

# HEAVEN

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MUSIC: BEN WONG

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## HEAVEN: Our Confident Reality Of A New & Better Life After Death Introduction

### Where do we get our information about Heaven? It matters.

**2 Tim. 4:3** *"For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions."*

Heaven or the heavens, is a common religious cosmological or transcendent supernatural place where beings such as gods, angels, souls, saints, or venerated ancestors are said to originate, be enthroned, or reside. (Wikipedia)

### What happens to believers when they die?

We will be in the presence of God where He dwells.

**Phil. 1:23** *"I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better."*

### What is this New Earth we hear of?

All believers will finally be "home."

**2 Pet. 3:13** *"But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."*

### So, what do we do for eternity in the Kingdom?

Eat, drink, rest, oversee God's Kingdom, and serve Him.

**Rev. 2:7** *"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."*

**Rev. 22:5** *"There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever."*

## Can knowing more about Heaven impact our lives today?

### 1. Incorrect Understanding

- a. Fear of death - no hope.
- b. Selfish living - no humility
- c. Excessive sorrow over loved one's death - no comfort

### 2. Correct Understanding

- a. Live boldly - courage
- b. In our struggles - joy
- c. Death of believers - consolation

## Paul simultaneously suffers physical demise while enjoying inner renewal (2 Cor. 4:16-18)

**2 Cor. 4:16** *"So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. **17** For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, **18** as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."*

## But when death comes Paul will experience "absolute life" with Jesus (2 Cor. 5:1-5)

**2 Cor. 5:1** *"For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. **2** For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, **3** if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. **4** For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. **5** He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee."*

## Paul awaits death courageously in faith while pleasing Jesus supremely (2 Cor. 5:6-10)

**2 Cor. 5:6** *"So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, **7** for we walk by faith, not by sight. **8** Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. **9** So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. **10** 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."*

## SONGS

"GOD SO LOVED" - Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, and Scott Cash

"YES I WILL" - Eddie Hoagland, Jonathan Smith, and Mia Fieldes

"THE WONDERFUL CROSS" - Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, J.D. Walt

"REIGN ABOVE IT ALL" - Ethan Hulse, Hannah McClure, Jess Cates, and Paul McClure

## BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$128,510.22  
WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$1,930,884.08  
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$1,834,144.00