Eschatology ABF Series Eternity (Heaven) & Wrap Up December 22nd

Review

Questions to Be Answered

- 1. What words does the Bible use for "heaven" or "heavens"?
- 2. What do we know about Heaven (our eternal home)?
- 3. What aren't we sure of about Heaven?

1. What words does the Bible use for "heaven" or "heavens"?

Clarify Terms / Concepts (not developed much in the Old Testament)
OBE (Out of Body Experiences)

Heavens / Heaven – 3^{rd} Heaven

II Corinthians 12:2 1^{st} Heaven – where the birds fly, the sky, the atmosphere 2^{nd} Heaven – where the planets and stars are, the universe 3^{rd} Heaven – where God is

Sheol (Old Testament word translated "grave" - the place of the dead - righteous & unrighteous)

Hades (the place of the unrighteous dead)

Matthew 16:18

Revelation 1:17-18

Revelation 6:8a

Revelation 20:13-14

Abraham's Bosom/Side (the place of the righteous dead - with God – OT economy)(Paradise – NT)

Luke 16:22-23

Luke 23:43

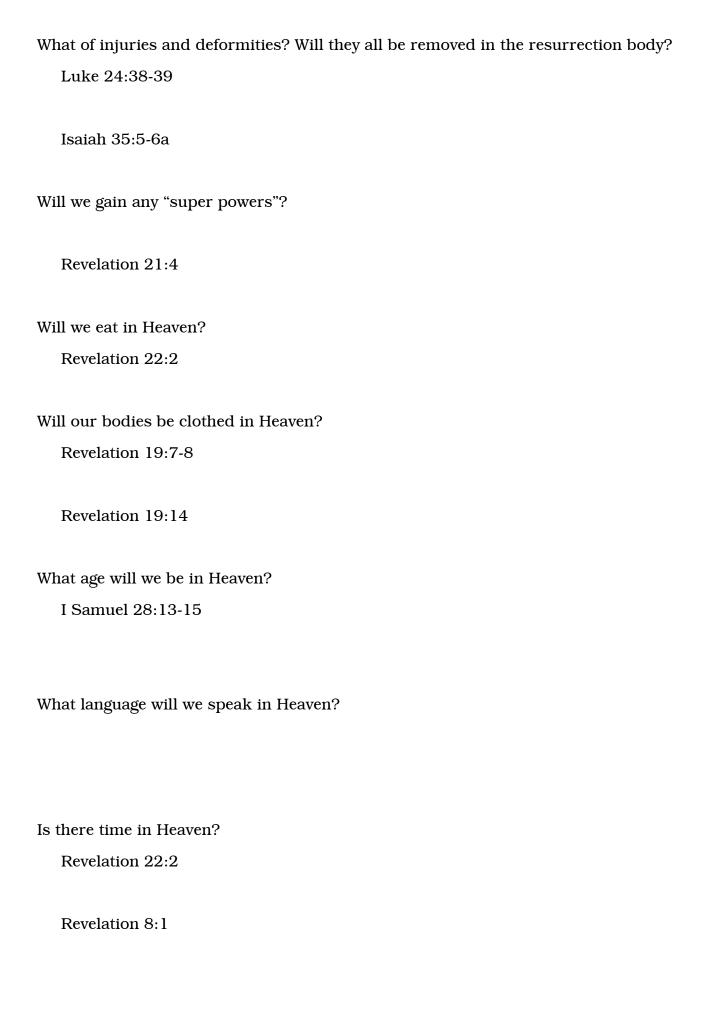
II Corinthians 12:3

Revelation 2:7b

2. What do we know about Heaven (our eternal home)? Heaven is a Place (it is our eternal home) Mark 6:41 Luke 9:51 It is eternal Psalm 23:6 It is comprised of at least one city (see previous notes on New Jerusalem) Angels and other creatures are there Revelation 4:4-11 God will be there I Peter 1:4 Heaven is our country of citizenship Philippians 3:20 3. What aren't we sure of about Heaven? What kind of bodies will we have in Heaven? I Corinthians 15:35-49

II Corinthians 5:1

I John 3:2



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What will I do in Heaven? (partly revealed, but only in glimpses)
   We will Learn
      Ephesians 2:6-7
      Psalm 27:4
   We will get to know God even more
   We will Meet Others
      Matthew 8:11
   We will Rest
      Revelation 14:13
      Hebrews 4:1-11
   We will Serve Him
      Revelation 22:3
   We will Rule with Him
      II Timothy 2:12a
      Revelation 3:21
      Luke 19:17-19
      I Corinthians 6:2-3a
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We will Worship Him Perfectly
Revelation 19:1

Conclusion

From the Introduction to Knowing God by J.I. Packer:

"There is something exceedingly improving to the mind in contemplation of the Divinity. It is a subject so vast, that all our thoughts are lost in its immensity; so deep, that our pride is drowned in its infinity. Other subjects we can compass and grapple with; in them we feel a kind of self-content, and go our way with the thought, 'Behold I am wise.' But when we come to this master science, finding that our plumbline cannot sound its depth, and that our eagle eye cannot see its height, we turn away with the thought that vain man would be wise, but he is like a wild ass's colt; and with solemn exclamation, 'I am but of yesterday, and know nothing.' No subject of contemplation will tend more to humble the mind, than thoughts of God ..."

In C.S. Lewis's "The Last Battle" when Aslan's creatures leave Narnia and enter Heaven, one of them proclaims ...

"I have come home at last! This is the land I have been looking forward to all my life, though I never knew it till now. The reason why we loved the old Narnia is that it sometimes looked a little like this."