

## A BIBLICAL VIEW OF HEAVEN

1. **Biblical descriptions of heaven are typically drawn from the things we like best on this earth**
  - a. Since heaven is a spiritual realm (1 Cor. 15:50), we can not yet comprehend what it will actually be like
  - b. We should visualize heaven using the images given in Scripture
  - c. And then seek the spiritual meaning behind these *earthly images*

*1st 3:10*

2. **Heaven will be a place of abundant blessings**
  - a. The saints will enter heaven in a glorified state
    - 1) Our spirit will be perfected in holiness (Col. 3:1-4; Heb. 12:22-23)
    - 2) Our body will be transformed into a spiritual body (1 Cor. 15:42-44; Phil. 3:20-21)
  - b. We will be given everything we need to sustain us (Rev. 7:16-17; 22:1-2)
  - c. We will be touched with a deep comfort and relief (Rev. 7:17; 21:4)
  - d. We will be protected from all evil and sinful things (1 Cor. 6:9; Rev. 21:8, 27)

### 3. Heaven will be a place of worship and service

- a. The saints will present their spiritual service before the very throne of God (Rev. 7:15; 22:3)
- b. We will likely be given the opportunity for work and creativity, as well as growth and enrichment
  - 1) As was God's design in the original paradise (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:15, 19-20)
  - 2) Without the frustrations and toil of the Curse in Eden (Gen. 3:17-19; Rev. 14:13)

*Luke 19:16-19*

*Matt. 25:1-20*

### 4. Heaven will be a place of great fellowship

- a. The saints will enjoy a fellowship with believers of all ages (Matt. 8:11) and nationalities (Rev. 7:9)
- b. We will likely retain our identities and memories from this life (as suggested in Matt. 8:11; Luke 16:23)
- c. But our former relationships will be modified to fit our new spiritual state (Matt. 22:30), perhaps similar to the way a parent-child relationship matures through the years

### 5. Heaven will be a place of intimacy with God

- a. The saints will have as intimate a relationship with God as a creature can have with the Creator
  - 1) As if we were living together in a tent (Rev. 7:15)
  - 2) As if we were dialoguing face to face (Rev. 22:4)
- b. Though God is an invisible spirit (1 Tim. 1:17; 6:16), we may be given the opportunity to see him in a theophany form
- c. But at all times we will be surrounded by his radiant glory (Rev. 21:10-11, 18-23), perhaps similar to the glory Moses saw (Exod. 33:18-23)

"For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Phil. 3:20)