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truths

Foundational Truth #13

Our Eternal Home:

Heaven

Various Texts

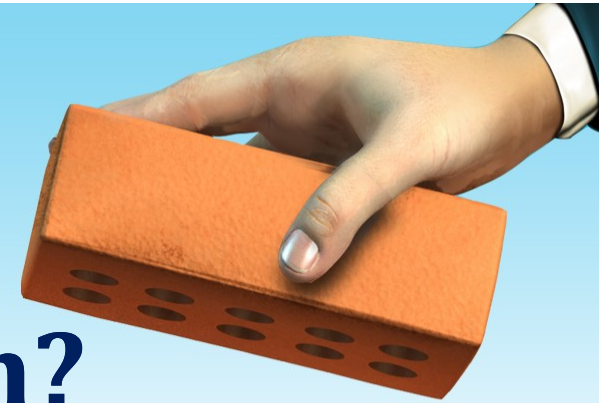


3 Questions...

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1. Who will go to heaven?
2. What is heaven like now?
3. What will the new heavens and new earth be like?

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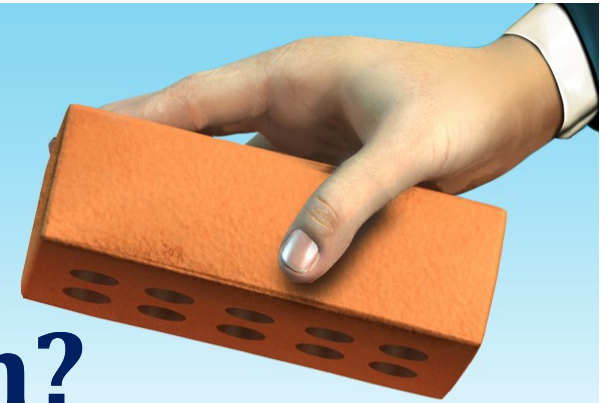


A. Who will go to Heaven?

A “good” person?
Just because you die?



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A. Who will go to Heaven?

A “good” person?
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John 1:12 - But to all who did receive Him (Jesus),
who believed in His Name, He (God) gave the right to
become children of God,

Romans 10:9-13 (ESV)

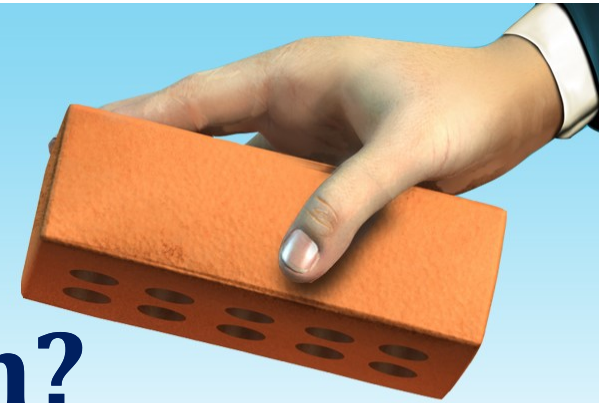
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...if you **confess** with your mouth that **Jesus is Lord** and **believe** in your heart that **God raised Him from the dead**, you will be saved. For with the heart one **believes** and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches **on all who call on Him**. For, “everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved.”

2 Corinthians 5:6b-10 (ESV)

We know that while we are **at home in the body** we are **away from the Lord**, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would **rather be away from the body** and **at home with the Lord**. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to *please Him*. For we must all appear before the *judgment seat of Christ*, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

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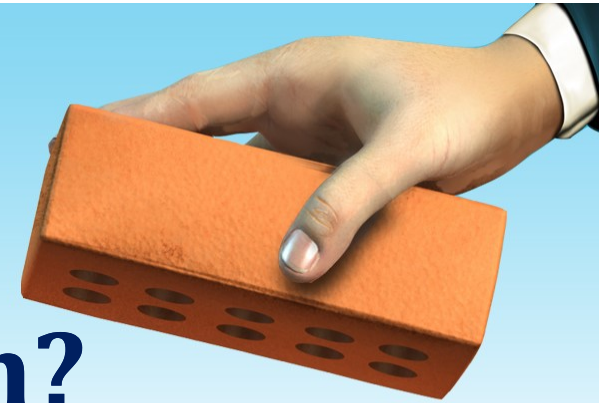


A. Who will go to Heaven?

Soul sleep is a lie.

