

I WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN

2-6-2022 AM

INTRODUCTION:

A. The word “heaven” is found 583 times in our Bible.

1. O/T 327 times.
2. N/T 256 times.

B. Heaven is important to the Christian.

1. Heaven is our ultimate reward (**Matt. 5:12** “great is your reward in heaven...”)
2. Our “conversation” is in heaven (**Phil. 3:20** “For our conversation is in heaven...” citizenship; place of government).
3. Our “hope” is in heaven (**Col. 1:5** “For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven...” Hope = confident expectation).

C. We sing songs about heaven (Heaven Holds All to Me; No Tears in Heaven; Sing to Me of Heaven...)

DISCUSSION: I WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN BECAUSE...

I. HEAVEN IS A PLACE VOID OF ANGUISH.

A. In this life-time, we experience some unpleasant moments (Job 14:1** “Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.”)**

1. Loss of health; loved ones; world problems; etc.
2. We all endure hardships from time to time.
3. Satan introduced hardships. His influence is strong.
 - 1) He is the “prince of this world” (**John 12:31**).
 - 2) He is called the “god of this world” (**2 Cor. 4:4**).
 - 3) He is identified as “the prince of the power of the air” (**Eph. 2:2**).
4. In this life we are tempted (**James 1:12-15**) “Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”)
5. And sometimes we give in to the temptations (**James 1:14-15; Eccl. 7:20** “For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.”)

B. There will be no temptations, no sins in heaven (Rev. 21:27** “And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.”; **1 Cor. 6:9-10** “... the unrighteous shall not inherit the Kingdom of God.”)**

II. HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF ETERNAL REST.

A. After a life of toils, there will be rest (**2 Thess. 1:7**).

B. This life can be difficult and weight us down.

1. Physical and emotional strain can tire us out (**Psalm 6:6** "I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears."; **69:3** "I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God." **Gal. 6:9** "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.")
2. As we grow older, daily tasks can completely overwhelm us.
3. Lazarus, the beggar found rest and comfort after death (**Luke 16:25**).

C. Heaven promises rest for the weary.

1. We must be diligent in our pursuit of heaven (**Heb. 4:11** "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest"; **1 Pet. 5:8**).
2. This rest will be eternal comfort (**Matt. 11:28; Rev. 14:13** "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.")

III. HEAVEN IS THE ETERNAL HOME OF THE SAVED.

A. All who have been faithful in this life-time.

1. Those who have obeyed the gospel (**Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 1:18-19** "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot"; **3:21** "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us...")
2. All who have lived faithfully to the end (**Matt. 24:13** "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."; **Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:8-9**).

B. What a joy to think of such.

1. Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Paul, Peter, the heroes of the faith, etc.
2. Our loved ones and faithful members of the church who have gone on before us. **We sing** "... there with all the loved ones who have gone before..."
3. What a glorious day that will be!

IV. HEAVEN BECAUSE DEITY IS THERE!

A. All three: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

1. **Matt. 6:9** "After this manner, therefore, pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name."
2. **Acts 1:1** "... this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." **John 14:3** "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."
3. **John 1:32** "And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending

from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.”

B. I can hardly imagine what that will be like.

1. **1 John 3:2** “... we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”; **1 Thess. 4:13-18**.
2. We sing: “*Face to face shall I behold Him, Far beyond the starry sky; Face to face in all his glory, I shall see Him by and by.*”
3. “*When with the Savior we enter the glory land, won't it be wonderful there.*”

C. We shall be with God and all the saved eternally.

V. CONCLUSION:

A. We all want to go to this wonderful place.

1. Yet, many are on the wrong road (**Matt. 7:13-14**).
2. Many call Him Lord, but will not obey the gospel (**Luke 6:46**).

B. Heaven or hell? It's our choice to make.