

OUR GREAT REWARD



Many wise men in the world have been bold enough to predict the annihilation of civilization through atomic war. But even the wisest of the wise cannot see beyond the veil of death to describe the hereafter.

The great question in the hearts of men everywhere, is concerning life in the eternity of the future. I have not found anyone who is not interested in going to heaven. But most people have only a vague idea about the dwelling place of God. It seems to be some mystical isle off somewhere such as we might sing about, or a fluffy place in the clouds.

Today we are concerned about two great questions. Is the home of the saved going to be a real physical place? Will it be inhabited by real beings? The answers to these questions can only be found in the greatest book of all, the Bible. We could speculate and theorize without ever arriving at the truth, but the Word of God is the one "eye" which can see through the veil of death. I want to know what is reserved for those who faithfully follow the Lord, who fall asleep in death and are resurrected, or who are still alive and are changed and gathered up to meet Him in the air, don't you?



WHAT JESUS PROMISED HIS FOLLOWERS AS HE LEFT EARTH

“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. 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.”

John 14:2-3

As you study, be thinking about the Life Quest questions.

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

HIS WORD SAYS

1. What has God prepared for His people? Hebrews 11:10, 16.

A holy city, built by the hand of God, the promised inheritance of the saints.

2. Where is this amazing city that God is preparing? John 14:1-3, Revelation 21:2.

After Christ finished His work on earth He returned to heaven to prepare a place for us to dwell with Him. The heavenly city is called the 'New Jerusalem'. When Jesus comes again He will receive us unto Himself, so that we might be with Him forever (Psa 23:6).

3. How do the Scriptures describe this amazing city? Revelation 21:10-23.

It is easy to see from the description given that this city will be more glorious than anything we can ever imagine, and certainly, greater than anything we will see in this life.

4. What phenomenal feature of this majestic city assures every citizen eternal vigor and youth? Revelation 22:2. Genesis 3:22.

Access to the tree of life was removed when Adam and Eve fell into sin so that sin would not be immortalised. When we go to heaven we will have free access to its fruit once again.

5. Is it true that this amazing city will descend to this earth and that we will live back here? Revelation 21:1-2. Matthew 5:5.



6. What will happen to sin and sinners? Malachi 4:1-3.

God will destroy all sin and sinners with fire. This fire will melt the earth and turn everything into ashes. Then God will make a perfect new earth, and the holy city will be its capital. Here the righteous will live in joy, peace, and holiness throughout eternity. God promises that sin will not rise up again. See Nahum 1:9, 2 Peter 3:10-13.

7. What refreshing, thrilling promises does God make to the people who enter His new kingdom?

a) Revelation 21:3 _____

b) Psalms 16:11 _____

c) Isaiah 33:24; Revelation 7:16; Revelation 21:4; Revelation 22:3.

d) Isaiah 35:5, 6; Philippians 3:20-21 _____

8. When reunited with friends and loved ones in heaven, will the saved know each other?
1 Corinthians 13:12, 1 Thes 4:13-18.

The Bible clearly teaches that righteous' friends and loved ones who have died will be raised to join the righteous living in God's kingdom. What wonderful news.

9. How will the righteous spend their time in the heavenly kingdom? Isaiah 65:21, 22.

The world will be restored to its former glory before sin came. God always intended that this earth should be ours to inhabit and enjoy.



10. Can feeble human language really describe the glories of the heavenly home?
1 Corinthians 2:9.

11. Is this kingdom being prepared for me personally? 1 Peter 1:4. John 14:2.

12. In what other thrilling activities will the redeemed participate?

a. Isaiah 35:10; 51:11; Revelation 14:2, 3

b. Isaiah 66:22, 23

- c. Ezekiel 47:12 _____
- d. Matthew 8:11 _____
- e. Isaiah 11:6-9; 65:25 _____
- f. Isaiah 40:31 _____
- g. Zephaniah 3:17 _____
- h. Revelation 7:9-17 _____

13. How can I be assured of a place in that great and glorious kingdom?

Revelation 3:20, 21. Revelation 22:14. Matthew 7:21. John 1:12

In 1 Corinthians 2:9 Paul tells us "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." We cannot imagine what it is going to be like, and Jesus has made our reward for all we do here to be something amazing, to say the very least. It sure is worth selling all that we have in order to get this treasure. Matthew 13:46 "Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." Revise all your studies and get to know Jesus.

Thank you Jesus.





“He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.”

Revelation 22:20-21

LIFE QUEST:

Have you thoughtfully reviewed these Questions?

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

YOUR TURN

Check the statements that most closely reflect your response to this study.

___ I have decided to accept Jesus' offer to live with Him forever in His heavenly kingdom.

___ I am looking forward to seeing Jesus in Heaven.

___ I believe that the Bible is the accurate and reliable word of God, and that Jesus loves me with an everlasting love.

___ Other _____