

- I. Heaven is a real place.
  - A. Dictionary definition of Heaven
    - 1. "The upper regions" - A vast open area above the earth.
  - B. The Bible divides this vast open area into three parts.
    - 1. The first place called heaven is found in Genesis 1:6-8.
      - a. We call this our atmosphere where God located the air we breathe.
      - b. Genesis 1:6-8 tells us this pocket of air divided the waters on the earth from the waters above the earth.  
Question: What happened to the water that was around the earth, above the atmosphere?  
Answer: It was made to collapse in the days of Noah causing the world-wide flood. Genesis 7:11, 12
    - 2. The second place called heaven is found in Genesis 1:14-19.
      - a. We call this outer space where God placed the sun, moon, stars.
    - 3. The third place called heaven is found in II Corinthians 12:2, where Paul says he was caught up to the third heaven.
- II. The third Heaven is a real place.
  - A. God's throne is there. Psalm 103:19
  - B. Angels gather there. Hebrews 12:22
  - C. There is a city there. Hebrews 12:22
  - D. Jesus is there. Mark 16:19
  - E. Stephen saw Jesus there. Acts 7:55
  - F. Hebrews 9:24 says Jesus is there.
- III. The third Heaven is located in the north.
  - A. Isaiah 14:12, 13 locates God's throne in the north.
  - B. The glory of God came to Ezekiel out of the north. Ezekiel 1:4
  - C. Psalm 75:6 indicates it's in the north.
  - D. Job 26:7 refers to an empty place in the north and modern powerful telescopes have now revealed such a place beyond the second heaven where there are no stars.
- IV. God's people go to the third Heaven when they die. II Corinthians 5:8
- V. God has arranged special transportation to get us to Heaven.
  - A. Before the rapture angels escort us there. Luke 16:22
    - 1. The trip is swift.  
Luke 23:43 - "Today shalt thou be with me..."
  - B. At the rapture Jesus Himself will take us to Heaven. I Thess. 4:13-17
    - 1. This is when God's people receive their resurrection bodies.  
I John 3:2; Philippians 3:21
- VI. God has prepared a special city for us in the third Heaven.
  - A. Jesus promised it. John 14:2
  - B. Jesus kept His promise. Hebrews 11:16
  - C. Abraham believed it. Hebrews 11:10
  - D. John saw it. Revelation 21:2
- VII. This city is described in Revelation.
  - A. It is big. Revelation 21:16
    - 1. It is 1500 miles wide, long and high. That's about Maine to Florida and Atlantic coast to Colorado.
  - B. It is beautiful. Revelation 21:17-21; 22:1, 2
- VIII. This city is an ideal place.
  - A. No night. Revelation 21:25; 22:5
  - B. No earthly trials. Rev. 21:4
  - C. No sin. Rev. 21:27
    - 1. Only forgiven sinners there. II Corinthians 6:9-11
  - D. Our departed Christian loved ones and friends will be there.  
Job. 19:25-27
  - E. People we have led to Jesus will be there. I Thessalonians 3:19
  - F. Satan will not be there. Revelation 20:10
  - G. Jesus will be there. John 14:3
- IX. I believe this Heavenly city will hover above the earth as God's satellite city during the Millennium. Revelation 21:2
- X. This Heavenly city will be eternal. Psalm 23:6
- XI. There are still vacancies available. Luke 14:23
  - A. All are welcome. John 10:9  
"Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling you to come home."