FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

THE BATTLE FOR FAITH
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• Faith is NOT just a short-term or short-sighted fix

• Faith is what opens us up to our forever
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• **There is more LIFE that REALLY IS LIFE... for those who believe in Christ**
• **You were MADE FOR your ETERNAL not your TEMPORAL DESTINY**
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• The BATTLE FOR FAITH IS NOT just about living for the HERE AND NOW; ITS ABOUT ADOPTING A LONG-TERM FAITH VIEW!
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• PHILIPPIANS 3:20-21 (NIV) (20) BUT OUR CITIZENSHIP IS IN HEAVEN. AND WE EAGERLY AWAIT A SAVIOR FROM THERE, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, (21) 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.

• WE HOLD OUR TRUE CITIZENSHIP IN HEAVEN
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• WE ARE GOING TO A PLACE WE CAN THINK ABOUT-- BUT WE REALLY CAN’T UNDERSTAND

• (1 COR 2:9 NIV) "NO EYE HAS SEEN, NO EAR HAS HEARD, NO MIND HAS CONCEIVED WHAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM"
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

- **HEAVEN WILL BE BETTER THAN OUR MINDS CAN FATHOM!**

- *(2 Pet 3:13 NIV) ... IN KEEPING WITH HIS PROMISE WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH, THE HOME OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.*
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• (REV 21:1 NIV) THEN I SAW A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH, FOR THE FIRST HEAVEN AND THE FIRST EARTH HAD PASSED AWAY, AND THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY SEA.

• THERE WILL BE A NEW HEAVEN & A NEW EARTH

• THE OLD HEAVEN & EARTH WILL PASS AWAY
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• THERE WILL BE A NEW ORDER OF THINGS:

• GOD WILL BRING ABOUT AN EVERLASTING END TO SIN AND DEATH

• ALL THINGS ASSOCIATED WITH HUMAN SORROW AND MISERY WILL PASS AWAY
Faith’s Long-Term View: Heaven

• (Rev 21:5 NIV) 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."

• “All things new” = totally recreated & new
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

LONG TERM FAITH = I can take whatever life has to dish out knowing that Jesus Christ has a home for me in glory!!
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• (REV 21:6 NIV) ... HE SAID TO ME: "IT IS DONE. I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA, THE BEGINNING AND THE END. TO HIM WHO IS THIRSTY I WILL GIVE TO DRINK WITHOUT COST FROM THE SPRING OF THE WATER OF LIFE.

• "IT IS DONE" MEANS = GOD'S PLAN IS FINISHED.
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

GOD’S PLAN:

• SIN & DEATH ARE DEFEATED
• HEAVEN & EARTH ARE RENOVATED
• ALL THINGS ARE MADE NEW
• GOD MAKES HIS DWELLING PLACE WITH MAN
FAITH'S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

- GOD through CHRIST JESUS is going to FINISH what HE STARTED.

- (REV 21:7 NIV) HE who OVERCOMES WILL INHERIT ALL THIS, AND I WILL BE HIS GOD AND HE WILL BE MY SON.

- WE MUST BE OVERCOMERS — THERE MAY BE A BATTLE -- BUT WE MUST OVERCOME.
**FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN**

- **There is a Battle for Our Faith** and we must determine that **we are going all the way with Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher of our Faith.**

- **We are going to meet Him Face to Face.**

- **We are going to be with Him—forever.**
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

- **Heaven is a place where the glory of God fills the city.**

- (Rev 21:22-23 NIV) I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. (23) The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

- THE GLORY OF GOD GIVES THE LIGHT -- THE LAMB IS THE LAMP
- A MOST AWESOME AND RADIANT SPECTACLE
- FAR GREATER AND MORE GLORIOUS THAN WE CAN IMAGINE
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• IT WILL BE WORTH IT ALL WHEN WE SEE JESUS
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

DESCRIPTIVES OF HEAVEN

- THE FATHER’S HOUSE
- PARADISE
- THE NEW HEAVENLY JERUSALEM
- THE "KINGDOM OF HEAVEN"
- "GUARANTEED INHERITANCE"
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• The "ETERNAL KINGDOM"
• The "BETTER COUNTRY" or "HEAVENLY COUNTRY"
• Where “WE REIGN WITH CHRIST”
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

2 CORINTHIANS 4:17 (NIV) (17) FOR OUR LIGHT AND MOMENTARY TROUBLES ARE ACHIEVING FOR US AN ETERNAL GLORY THAT FAR OUTWEIGHS THEM ALL.

• HEAVEN = FREEDOM FROM SUFFERING AND EVIL
• HEAVEN = A PLACE OF RESCUE AND SAFETY
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

1 JOHN 3:2 (NIV) (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.
1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-52 (NIV) (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.
7 FACTS ABOUT OUR RESURRECTED BODIES IN HEAVEN

• IT WILL BE A RECOGNIZABLE BODY 1 COR. 13:2
• IT WILL BE A BODY LIKE CHRIST’S BODY 1 JOHN 3:2
• IT WILL BE A BODY THAT WILL PERMIT EATING LUKE 24:41-43; JOHN 21:12-13
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

- **A BODY IN WHICH THE SPIRIT PREDOMINATES** 1 COR. 15:44, 49
- **UNLIMITED BY TIME, GRAVITY, OR SPACE** LUKE 24:31; JOHN 20:19, 26
- **AN ETERNAL BODY** 2 COR. 5:1
- **A GLORIOUS BODY** ROM. 8:18; 1 COR. 15:43
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• WE DON’T NEED JUST A FAITH FOR TODAY -- WE NEED A FAITH THAT WILL HOLD UP FOR TOMORROW AND BEYOND ETERNITY
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• (REV 21:27 NIV) **NOTHING IMPURE** WILL EVER ENTER IT, NOR WILL ANYONE WHO DOES WHAT IS **SHAMEFUL OR DECEITFUL**, BUT **ONLY THOSE WHOSE NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN THE LAMB’S BOOK OF LIFE**.

• **HEAVEN WILL HOLD THE REDEEMED FROM ALL THE AGES**
FAITH’S LONG-TERM VIEW: HEAVEN

• HEAVEN IS OPEN TO ALL = “WHOSOEVER WILL MAY COME” — KEYS:

1. BELIEVE THAT JESUS SHED HIS BLOOD FOR YOU, PERSONALLY
2. CONFESS THAT YOU NEED FORGIVENESS
3. REPENT OF YOUR SINFUL LIFE
4. RECEIVE THE GIFT OF SALVATION