



**Riverstone**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

## Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021

Series- Final Things Prt 3

### Heaven: Our Hope

*3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."*

#### Revelation 21:3-4

##### 1. The term "heaven."

- Cosmological.
- Heaven as a synonym for God. (Lk 15:18, John 3:27) Kingdom of heaven.
- Most significantly the abode of God. (Matt 6:9, Matt 5:16, 5:45 & 6:1 etc)

##### 2. The nature of heaven.

- First and Foremost- Dwelling place of God. (Rev 21:3) Basic nature of heaven.
- Face to face encounter with God. Knowing and known (1 Cor 13:9-12, 1 John 3:2).
- Removal of all evil and suffering. (Rev 21:4, Rev 20:10)
- Brilliant & Glorious. (Rev. 21:18-21)
- Defined by Divine presence: (Rev. 21:23 & Rev 22:5)

##### 3. Our life in heaven- Rest, Worship and Service.

- The quality of life in heaven will be defined by "rest." (Heb 3:11,18 and Hebrews 4:9-11)
- Worship (Rev 19:1-4 & Isaiah 6:3)
- Elements of service in heaven. (Matt 25:14-30 & Rev 22:3)
- Degrees of reward??? (Luke 19:11-27)

#### **A. Examining the texts.**

1. What are the 3 different meanings often associated with the term- “heaven?” How do these add to your perception of “heaven?”
2. Read Rev 21:3 and 1 Corinthians 13:9-12. What do these passages reveal about the nature of heaven?
3. Read Rev 21:4 and Rev 20:10. What does this reveal about the nature of heaven?
4. Read Rev. 21:23 & Rev 22:25. What does this reveal about the central feature of heaven?

#### **B. Meditation & application**

5. What difference does having a Christian hope of heaven make to your present reality and the choices you make?
6. How did the idea of Heaven function in the life of Paul?
7. How does the hope of heaven comfort us in the midst of personal suffering and struggle?
8. How does knowing about heaven inform your priorities and values in life?

A Prayer: Lord- In this world we often have trouble, we often grieve and struggle and face hardship. We thank you that you are making all things new and that through faith in you- the hope of heaven looms large over our lives. Help us to live with resilience and strength with the assurance that our eternal dwelling place is sure and certain. In Jesus Name- Amen.