







# What Will Heaven Be Like?

“A pastor once confessed to me, ‘Whenever I think about Heaven, it makes me depressed. I’d rather just cease to exist when I die.’”

“Why?” I asked.

“I can’t stand the thought of all that endless tedium. To float around the clouds with nothing to do but strum a harp...it’s all so terribly boring. Heaven doesn’t sound much better than Hell! I’d rather be annihilated than spend eternity in a place like that.”

- Randy Alcorn, *Heaven*





# God With Us

## 1. God is There

"2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them." - Revelation 21:2-3

"All of redeemed reality will somehow be encompassed by and enfolded in Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."

- Darrel Johnson, *Discipleship on The Edge*, p. 372





# The Weight of Glory

## 2. Glory is There

“It shone with the glory of God and sparkled like a precious stone—like jasper as clear as crystal.” - Revelation 21:11

“And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its light.” - Revelation 21:23





# The Material Reality of Heaven

## 3. Tangible Life is There

“The Bible always places men and women on a redeemed earth, not in a heavenly realm removed from earthly existence.”

- George Eldon Ladd





# What About The Ocean?

“There will be no more of the cold, treacherous waters that separate nations, destroy ships, and drown our loved ones. There will be no more creatures swallowing up seafarers and no more poisoned salt waters. In a cosmos purged of pollution, salt water would no longer be needed to serve as a global antiseptic, so perhaps the “sea” that is “no more” refers only to salt water oceans. In the new earth huge lakes could, in effect, be freshwater oceans, teeming with sea life.”

- Randy Alcorn, *Heaven*.





# A Multiethnic Community

## 4. Many Different People are There

“...He will live with them, and they will be his people. [Greek: laos = “peoples”]” - Revelation 21:3b

“It is significant that the humans who make up the new Jerusalem, the bride of the Lamb, are viewed not as a “people” but as “peoples,” a multiethnic community whose unity and intimate communion with the one true God does not efface their differing national backgrounds even into eternity.” - Buist Fanning





# Unceasing Creativity

## 5. Creativity and Purpose are There

“And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!” - Revelation 21:5a

“There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him”  
- Revelation 22:3 NASB

“You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!”  
- Matthew 25:23





# Our Purpose in God's Eternal Kingdom

“We will not sit around looking at one another or at God for eternity but will join the eternal Logos, ‘reign with him,’ in the endlessly ongoing creative work of God. It is for this that we were each individually intended, as both kings and priests (Ex. 19:6 and Rev 5:10)... A place in God's creative order has been reserved for each one of us from before the beginnings of cosmic existence. His plan is for us to develop, as apprentices to Jesus, to the point where we can take our place in the ongoing creativity of the universe...”

- Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy*





# Zoe

## 6. True Life is There

“Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 It flowed down the center of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life,...”. - Revelation 22:1-2a





# We Will Finally See Him

## 7. The Face of God is There

“And they will see his face, and his name will be written on their foreheads.” - Revelation 22:4





# Holy

"But you may not look directly at my face, for no one may see me and live." 21 The Lord continued, "Look, stand near me on this rock. 22 As my glorious presence passes by, I will hide you in the crevice of the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will remove my hand and let you see me from behind. But my face will not be seen." - Exodus 33:20-23





# Look to The Author of Life

“When we think of botanical gardens, we think of life. We imagine rivers and trees and flowers and all types of vegetation pulsing with life. Since all life comes from God, should not look to him now to provide life? How often do we seek life apart from God—in God’s blessings such as friends or possessions or, moving in the opposite direction, in sinful habits? Ironically, our unrighteous adventures are often attempts to satisfy a desire that God has legitimately provided. May we refuse to be deceived and seek the Lord, who is “the way, the truth, and the life”

- Scott Duval

