



Heaven is a spiritual place. It is a place where all believers in Jesus will spend eternity with Him along with the Father and the Holy Spirit. But where is Heaven? I believe right now, Heaven is in a different realm. It coexists along with the physical natural realm. It is definitely a place – however it is a “spiritual” place. I do not think it is anywhere that we can

possibly place in our natural understanding. It is a totally different realm. It is spiritual. It is in God’s realm of being. We know that the Bible talks of and teaches about the difference between the “natural” realm and the “spiritual” realm.

The natural realm is the realm in which we now dwell and live in. It is the realm of what we know as “the world” that we live and dwell in, today. It relates to all of the wonders and natural beauty that we see, hear and experience while we are on this very natural earth. It is also the realm where all sin and all wickedness takes place.

I believe, or rather I think, that this earth was once a “spiritual” place. We see this in the very beginning of the Bible. We understand that the Bible, in Genesis, literally “recounts” the events of the “re-creation” of this earth. God is literally telling the story and events that took place to Moses. Being that it was not His main purpose of why He was telling Moses this, God gives Moses, and ultimately us, an abridged version of what took place in creation. The main purpose why Genesis was given to Moses was to let the Hebrews know why they were where they were. It was to be a documented history of why they were where they were and for us today to be aware of what took place thousands of years ago.

We know that after the fall of Lucifer from Heaven itself, he came to this earth. Jesus relates this to us in Luke 10:18. Lucifer and a third of the angels were removed from Heaven by Michael and his warring angels because of their ultimate choice to rebel against God. Having no other place to go, they came to this earth – an earth that God had originally created for His purposes. We see this in Genesis 1:1 as it states that God created Heaven and earth.

When Lucifer and the angels that followed him came onto this earth they ultimately caused havoc, death and destruction. The affect of what they had accomplished is what we read of in Genesis 1:2a – “...*the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.*” Everything, because of “sin” had become twisted and ultimately died - spiritually. That was and still is the ultimate affect of sin – death; spiritual death. The affect of sin is not necessarily a dying away naturally but rather it causes a “spiritual” death. Sin causes a very distinct separation (spiritual death) from God who is life – spiritual life.

Then we see in Genesis 1:2b that God came and began, through the Spirit of God, to bring restoration to this earth. We know that Lucifer and all of the fallen angels were then removed from this earth. In the account found within in the Bible we see the “re-creation” of everything upon this earth.

However, the very first thing God does is make sure that we will know that there was, is and always will be separation between God and anything that rebels against Him and His Kingdom. We see this in Genesis 1:3-5 as He declares, “... *Let there be light: and there was light.* ⁴ *And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.* ⁵ *And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night.*”

We see that this was the first thing God had done – He immediately separated His Kingdom of Light from the kingdom of darkness. In other words God immediately tells us that there is a separation between anything to do with Himself and the things of Lucifer who we know as “satan.”

Then we see God bring a restoration to everything that was destroyed by satan (Lucifer). He creates and places man into His garden – His paradise. We must realize and grasp that God had originally made man to be spiritual and live in the spiritual realm - forever. This spiritual realm would be and still is totally opposite of everything that is in and of the natural realm. Lucifer tried and tried to return and get to God by going after God's most prized creation – man. As we know, he finally succeeded in causing Adam to disobey God and eat from the Tree of Good and Evil.

When Adam sinned and then failed to repent, God immediately removed Adam and Eve from that spiritual realm. If God had not done that then Adam and Eve would have ultimately eaten of the fruit from the Tree of Life and they and all their descendents would have ultimately started the process all over again and this earth would have been “spiritually” destroyed and become “spiritually” null and void – again. Spiritual death would have ruled and reigned and satan (Lucifer) would have gotten the victory. But God...

God immediately removed both Adam and Eve from the Garden and the possibility of eating from the fruit of the Tree of Life. We see this in Genesis 3:22-24 as it tells us, *“And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever: ²³ Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. ²⁴ So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”*

God had loved and spared man from ultimate and eternal spiritual death. He allowed them to one day be restored back to “spiritual” life. It would be a process but it would be worth it for each of us. Do I hear a “Thank you God and a thank you to Jesus.”

However, man would now still have to battle against satan and his arsenal of lies, deception and cunningness. God immediately, set forth the plan of redemption as it is found in Genesis 3:15 as He states, *“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”* God immediately puts forth the plan of salvation that would ultimately come forth in and through Jesus.

