  - 4. Will we remember our old lives?
  - 5. What will heaven really look like?
  - 6. ***I have an answer: I DON'T KNOW!***
- B. But, what do we really know about heaven?
  - 1. We sing songs of heaven:
    - a. Sing to Me of Heaven
    - b. When We All Get to Heaven
    - c. O They Tell Me of a Home
    - d. At least 45 on heaven (175 allude to heaven).
  - 2. We each have our own picture of what heaven is like.
    - a. Streets of gold, never grow old, gates of pearl.
    - b. All will be bright over there – God its light!
    - c. Perfect golf course, fishing lake, lush gardens, etc.
    - d. Are we there yet?
  - 3. But, what does the Bible say?

#### I. DESCRIPTION OF HEAVEN.

- A. From the Old Testament.
  - 1. Abraham and the other faithful.
    - a. Seeking the land of milk and honey, Exodus 3:8.
    - b. The land of promise, Genesis 12:1.
    - c. A better place, Hebrews 11:10, 13-16.
  - 2. Moses, Aaron, and 70 elders.
    - a. Exodus 24:9-11, feet of God, pavement of sapphire.
    - b. Not in heaven at the time.
    - c. Contrary to Revelation 4:2-3, jasper, sardius, emerald, rainbow.
  - 3. Isaiah.
    - a. Speaking of the return from exile.
    - b. Is. 33:17, 20-24 – no more sickness.
    - c. Is. 54:11-12, jewels of heaven [Moses, John].
      - i. Antimony – used as an eye powder (black).
      - ii. Probably used with mortar for mosaics.
    - d. Is. 35:8-10
- B. What Jesus Says About Heaven.
  - 1. Mostly **about** the kingdom of heaven.
  - 2. Parables about the kingdom.
  - 3. Instructions for heaven.
    - a. Treasures in heaven, Mt. 6:20.
    - b. Name written in heaven, Lk. 10:20.
    - c. Eternal dwelling place of angels, Mt. 18:10; Lk. 15:10.
  - 3. About a place prepared, John 14:2-4.

- C. What Revelation Reveals.
  - 1. A new heaven and a new earth, Rev. 21:1-4.
  - 2. God's temple – but no temple!
    - a. Rev. 11:19; 14:17; 15:5
    - b. No temple, Rev. 21:22
    - c. The problem of figurative vs. literal.
      - i. Rev. 7 – 144,000 or countless?
  - 4. The beauty of heaven, ch. 21-22.
- D. What Kind of Body?
  - 1. Philippians 3:20-21, it will change.
  - 2. 1 Cor. 15:44, raised a spiritual body.
  - 3. 1 John 3:2, what we shall be(?)
  - 4. 1 Cor. 2:9 [Is. 64:4], no eye, ear, mind – what God has prepared...

## II. A DIFFERENT LOOK AT HEAVEN.

- A. Scriptural Description.
  - 1. Serving God day and night, Rev. 22:3.
    - a. If we don't like to serve God here, then...?
  - 2. Things missing in heaven.
    - a. No sin.
    - b. No sickness.
    - c. No sorrow.
    - d. No separation.
- B. God is There.
  - 1. Dwelling with God, Rev. 21:3; Mt. 6:9.
  - 2. God is the light, Rev. 21:23.
- E. The Bride Made Ready...
  - 1. Revelation 21:2, 9-11
  - 2. The picture of beauty, purity, joy, anticipation, bliss...
  - 3. Our relationship with God, Rev. 21:3.
  - 4. Ephesians 5:32 (22-33) – the church, the bride of Christ.

## CLOSING

- A. Heaven is a wonderful place,  
     Filled with glory and grace.  
   I want to see my Savior's face  
     Heaven is a wonderful place.
- B. Words of David.
  - 1. Ps. 23:6, *"I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*
  - 2. Ps. 16:11, *"...In Thy presence is fulness of joy; in Thy right hand there are pleasures forever."*
- C. 2 Peter 3:10-11
  - 1. What sort of people – holy conduct and godliness?
  - 2. Colossians 3:1-4
  - 2. Our relationship with God.