



Tomorrow: Facing a Future Without Fear

The AfterLife PT 2A

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Rev. 4:1-3

¹ After this I looked, and, behold, a door *was* opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard *was* as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

² And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and *one* sat on the throne.

³ And he that sat *was* to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and *there was* a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

2 Cor. 5:10

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. **KJV**

John 14:1-3

14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.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. **KJV**

Intro.

In a world filled with death, pandemic, and evil, how are we to face what feels like an unknowable future? What do we do with our anxiety regarding the days ahead? This study will provide comfort and reassurance to those living in uncertain times. I will discuss the **Afterlife**; what believers should do while awaiting his return. Paul encourages believers to be prepared, to cling to the truth of what they have been taught, and to live responsibly in light of the future. How can we take these words to heart, and face the future without fear? Paul wanted the church in to be thoroughly educated about the Second Coming of Jesus so they wouldn't be afraid or confused. We can live with confidence in the present when we are biblically informed about the future. TONIGHT, WE ARE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT THE AFTER- LIFE OR THE DOCTRINE OF HEAVEN.

One of the greatest promises ever offered the children of God is that of a home on Heaven. We all realize that there are only two possible destinations when we leave this world behind. There is a Hell for the unconverted sinner and there is a Heaven for those who trust Jesus Christ as their Savior. Those who know this know it because the Bible tells us that it is true and we believe the Bible is the Word of God. If the Bible says it, then for us it is settled.

However, not everyone has that same conviction about the Word of God. To many, you and I are fools! They tell us that we are hoping for something that will never come to pass. They tell us that the hope of Heaven is nothing more than a myth, and that we are deluded to think that there is a land of perfection which God will give to His children one day. Others tell us that Heaven is merely a state of mind. In other words, there is no literal place called Heaven, but that Heaven is a state of contentment here and now, while Hell is a state of agitation and misery. Some even feel that we are no different from the animals that possess no spirit. They tell us that when we die, we simply cease to exist and are no more. Who is right? Those who doubt what the Lord says in the Bible, or those

who take God at His Word? The question I am really asking is this: *Is there a place called Heaven, and if there is, how do I get there?* Why is the preparation of the soul so important? The answer to that question is that death leads to judgment. The same verse (**Hebrews 9:27**) which tells us of the certainty of death also tells us of the certainty of judgment after death. "It is appointed unto men once to die" is followed by "but after this the judgment." The certainty of judgment after death really underscores the need to adequately prepare for death. You will stand before God in some capacity of judgment. No one is exempted from judgment, not even the raptured. Which judgment seat and what sort of judgment you experience will be determined by your preparation during your earthly life. Nothing we do in this life is more important than this preparation.

- We can go up with those who will be removed when Jesus comes or **The believer** will stand before the **judgment seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10)**—a far different experience from that of the unbeliever, of course.

- stay on earth with those that are left behind.

The unbeliever will stand condemned before the **Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11–15)**.

1. Where Is Heaven?

2. Who Will Be in Heaven?

3. How Will I Be Judged as a Believer?

A. The great white throne judgment

B. The "bema" judgment

Let's take a moment to run down the list of things we will find when we get home to heaven.

1. **Its Size** - 1,500 miles in every direction - **Rev. 21:15-17**

2. **Its Substance**

a. Jasper Walls - **Rev. 21:18**

b. Golden streets and city - **Rev. 21:18; 21**

c. Foundations of precious stones - **Rev. 21:19-20**

d. Gates of pearls - **Rev. 21:21**

3. **Its Shine** - **Rev. 21:11** - This city shines with the awesome glory of God.

4. **Its Splendor** - **Rev. 21:22-22:5**

a. Access to God - **Rev. 21:22**

b. Illuminated by the glory of the Lord - **Rev. 21:23**

c. Approachable by all people - **Rev. 21:24-26**

d. Nothing to defile the city - **Rev. 21:27**

e. A city of remarkable glory - **Rev. 22:1-3**

f. The opportunity to serve God face to face - **Rev. 22:3-5**

(III. There is much more that could be said, but just these truths are enough for me to want to go to Heaven when I leave this world. The farther I go with Jesus, the less I see here for which to stay. I look forward to the day when this life fades from skies and Heaven rises before me in all its glory.

Conclusion:

How can you get to Heaven form here? All it takes is your responding to the call of God and your receiving Jesus as your Savior. If you are not ready for Heaven, but would like to be, then I invite you to come to Jesus right now. Will you do that? Everyone wants to go to Heaven. Only a fool would not want to! The only way it will ever come to pass is for you to come to Jesus for your soul's salvation. Can Jesus really take us to Heaven? He said He could, and I accept that as all the proof I need. I want to go to Heaven and by the grace of God I will. The question you must answer is, "**What about you?**" Are you ready to go to Heaven to be with the Lord? If not, you can be! Will you do that today!