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In **I Thessalonians 2:19-20** it is clear that Paul knew we would know each other in heaven. In **I Thessalonians 4:17** we learn that the Rapture reunites family members. In **Hebrews 13:17** we learn that there is some form of church reunion that takes place in heaven, probably at the Bema Seat Judgment. People who went to the same church would know each other.

Now all of these passages lead us to the conclusion that we do know each other in heaven and we certainly will talk with each other. We are not going to see someone in heaven and cross the street and refuse to visit with them because we are all in a state of perfection.

Observation #7 - The soul that goes to heaven will continue to learn new things.

Heaven will be the ultimate place of learning. Jonathon Edwards said, “the saints will be progressive in knowledge to all eternity.” “The number of ideas of the saints shall increase to eternity” (Cited from Randy Alcorn, *Heaven*, p. 319). We may easily prove this from several passages of Scripture, but we will just observe 10 passages:

1) Luke 15:7

Obviously there is rejoicing in heaven over a sinner who gets right with God, which means something new was learned in heaven specifically—a new sinner just got right with God.

2) I Corinthians 2:9

Obviously if it hasn't yet entered into a man's heart and mind “all that God has prepared for those who love Him,” we may conclude that there are some new things we are going to learn in our hearts and minds once we are out of this world.

3) II Corinthians 5:8

The moment a believer leaves the body he is at home with the Lord. Now that moment is not like any other moment the believer has experienced. This moment when one leaves the body and is in the presence of Jesus Christ is obviously a new experience. Obviously just that moment is a new learning experience.

4) Ephesians 2:6-7

Jesus Christ intends to show us new things about grace in the ages to come. That certainly means we will learn new things.

5) I Thessalonians 4:17

Let us say that we do not die but are raptured and caught up to meet the Lord in the clouds. We would have to admit we never had this happen before. There will be a lot to see and learn and experience concerning just this moment.

6) Revelation 2:7

Obviously we have not seen the tree of life and we do not know just exactly what we will eat from the tree. That, in itself, will be something to learn that will be new.

7) Revelation 2:17

We learn that Jesus Christ will give believers a new name. We obviously don't know the name now. Also in this package are other new things—hidden manna and a white stone. This will be new.

8) Revelation 2:26

The potential of actually having some part to play in ruling over nations is not anything we have experienced in this life. This will be something new to learn and experience.

9) Revelation 3:5

Now just think of a moment when Jesus Christ confesses your name before God the Father and the angels. That moment will be something to see and learn.

10) Revelation 3:12, 21

Just seeing this and experiencing this will all be new and exciting.

Perhaps the greatest proof that we will continue to learn is that of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. In **Luke 2:52** we learn that Jesus Himself “grew in wisdom and stature.” In **Matthew 24:36** we learn that the exact moment for Christ's return, including the day and hour, is known only by God the Father. What that means is there will come a moment when Jesus Christ will learn of it because He will be the One coming back. What this teaches us is there are new things to learn in heaven.

Now we would assume that when one dies and first enters heaven, we enter heaven with the knowledge we had at that time. We certainly would know who we are and that we are no longer on earth.

We would suspect that there would be some form of explanation or orientation that would take place. We can base that on what happened to John in Revelation. An angel was used to kind of show him around and explain things to him (i.e. Rev. 1:1; 17:1; 21:9; **22:8**). In fact, when John didn't know what was happening, an elder would actually explain things to him (i.e. Rev. 5:4-5). So as John was himself experiencing heaven, things he was seeing and learning, new things and explanations were given to him. We may assume that the same would be true for any believer who goes to heaven.

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Now we know that the Word of God is in heaven because multiple passages of Scripture reveal this fact (Ps. 119:89; Matt. 24:35). Just being able to learn things from the Word of God while in heaven would be an exciting possibility.

We can conclude from this that we could study doctrines and books of the Bible and even perhaps discuss things with those who were actually there and experienced those things.

We know that in heaven is the book of life. We know there are names in the book of life (Rev. 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27). This book is mentioned in the O.T. (Ex. 32:32; Dan. 12:1). It is also mentioned in the N.T. by Paul (Philip. 4:3).

We know in Revelation 20:12 that there are works books in heaven that apparently record everything every person ever did which was contrary to the Word of God.

We also know in Malachi 3:16-17 that there is a “book of remembrance” that apparently contains good things done by those who are believers who feared God.

Now what all of these books indicate is that there are new things to learn and see.

Furthermore, we know in heaven there will be new songs to learn and sing (Ps. 33:3; 40:3; 96:1; 144:9; 149:1; Rev. 5:9; 14:3).

What all of this suggests is that in heaven we will be learning new things.

We will certainly learn new things about God the Father.

We will certainly learn new things about God the Son, Jesus Christ.

We will certainly learn new things about God the Holy Spirit.

We will certainly learn new things about angels because we will be able to see them.

We will certainly learn new things about heaven which we have not known or seen yet.

We will certainly learn new things about life in heaven which we have not experienced yet.

We will certainly learn new things about the Word of God.

We will certainly learn new things about the creation of God.

We will certainly learn new things about others in the Bible—i.e. what they look like.

We will certainly learn new things about rewards and honor in heaven.

We will certainly learn new things about other believers in heaven.