

THE BEGINNING OF THE END

Session Twelve

February 19, 2020

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What Will Heaven Be Like?

And... What Will I Be Like There - Forever And Ever And Ever?

Unless something startling happens with this old body, in another very few years I will no longer just sing about Heaven... I will be in Heaven. What will it be like?

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. [14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. [15] For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. [16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. [18] Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

As a young boy, I often sang this song in our home church:

WHEN I GET UP TO HEAVEN

*I have heard a lot of singing about the land beyond the blue
And the place that Jesus promised that He's fixed for me and you*

1 *And I've heard the people talk about the that land that is to be.*
2 *So I've made a little list of things I especially want to see.*

3
4 *WHEN I GET UP TO HEAVEN,*
5 *WHEN I'VE RUN AND WON THE RACE...*
6 *AND I FINALLY STAND IN GLORY LAND,*
7 *A SINNER SAVED BY GRACE!*
8 *THEN I'LL HEAR THE HALLELUJAHS AS*
9 *THE GLAD HOSANNAS RING*
10 *AND THE SAINTS FROM EVERY TRIBE AND TONGUE*
11 *THEIR SAVIOR'S PRAISES RING!*

12
13 *When the angel takes the Book of Life in which our names are set...*
14 *And he starts to read them over going down the alphabet...*
15 *When he finally comes to my name and he reads it loud and clear...*
16 *I'll stand upon my tiptoes, raise my hand and shout I'M HERE!*

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THE RAPTURE
THE SEQUENCE OF PROPHETIC EVENTS,
ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE
(starting with the "catching away of the saints")

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1. The Rapture
2. With the Lord, we will experience the Judgment Seat of Christ
(please carefully read I Corinthians 3)
3. Meanwhile on Earth: the Tribulation
 - The Seal Judgments (described in Revelation)
 - The Antichrist and False Prophet
4. Armageddon and the second coming of Christ to Earth
5. The 1000-year reign of Christ on Earth (The Millennium)
6. The short-term release of Satan and Earth's final revolt against Christ
7. The destruction of Earth by fire
8. The new Heaven and new Earth
9. The Holy City coming from Heaven - the headquarters for the redeemed.

1 WHAT WILL WE DO IN HEAVEN?
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3 1. A life of fellowship with Jesus

4 1John 3:2

5 *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear*
6 *what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we*
7 *shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

8
9 John 14:3

10 *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and*
11 *receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

12
13 2. Rest

14 Revelation 14:13

15 *And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed*
16 *are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith*
17 *the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works*
18 *do follow them.*

19
20 3. A life of full knowledge

21 1 Corinthians 13:12

22 *For now I see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now*
23 *I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*

24
25 4. Lives of purity and holiness

26 Revelation 21:27

27 *And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth,*
28 *neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but*
29 *they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

- 1 5. A life of joy
2 Revelation 21:4
3 *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there*
4 *shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall*
5 *there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*
6
- 7 6. A life of service
8 Revelation 22:3
9 *And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of*
10 *the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:*
11
- 12 7. A life of abundance
13 Revelation 21 :6
14 *And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the*
15 *beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the*
16 *fountain of the water of life freely.*
17
- 18 8. A life of glory
19 2 Corinthians 4:17
20 *For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for*
21 *us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;*
22
23 Colossians 3:4
24 *When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also*
25 *appear with him in glory.*
26
- 27 9. A life of worship
28 Revelation 19:1
29 *And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in*
30 *heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and*
31 *power, unto the Lord our God:*
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1 Revelation 7:9-12

2 *After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man*
3 *could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and*
4 *tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed*
5 *with white robes, and palms in their hands; [10] And cried with a*
6 *loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the*
7 *throne, and unto the Lamb. [11] And all the angels stood round*
8 *about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and*
9 *fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, [12]*
10 *Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and*
11 *thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our*
12 *God for ever and ever. Amen.*

13
14 None of us, the redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, could ever
15 understand or even begin to express the joy that awaits us in Glory.

16 Think of John's classic hint:

17
18 1 John 3:2

19 *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what*
20 *we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like*
21 *him; for we shall see him as he is.*

22
23 I love this summation: There is the danger that we could become so
24 occupied with the very experience of Heaven that the supreme
25 glorification of the Godhead is lost. John (line 21) wrote, "We shall see
26 Him as He is." We will be fully occupied with the One Who loved us
27 and washed away our sins through His own blood.

28
29 Revelation 5:12

30 *Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive*
31 *power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory,*
32 *and blessing.*

1 WILL WE KNOW EACH OTHER IN HEAVEN?

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3 1 Corinthians 13:12

4 *For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I*
5 *know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*

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7 Of course, we will know each other. Although I suspect our glorified
8 bodies may be changed. They certainly will not be subject to aging or
9 sickness. And they will last for all eternity.

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