Now, in and through Jesus, we have His Word and His promise of one day dwelling in Heaven – the spiritual dwelling place where God dwells. We must never forget or be dissuaded in knowing and believing that **Heaven is a real place**. Listen to the words of Jesus on the night before he was crucified as we read in John 14:1-3, *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. **Trust in God**; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.**”*

Twice in these three verses Jesus refers to Heaven as an actual, real place. That is because Heaven is an actual, real place. However, it is a “spiritual” place that is only in the spirit realm. It is not in this natural realm. It is a place where there are actual people. However, these people are actually in the spirit realm. The scriptures reveal to us that **heaven is the dwelling place of God**. His throne is there, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, as well as the angels are there.

One of the most important things that the scriptures reveal to us concerning Heaven is that it is not some place that is so very far away. Many times we get caught up in the natural way of thinking. Our natural way of thinking causes us to think naturally. However, the spiritual way of thinking must make us think spiritually. We must remember that there are two realms - the natural and the spiritual. We many times get caught up in mixing the two and unfortunately, that is where we can get into difficulties.

The spiritual realm is not someplace far, far away. No, I believe it is not that far away. It is simply in another realm – the spiritual realm. The early believers thought that it was a place that we would pass into at the moment of physical death upon this physical earth. Therefore, the spirit realm, the place of Heaven, the place where God now dwells could be right here – but in another realm – the “spirit” realm.

One day we all will see and dwell in that realm. It will be at the time when we either pass from this life or it may be when the millennium comes. During the millennium, I believe that Jesus and the believer will be able to experience both realms. We know that the millennium will be a time of 1000 years that will occur on this earth. Jesus will rule and reign and all those who have believed in Him will have places to oversee at that time upon this earth. No one will die for those 1000 years. There will be total peace and joy. There will be no sin because satan and his army will be locked up.

However, at the end of that 1000 year rule and reign of Jesus; at the end of that 1000 year period of total peace, tranquility and living under the peace of the Kingdom of God – satan and his army will be released for a “season” and those that are living upon this earth at that time will need to make their final decision. Unfortunately, there will be those that choose to still follow after satan and his lies. They will reject Jesus and His ways of life and life more abundantly. It seems that it would be impossible to align ones’ self with the forces of darkness – but they will.

It will be at that time that we will see the final “White Throne” judgment take place. It will be at that time when the final decision will be made and all those that chose to follow after the fallen angel, Lucifer, and all of those angels that chose to follow after him, along with all of the demons and evil spirits will be cast into the “Lake of Fire” where there will be “gnashing of teeth” and they will be in torment forever and ever. There will be no escape, no refuge and no peace – forever.

However, for all of those who remain faithful until the end, there will be a place for them. This will be the place that will be forever and ever. It will be a place where we will dwell with God the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, for all eternity – forever and ever.

We get a little glimpse of what it will be like as we read Revelation 21:1-5 (KJV).

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. ² And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. ⁴ And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. ⁵ And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new...”

We get a continued glimpse of what those who believe **until the end** shall see, experience and behold as we continue to read Revelation 21:10-23 (KJV)

“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; ¹² And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: ¹³ On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ¹⁵ And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. ¹⁶ And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

¹⁷ And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. ¹⁸ And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. ¹⁹ And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; ²⁰ The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. ²¹ And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. ²² And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. ²³ And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.”

Wow!!! That is what it is all about. You may need to read those scriptures again, and again, and again – until you know them by heart. That is what we, as believers who remain true to Him to the end, shall behold and be partakers in. The most important and best of it all is that those who stand true, through it all, will forever and ever be with HIM!!!

I mentioned about “those who stand true, through it all.” I was referring to those that we read about in Revelation 2 and 3. It refers to the “seven churches” of Revelation. If we look closely we will see that they all had issues that Jesus confronted them with and brought to their attention. I believe that these “seven churches” are in direct relationship to all those who “call” themselves believers today. I encourage you to read about those churches and see where you may be – honestly – and repent. I believe Jesus tells us about these “churches” which really emphasizes those in the Body of Christ today who call themselves the Body of Christ but are on the verge of possibly falling away. Hmmm.....

We must take heed to what Jesus is saying to those in His Body. He is warning them. He is warning us to not take our relationship with Him for granted. As we read the statements to those seven churches we see that many were slipping away; some had already slipped away; and only one seemed to be doing well but Jesus warned them anyway. We must always be on our guard and alert of the “wiles of the enemy” who always desires to “steal, kill and destroy” the true believer in Jesus. Our relationship with God is an everyday lifestyle of being steadfast in Him and His Word.

Yes, we are all, I believe, looking forward to that time when we will be with our God forever in Heaven. That is the ultimate victory. Although the ultimate victory, I should say, is not necessarily Heaven but rather it is being in the place where our God dwells forever and it is being with Him – the Lover of our soul - forever. The one truth that will always prevail is that no one will be in Heaven except by the grace and mercy of God which is only received by believing in the spotless and atoning blood of Jesus and believing in everything that He did for us.

Yes, Heaven is a wonderful place. It is filled with His glory and His grace.

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