

Title: Heaven – The Desire of God and the Delight of the Redeemed

Revelation 21:3

INTRODUCTION:

Heaven is a real, literal place where redeemed people inhabit a new heavens and a new earth in real physical bodies, in relationship to each other and in relationship to God. Our existence in heaven will bear much resemblance to our existence here – many things will be familiar – everything will be infinitely better!

Things to look forward to in heaven:

- Eating (Genesis 2:16-17; Revelation 22:2; Luke 22:29-30)
- Walking Through Walls (John 20:24-26)
- Flying (Isaiah 40:31a; Revelation 21:16)
- Strength/Endurance (Isaiah 40:31b)
- Working (Revelation 22:3; 1 Corinthians 6:3; Genesis 2:15)
- New Bodies (1 Corinthians 15:42-55)
- No Sickness (Revelation 22:2)
- No Pain (Revelation 21:4)
- No Sorrow (Revelation 21:4)
- No Diminishing Returns (Romans 8:19-23; Revelation 22:3)
- No “Blahs” (Psalm 84:10-11; Isaiah 55:1-3; Revelation 21:6-7)
- No More Sin (2 Peter 3:13; Romans 8:28-30)

There is one more thing to look forward to, without which heaven would not be heaven at all: You can have all of things above, but if you do not have this last one, it is not heaven.

The enjoyment of God Himself.

Heaven Is The Desire of God

The Creator desires to be *located with His creation!*

Exodus 40:34-35,38

1 Kings 8:11,27

Ezekiel 37:24-28

1 Corinthians 3:16 (corporate) and 6:19 (individual)

John 14:23

The Infinite desires to be *known by the finite!*

Jeremiah 9:24

Philippians 3:8

The Independent One desires to be *in relationship*.

Romans 11:35-36

Job 41:11

Isa 62:5

Zeph 3:17-18

Isa 55:1-3

Revelation 2:26,28

Revelation 22:16-17

Heaven Is The Delight of the Redeemed

Those who knew God best longed for him most

Moses (Exodus 33:13)

David (Ps 16:2,5,8,9,11)

Asaph (Ps 73:25,26,28)

John (Rev 22:20)

Paul (2 Cor 12:1-4; 2 Cor 12:15; 2 Timothy 2:10; 2 Cor 4:17-18; Romans 8:18;

Phil 1:21,23; Phil 3:8)

Jesus (John 17:3)

Some Concluding Questions:

Do you desire to go to heaven?

For what do you desire to go to heaven, chiefly?

If you were to die today, would you consider yourself to be leaving everything? Or would you see yourself as gaining everything?

Is there anything (actual or imaginable) in this life that you would prefer to being in God's presence?

If you had a choice, to not die and stay here with everything but God, or to leave everything to be with Him, which would you choose?

How well do you know God, if at all (not mere facts, but Biblical truth in relationship)?

What does your longing for heaven say about your knowledge of God and love for God?