Philippians 1:22-23 - If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. **My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.**

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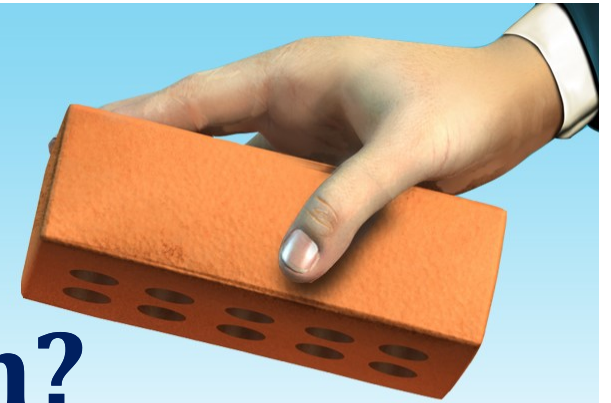


A. Who will go to Heaven?

Each believer will appear before the judgment seat of Christ – the *Bema Seat*.

Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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A. Who will go to Heaven?

Colossians 3:1-2 - If then you have been raised with Christ, **seek the things that are above**, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of **God**. **Set your minds on things that are above**, **not on things that are on earth**.

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B. What is Heaven Like Now?

3 Heavens:

1. **Atmosphere of earth** – Gen. 1, 6:7, James 5:18.

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B. What is Heaven Like Now?

3 Heavens:

1. **Atmosphere of earth** – Gen. 1, James 5:18.
2. **Space** – Gen. 1, Joel 2:30-31, Mat. 24:29, or “heaven of heavens” – Deut. 10:14, Ps. 148:4.

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3 Heavens:

1. **Atmosphere of earth** – Gen. 1, James 5:18.
2. **Space** – Gen. 1, Joel 2:30-31, Mat. 24:29, or “heaven of heavens” – Deut. 10:14, Ps. 148:4.
3. **Dwelling place of God** – Acts 7:55, 2 Cor. 12:2, Heb. 8:1, 9:24.

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B. What is Heaven Like Now?

Heaven is both a *Place* and a *Person*!

Acts 1 – Jesus ascended into heaven.

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B. What is Heaven Like Now?

Ezekiel 1.

Vs. 1-3: Ezekiel is in Babylon, about 593BC.

Vs. 4-14: He sees 4 angelic beings with 4 faces and 4 wings each.

Vs. 15-21: Talks about them and wheels in wheels.

Vs. 22-25: The expanse over their head and sound.

Ezekiel 1: 26-28 (ESV)

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And above the expanse over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness with a human appearance. And upward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were gleaming metal, like the appearance of fire enclosed all around. And downward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness around him. Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around. Such was the appearance of the likeness of the **glory of the Lord**. And when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

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B. What is Heaven Like Now?

Revelation 4-5.

The focus is the *throne of God!*

This is why heaven is also about a Person – God.

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C. What will the New Heaven's be Like?



The heaven that is now, is not the heaven that will be forever. It's not an **obliteration**, but a **renovation**...

Isaiah 65:17 – “For behold, I (God) create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.”

Revelation 21:1-4 (ESV)

Then I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had **passed away**, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, **new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the **former things have passed away.**”

2 Peter 3:10-13 (ESV)

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Please take a minute to fill out your

NEXT STEPS

At [GraceLife Church](#), our mission is drawing people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ!

TODAY'S MESSAGE CHALLENGE IS:

Randy Alcorn – Heaven Blog

“Our belief that Heaven will be boring betrays a heresy - that God Himself is boring. There’s **no greater nonsense**. Our desire for pleasure and the experience of joy come directly from God’s hand. He made our taste buds, adrenaline, and the nerve endings that convey pleasure to our brains. Likewise, our imaginations and capacity for joy were made by the God whom some imagine is boring. Are we so arrogant as to imagine that human beings came up with the idea of having fun?

Randy Alcorn – Heaven Blog

“Won’t it be boring to be good all the time?” This assumes sin is exciting and righteousness is boring, which is one of the Devil’s most strategic lies. **Sin doesn’t bring fulfillment, it robs us of it.** When there’s beauty, ***when we see God as He truly is*** - an endless reservoir of fascination - boredom becomes impossible. God delegates rule of His creation to us, and we’ll reign with Him over His new creation.”