

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 – 3rd Heaven

II Corinthians 12:2

1st Heaven – where the birds fly, the sky, the atmosphere

2nd Heaven – where the planets and stars are, the universe

3rd 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

What of injuries and deformities? Will they all be removed in the resurrection body?

Luke 24:38-39

Isaiah 35:5-6a

Will we gain any “super powers”?

Revelation 21:4

Will we eat in Heaven?

Revelation 22:2

Will our bodies be clothed in Heaven?

Revelation 19:7-8

Revelation 19:14

What age will we be in Heaven?

I Samuel 28:13-15

What language will we speak in Heaven?

Is there time in Heaven?

Revelation 22:2

Revelation 8:1

What will I do in Heaven? (partly revealed, but only in glimpses)

We will Learn

Ephesians 2:6-7

Psalms 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

We will Worship Him Perfectly

Revelation 19:1

We will be eternally happy & content

Psalm 16:11

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.”