

A Concise Study of Heaven

by S. Lavery

WE are entirely dependent upon the Word of God for all our knowledge of Heaven and from it we learn Who created it, where it is, who will be there, who will not be there, the bliss of it, and the way to it. In our consideration of this all-important subject, for the sake of simplicity we will look at it under the following headings:

1. The Person Who Created It. See Gen. 1.1; Psa. 8.3; Isa. 40.22; Rev. 10.6.

2. The Position of It. Heaven is a place, not merely a state or condition. The position of it is "up" or "above." See *e.g.*, Josh. 8.20; Jud. 20.40; 2 Kings 2.1; Psa. 103.11; 139.8; Prov. 30.4; Amos 9.2; Mark 6.41; 16.19; Luke 9.16; 24.51; Acts 1.9,10,11,22; 2.19; 7.55; 10.16; 11.10; Eph. 4.8-10; Rev. 11.12.

3. The People Who will be in It.

God the Father (Psa. 115.3; Matt. 6.9). The One Who provided the sacrifice in the Person of Christ.

God the Son (John 3.13; 1 Thess. 4.16,17). The One Who came in wondrous grace and voluntarily died on the Cross, Who is now the Intercessor and Advocate of His people in Heaven.

God the Holy Ghost. The One Who convicted, regenerated, indwelt the saints of this present age, and Who also was their Guide and Leader.

The Angels. Matt. 18.10; 24.36.

The Old Testament Saints saved in view of the sacrifice of Christ.

Those saved during the Lord's earthly ministry. These will include apostles, prophets, publicans, and sinners of every class.

The saints of the present age, who were saved through the accomplished work on Calvary. These will include evangelists, pastors, teachers and all the saints who have trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Those martyred during the dark days of the tribulation period. Rev. 20.4.

4. The People who will not be in Heaven. See 1 Cor. 6.9; Gal. 5.21; Eph. 5.5; Rev. 21.8; 22.15.

5. The Perfect Bliss of Heaven. See *e.g.*, Psa. 16.11; Rev. 7.16; 21.4. What a wonderful place it is, without tears, sorrow, disease, or pain, and where partings will be no more.

6. The Person Who is the Way to Heaven. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Way to Heaven, the Father's House. He said, "I am the Way ... no man cometh unto the Father but by Me" (John 14.6). He by His sacrifice on Calvary's cruel Cross has made it possible for a righteous God to admit through Heaven's portals sinners saved by grace. Will you be there? If not, why not?

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