

“THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH”

Lesson 53

1. The word HEAVEN is used in the Bible 600 times.
2. Of the 600 times the word “heaven” is used comparatively FEW refer to GOD’S heaven, His DWELLING PLACE. Acts 7:49
3. The Bible speaks of THREE heavens and in the original languages of HEBREW (Old Testament) and GREEK (New Testament) those six words are all translated Heaven.
 - A. The ATMOSPHERIC heaven WHERE BIRDS FLY. Genesis 1:20
 - B. The PLANETARY heaven home of the SUN, MOON AND STARS. Genesis 1:14 & 15
 - C. The HEAVEN OF HEAVENS the DWELLING PLACE of God. Genesis 28:17; Revelation 12:10; Revelation 21:2
4. Only THREE men have caught a glimpse of heaven and give a DESCRIPTION of what they saw.
 - A. PAUL II Corinthians 12:1-9
 - B. STEPHEN Acts 7:54-59
 - C. JOHN Revelation 4:1-11; Revelation 19:11-16
5. Heaven is a LITERAL, ACTUAL place of which Jesus, Himself, spoke. John 14:1-3
6. As believers our CITIZENSHIP is in heaven and we are ALIENS on the earth. Philippians 3:20; 1 Peter 2:9-12
7. Heaven maintains a LIBRARY. Matt. 13:26; Luke 12:2 & 3; Revelation 20:12-15
8. Heaven is a place of PEACE AND REST. Revelation 14:13
9. Heaven is a place of TOTAL SATISFACTION where all care is FORGOTTEN and every NEED is supplied. Revelation 21:3 & 4
 - A. God Himself shall be WITH THEM.
 - B. He will be THEIR GOD.
 - C. He will WIPE AWAY all tears.
 - D. There will not be anymore DEATH.
 - E. There will be NO SORROW.
 - F. There will be NO CRYING.
 - G. No more PAIN.
 - H. The FORMER things are PASSED AWAY.

10. There will be a NEW HEAVEN and a NEW EARTH. Rev. 21:1
11. The “NEW” means redemption and RENOVATION as opposed to ANNIHILATION and RE-CREATION.
12. The GREEK WORD used here refers to A CHANGE of one place or kind to another.
 - * To illustrate this word’s meaning would be a ship “passing through” the sea and over the horizon but would not mean the extinction of the ship. Or a man can “pass through” a door and you can’t see him anymore, but that doesn’t mean he has been annihilated. Therefore, the first heaven and the first earth were “passed away” means that they were changed from one condition to another.
13. The heaven and earth are here, but CHANGED, redeemed, REGENERATED.
14. Before there can be a new heaven and a new earth THE OLD EARTH must be PURIFIED BY FIRE. II Peter 3:6, 7, 10, 12 & 13
15. The old earth has been DEFILED by sin and SATAN.
16. What is the CITY OF GOD like?
 - A. It is the DWELLING PLACE of the BRIDE. Rev. 21:9
 - B. It will COME DOWN from above. Rev. 21:10
 - C. It will shine with THE GLORY OF GOD. Rev. 21:11
 - D. It will have 12 GATES and 12 FOUNDATIONS. Rev. 21:12 & 13
 - E. It will be 1,500 MILES long, wide, and high with a 250 FOOT foundation. Rev. 21:16
17. The city is gold in its WALLS and ITS STREETS. Rev. 21:18 & 21
18. There is NO NEED of a TEMPLE to worship God for God is there amongst His people. Rev. 21:22
19. Jesus is the LIGHT of heaven. Rev. 21:23-25
20. The WATER OF LIFE proceeds out of God’s throne. Rev. 22:1
21. We will eat the fruit of the TREE OF LIFE. Rev. 22:2
22. We will SERVE God. Rev. 22:3
23. Jesus said “behold I COME QUICKLY” and our response as believers should be “even so Lord Jesus QUICKLY COME.”

Heaven is the place Jesus has prepared for all who trust Him. It is actual, literal, eternal. It is indescribable in the English language. The Lord God will redeem the heaven and the earth -- renovate it, change it, purify it -- just as He has done before. The church, the bride of the Lord Jesus, will have a vital role in heaven. There, Jesus will let us be a part of the great invitation to the last to "come." We shall serve Him. We shall be busy. The last words of Jesus on the earth are in Revelation 22:20. The next time we hear the voice of the Son of Man will be when He comes secretly, as a thief in the night, to take out His pearl of great price.

The final benediction: "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

(As we conclude this study, it is our prayer that the Lord will use the 52 lessons to make you fall in love with the Bible. When you reach that point of excitement about His Word, you will become a witness, a helper, a teacher, a worker for the Lord. Let the Holy Spirit teach you and guide you as you grow in grace.)