

The BEST thing about Heaven
Part 3

Living with Jesus...

2/13/2011

Last week we look at what it will be like to live with God. We learned that God has promised to come to the New Earth and move His holy city, the New Jerusalem, with Him.

“I will put my dwelling place among you...I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.” Leviticus 26:11-12

So far in this series, we have learned that the BEST thing about Heaven will be: 1. Seeing God, 2. Living with God and today, 3. Living with Jesus.

All of the Hollywood movies and secular books that I have seen about Heaven, either leave Jesus and God out entirely or put him in a secondary role. EG. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, a best-selling novel, portrays a man who feels lonely and unimportant. He dies and goes to Heaven, and meets five people who tell him his life really matters. He discovers forgiveness and acceptance. It sounds good, but the book fails to present Jesus Christ as the object of saving faith and Heaven.

Going to Heaven without Jesus would be like a bride going on her honeymoon without the groom. It just wouldn't make sense.

That are a lot of movies and books out there that portray Heaven that isn't about God, but about us and nothing could be farther from the Truth.

- Heaven is entirely centered around Jesus and God.

1. Is a promise He made to His people

“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.” John 14:3

“I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far.”
Philippians 1:23

Paul could have said, “I desire to depart and be in Heaven,” but he didn't his mind was on being with his Lord Jesus, which is the most significant aspect of Heaven.

“O my Lord Jesus Christ, if I could be in heaven without thee, it would be a hell; and if I could in hell, and have thee still, it would be heaven to me, for thou art all the heaven I want.”
Samuel Rutherford

“I would rather be in hell with Christ, than be in heaven without him.” Martin Luther.

Living with Jesus, I will discover that:

- He is never Disappointed with me
- He is never Unhappy with me
- No skeletons will fall out of our closet.
- All barriers between us and him will be forever gone.
- He is my very Best Friend.

2. I will see why He wanted me to live with Him.

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, *and to see my glory*, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.” John 17:24

When we accomplish something, we want to share it with those closest to us. This past week, my wife and I traveled to Fort Worth, TX to celebrate the retirement of her brother Kenneth from the

FTW police department. Ken served for 27 years as both a street cop, K9, undercover and finally in CSI. He had a wonderful career and accomplish many great things for the city of FTW, TX and when it came time for him to retire he wanted to share that moment with his family and associates.

Although Christ is not “retiring” it would appear that he would like to share his accomplishments with His family.

Not just to share for informational purposes but to literally “share” His wonderful accomplishments with us. To bestow some of His glory on us.

“Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ... in order that we may also share in his glory.”
Romans 8:17

“But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be *overjoyed when his glory is revealed.*”
1 Peter 4:13

“To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ’s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed”
1 Peter 5:1

It is a great and unexpected compliment to us that the Creator of the universe has gone to such great lengths, at such sacrifice, to prepare a place for us where we can behold and participate in His glory.

What will it be like for you to:

Discuss a book with Jesus

Play a game with Jesus

Travel with Jesus

Eat a meal or drink a cup of coffee with Jesus

Swim, sing, work, laugh, hike, run, fish, attend an event with Jesus?

3. I wonder when I get to Heaven, if I will wish that I had

Served Him more, by serving others more?

Spent more time in prayer and the study of His Word?

Given more money to the things that are close to His heart?

Not wasted so much time while I was here on Earth?

Learned to trust Him more

“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.” Col 3:2-3