

What is Heaven Like?

INTRODUCTION

- A. "That which makes hell so full of horror, is, that it is below all hopes; and that which makes heaven so full of splendor, is, that it is above all fears. The one is a night without the return of day; the other is a day free from the approach of night."
- B. There is no feeling like coming back home after a long trip.
 - 1. Heaven is our home.
 - 2. "Our citizenship is in heaven" (Phil. 3:20).
 - a. We need to live like heaven is our home.
 - 1) We need not become entangled with the things of this world.
 - 2) There is no sense in obtaining great things; this world is temporary while heaven is eternal.
 - 3) We are not to lay up treasures on this earth where things decay, but we are to lay up our treasures in heaven (Mt. 6:19-20).
 - b. Are you laying up your treasures in heaven?
- C. This evening, we want to examine our home in heaven.

HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF COMFORT

- A. The Scriptures affirm this fact.
 - 1. Abraham told the rich man that Lazarus was comforted in Paradise (Lk 16:25).
 - 2. Rev. 7:15-17.
- B. All the evil we know in this world will not exist in heaven
 - 1. There will be no pain, sickness, sin, nor death.
 - 2. Are you going to be comforted in heaven?

HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF PRAISE

- A. Rev. 7:9-17.
- B. Those in heaven continually worship God--the worship of God never ceases day or night.
 - 1. It never ceases to amaze me that those who don't care much about worship want to go to heaven.
 - 2. My friend, if you don't enjoy worship, don't go to heaven, you'll be miserable!
- C. Praising God is a blessing--that's a blessing which will be continually ours in heaven.

HEAVEN IS AN ETERNAL PLACE

- A. The Scriptures teach that heaven is an eternal place.
 - 1. The righteous shall go into eternal life (Mt. 25:46).
 - 2. "We know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1).
 - 3. Heaven is the "everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Pet. 1:11).
- B. The expression says, "All good things must come to an end"--not heaven.
- C. There is no end to the bliss and the joy of heaven.

HEAVEN IS A PLACE WHERE THE LORD IS

- A. The Scriptures teach that the Lord is in heaven.
 - 1. Over and over Jesus referred to God the Father as his Father who is in Heaven (e.g., Mt. 10:32-33).
 - 2. "We shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:17).

- B. Some say that we will live on earth.
 - 1. That's not what 1 Thess. 4:17 teaches.
 - 2. I don't want to live on earth; I want to live with Jesus, and I will be able to do so in heaven.

HEAVEN IS A PREPARED PLACE

- A. The Scriptures teach that heaven is a prepared place.
 - 1. "I go to prepare a place for you" (Jn. 14:2).
 - 2. The King will tell those on his right, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Mt. 25:34).
 - 3. "God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them" (Heb. 11:16).
- B. I take great pride in being prepared.
 - 1. I must always be on time.
 - 2. I must study my sermons a great deal.
- C. Heaven is a place which is prepared.
 - 1. Heaven is not a last minute idea.
 - 2. Heaven is a prepared place.

HEAVEN IS A PLACE TOO GREAT FOR WORDS

- A. 2 Cor. 12:1-4.
- B. Illustration about Marco Polo, Encyclopedia of 15,000 Illustrations, #4974.
- C. Paul could not repeat all he saw; no doubt much glory and splendor awaits us in heaven.

HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF REST

- A. The Scriptures teach that heaven is a place of rest.
 - 1. Rev. 6:11.
 - 2. Rev. 14:13.
- B. I like to rest, and in heaven we will be able to rest eternally,

HEAVEN IS A LARGE PLACE

- A. Jn. 14:1-2.
- B. There are many dwelling places in heaven--there's room for everyone who wants to go there.
 - 1. The sad thing is that not everyone will go there.
 - a. "Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Mt. 7:14).
 - b. "They have not all obeyed the gospel" (Rom. 10:16).
 - 2. These are some of the saddest words in all of Scripture.

CONCLUSION

- A. Illustration about girl walking through cemetery, Encyclopedia of 15,000 Illustrations, #4969.
- B. Jesus told his disciples that they should rejoice that their names were written in heaven (Lk. 10:20).
- C. Is your name written in heaven?