

**Overview:**

Everyone wants to go to heaven, but the Christian world tends to express little interest in knowing what it is like. Indeed, one systematic theology book (Berkhof) numbered 738 pages and gave just one page to discussing heaven. But the disciples had some very concrete ideas and expectations about our future existence with Jesus, and the Bible gives quite a number of details about this coming life. Our hope becomes stronger as it is grounded in these God given details and it is a profitable study to become familiar with what can be know of this future life God has promised us.

**Outline:****I. Heaven is -****A. the residence of God**

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”,  
“your Father in heaven.”,  
“my Father who is in heaven” Matthew 6:9,  
5:16; 7:21  
“No one has ever gone into heaven except the one  
who came from heaven-- the Son of Man.” John  
3:13

**B. the Kingdom of God.**

Luke 22:30 , John 18:36

**C. where believers will eternally  
reside with God.**

John 14:2-3 , John 17: 24, 1 Thes 4:17 17,  
Rev. 21:33, Heb 11: 14-16

**D. a city of people centered on God.**

Rev 21:10-22:5

**E. existence without the Fall.**

Rev 21:4-5

**II. In heaven we –****A. receive eternal grace.**

Eph 2:6-7

**B. receive eternal rewards.**

Rev 22:12 , Matt 6:19-20, Mt 19:21, Luke  
18:22, Heb 11:26 , I Cor 3:14-15, Luke  
19:11-27

**C. worship God.**

II Thes1:9-10, Rev 21:10-11, 22-24

**D. serve God.****1. As judges**

Matt 19:28, I Cor. 6:2-3

**2. In managing the new creation?**

Matthew 25 19-23

**E. are children of God.**

John 20: 17, Rom 8:17-23, Rom 8: 29, Rev  
21: 7

**F. have glorified bodies.**

Php 3:20-21, II Cor 5:1-6, I Cor 15:49-54

**1. There will be no marriage.**

Luke 20:27-40

**2. We will recognize others.**

Mark 9:2-8

**G. are perfect.**

1 Cor 13: 9, 11-12, 1 John 3: 2, Heb 12:23

## Supporting Material:

### Heaven is-

**Luke 22:30** so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

**John 18:36** Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."

**John 14:2-3** 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.

3 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 17: 24** "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.

**1 Thes 4:17** After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

**Rev. 21:33** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

**Heb 11: 14-15** People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.<sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.

Instead, they were longing for a better country-- a heavenly one. Therefore God is not named to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

**Rev 21:4** He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

### In Heaven we -

**Eph 2:6** And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

**Rev 22:12** "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.

**Matt 6:20** But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

**Mt 19:21** Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

**Heb 11:26** He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

**1 Cor 3:14-15** Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!

### Matthew 25:21

21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

**John 20: 17** Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

**Rom 8:19** The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

**Rom 8:29** For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. **Rev 21: 7** He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

**1 Cor 13: 9, 11-12** For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. 12 Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

**1 John 3: 2** Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

**Heb 12:23** to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect,

**Php 3:20** But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

**II Cor 5:1** Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling,

3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. 6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord.

**I Cor 15:49** And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven. 50 I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- 52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

54 When the perishable has been clothed with the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

