

21T17 Heaven?

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me @ the PUNLA coffee table.

Heaven? What does that make you think of? Let me say it again, Heaven. I think many of us think of the blissful pleasure factory in the sky. Everybody wants to go to heaven, right? It occurred to me that I really do not know what the Bible says about heaven. I have heard many preachers and teachers talk about it, but I was surprised how little of the Bible they used to describe heaven.

This led me to ask a very basic question what does the bible say about heaven? And does the concept of a blissful pleasure factory really match the description in the Bible.

I was excited to read and study the more than 550 passages in the Bible that talk about heaven. I expected a very long multi-session study. But, as I read and studied a few things became very clear,

First, There are 3 heavens in the Bible. The 1st heaven is really the sky with the clouds and birds etc. The 2nd heaven is really outer space with the planets and stars etc. Then the 3rd heaven is what we really want to talk about. This is the dwelling place of God, the Throne of God, etc.

Second, There is also a place called paradise which is not really heaven,

But as I read and read and read all 550 plus bible passages, I was very surprised, that outside of Revelation there really nothing in the bible describing what heaven is like. A lot about God in heaven, some general discussion about our rewards and possessions stored in heaven, but that's it. Nothing that seems like the blissful pleasure factory we are so often told it will be. All of these scriptures about heaven but very, very few really describe anything about heaven.

God will give us rest. Wipe away every tear. No more sorrows, No more pain. But I could find no Bible passages that talk about what it's like. Yes, we will have a place. Yes, God is there in all His glory and wonder. No doubt it will be amazing. But, our concept of heaven is based more on the character of God and the wonders of His creation here on earth more than Bible descriptions.

1 Corinthians 2:9.(NKJV) But as it is written: *“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”* Which comes from Isaiah 64:4 *For since the beginning of the world Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him.*

So, I get it, Heaven is going to be wonderful. I was just surprised no real description outside of Revelation.

In reality, I cannot imagine what heaven will be like. My mind is simply not capable of doing the concept of heaven justice. I sure cannot find the words to convey the intense feeling and the yearning I have to be there.

Heaven is very abstract to each of us because we are bound in these human forms which limits our ability to perceive things. The scriptures say, “*We have neither seen nor heard.*” the wonders of heaven. One thing is for certain. I trust Jesus. I know my Father God’s house will be amazing. He created everything on earth and everything we see in the 1st and 2nd heavens. We can see the wonders and beauty and majesty in our world. The colors, smells, tastes of this world. Obviously, the creator’s home will be even more splendid than the place He made. Think about earth without brokenness, jealousy, hate, selfishness or strife. No more pollution, no more chaos, no more wickedness, cheating, lying, stealing or, envy. No more traffic. No more lines. Just the magnificence of God and His pure and renewed creations. Sounds like heaven to me.

God gave us all we need to know about heaven. Him. If we love Him and trust Him, then we don’t have to worry about the outcomes or details. Just focus on Him and follow Jesus.

Father God, thank you for your amazing creation we are blessed to live in. I look forward to eternity in your presence. Help us to be focused on you Lord Jesus not the things we get. I trust in you and love you. And I pray in your name Lord Jesus, Amen.

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