

Thursday

Please read Isaiah 65:17-25. Like many prophecies in Isaiah, this passage seems to be about two things: the promise of an exciting future for the nation of Israel in this life, and a literal new heaven. What surprises you about these descriptions of the new heaven and new earth? What are you looking forward to about the place described in this passage? This passage was originally written to the Israelites who had seen their nation fall into ruin and exile. The Lord inspired these words to motivate them to live fully devoted lives here on earth. How can a future hope like this inspire you to live your life today?

Spend time in prayer today specifically thanking God for things you've learned about heaven.

Friday

Please read Isaiah 11:6-10. Some commentators believe this passage is referring to the thousand-year reign of peace prophesied in the Bible and referred to as the "millennium", which takes place on this earth. But most believe it refers to the "new heaven and new earth" because of its parallels to Isaiah 65, which explicitly refers to the new heaven and earth. What surprises you about this description? Read Luke 13:23-30. What surprises you about these descriptions of the new heaven and new earth? You may have noticed that many of the passages about heaven refer to those left out of heaven. Why do you think the Bible contains these warnings? Why do you think Jesus told the falsely pious, self-satisfied religious leaders that they would be surprised about who's "in" and who's "out" of heaven? Why is this truth important for us to hear today?

Ask God to give you a heart of love and compassion for all those who need to hear about His Him for opportunities to share.

Saturday

Please read Matthew 26:17-30 to be ready for sharing in the Lord's Supper tomorrow.

Ask God to prepare your heart so that you can worship him in Spirit and truth as you come together with your brothers and sisters tomorrow. Pray for both of our Sunday services, that they will clearly show God's grace and truth to all who attend.



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What Will I Be Like in Heaven?

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, May 28, 2017

Where will I live?

Will I live in heaven or on earth?

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth..." Revelation 21:1

Is heaven physical or spiritual?

"I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God... And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men... He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain...' " Revelation 22:2-4

"I did not see a temple in the city; the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple." Revelation 21:22

"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life... flowing... down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life... yielding its fruit every month." Revelation 22:2

"We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time." Romans 8:22

What will my body be like?

"The Lord Jesus Christ... will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body." Philippians 3:20-21

Will I be myself?

*"I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet **in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another.**" Job 19:25-27*

*Jesus: "Look at my hands and my feet. **It is I myself!** Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." Luke 24:39*

Will I look like me?

"Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." John 20:27

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb." Revelation 7:9

Will I be an angel?

"Do you not know that we will judge angels?" 1 Corinthians 6:3

Will I be married?

“At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.” Matthew 22:30

What will I do there?

Will it be boring?

“Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth... be glad and rejoice forever in what I create... a delight and a joy... the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.... They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.” Isaiah 65:17-19, 21, 25

“No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.” Revelation 22:3

Will we eat and drink?

“On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines.”

Isaiah 25:6

“To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.” Revelation 2:7

Will I have fun?

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh... Rejoice in that day and leap for because great is your reward in heaven.”

Luke 6:21, 23

Will there be animals and plants?

“The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together...” Isaiah 11:6 (See Isaiah 65:25)

“Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: ‘To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, forever and ever!’” Revelation 5:13

“...the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives forever and ever.” Revelation 4:8-9

Will I know people?

Will we be reunited with babies who died?

David said: *“I will go to him, but he will not return to me.”* 2 Samuel 12:23

Will we meet people we know?

Jesus said *“...many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.”* Matthew 8:11

Daily Meditations

Daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today’s topic.

This week’s memory verse:

“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.” Revelation 22:17

Monday

What questions do you have about heaven? Did any of the topics we covered on Sunday surprise you? What do you wish you knew about heaven? How do the Bible’s descriptions of the new heaven and the new earth inspire you to live for Christ here and now? How do these ideas help you grow closer to the Lord? How do they help you reach out to others?

Ask God to help you think accurately and inspirationally of the new heaven and the new earth that awaits!

Tuesday

Please read Revelation 21. Revelation 21:2 describes the Holy City—the “New Jerusalem”—as a beautifully dressed bride. With what precious jewels and metals is the bride adorned, according to verses 11 and 18-21? Along with this physical beauty, what promise in verse 4 makes heaven a place to long for? In verse 4, what do you think the “old order” is? Read verse 5 and then read 2 Corinthians 5:17 and describe what Christ has done for us. Read Revelation 21:22. Why is there no need for a temple in the Holy City? And why is there no need for a sun or moon?

It’s exciting to imagine what God has prepared for us! Thank God for these glimpses of heaven and for the joy of knowing that as believers we will be with him forever!

Wednesday

Please read Revelation 22. What is our Lord’s promise to us in verses 7, 12, and 20? What characteristics and names of God are found in verses 5, 13 & 16? According to verse 17, who is invited to take the “free gift of the water of life”? Read John 4:10-14. Contrast the “living water” Jesus speaks of in these verses with the “river of the water of life” in Revelation 22:1.

Ask God for the opportunity to share God’s gift of “living water” with someone you know. Live like he’s coming soon!