

HEAVEN: WHAT WILL WE DO?

Ephesians 3:20-21 “... to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!”

II Corinthians 10:31 “Whether you eat or drink of whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God”.

Eternity is a long time ☺ . What will be doing? The Bible gives us some clues:

First, we will not be sitting around on clouds strumming harps!

Second, we will NOT experience unsatisfied hunger and thirst, pain, sadness, mourning, or death (Rev 7:16-17; 21 & 22). We will also NOT experience unemployment, weeds, moles, taxes, or losing to the Lakers!

Here is what we will be doing:

- 1) Living with God! (Rev 21:3-4, 22:3; 2 Cor 6:16).
- 2) Enjoy a personal, intimate relationship with Jesus – including a special name and special dwelling place! (John 14:1-3; Rev 2:17).
- 3) See Jesus “glory” (John 17:24); see God’s “face” (Rev 22:4). We will be sharing in God’s glory (Rom 8:16-17).
- 4) Enjoy relationships with family, friends and believers from throughout history (think of all the old and new friendships that we’ll have!) (Mat 8:11; I Thes 4:13-18). We will not be married, but will have multiple intimate relationships that will be even better than our existing marriage relationships (Mat 22:23-30; I Cor 7:29-31).
- 5) Worship and praise God. Worship will be a natural part of all that we do (Rev 5:13-14, 7:9-12, 19:1-3, 6-8, 21:3).
- 6) Serve God (Rev 1:4-6, 5:9-10, 7:14-15, 22:3).
- 7) Reign, rule, judge, serve and work with and for God. We will have servant leadership roles within the cities and nations; we will rule over angels and rule with God over the New Earth and the New Heavens (Mat 19:28, 25:14-30; Luke 19:11-27, 22:30; John 4:34, 5:17; I Cor 6:1-3; II Tim 2:12; Gen 2:15; Rev 2:26, 3:21, 5:9-10, 22:5). A paraphrase from Randy Alcorn: “We will manage God’s assets and rule His universe, representing Him as His image-bearers, children and ambassadors”.
- 8) Enjoy **eternal pleasures** and experience everlasting joy and happiness (Ps 16:11; Mat 25:21, 23; I Cor 2:9-10).
- 9) Enjoy great meals and feasts (Is 25:6; Mat 8:11; Luke 14:15, 22:18; Rev 19:9).

- 10) Enjoy and use our glorified bodies – eat, travel, enjoy pleasures, worship, serve, talk with God and people, etc (see Handout).
- 11) Enjoy singing and music, dancing, telling stories, laughing, sports and recreational activities and much more! (Ps 104; 33; Rev 8:7-13, 15:2; John 21:25; Luke 6:21; Mk 10:14-15).
- 12) Will experience emotions (all positive) and have desires (all good) (Ps 37:4; Luke 6:21; Rev 6:10, 7:10).
- 13) We will learn and experience process and progression (Mat 11:29; Luke 2:52; Heb 5:8; 2 Cor 3:18; Rev 21:5).
- 14) Have times of rest and may even sleep (Hebrews 4:9-11; Rev 14:13).
- 15) Enjoy our personal dwelling place that Jesus the carpenter has prepared for us, including opening our home to guests. Will enjoy our “inheritance” and “treasures” that God has given us (and share them with others) (John 14:1-3; Dan 12:13; Luke 16:1-12; Matthew 6:20; Col 3:24).
- 16) Enjoy Heaven, the “new Earth”, the capital city “New Jerusalem” and all of God’s creation including animals and potentially other planets and universes (see Handout).