

9. Consider Rev. 22:17. Do you typically think of the Holy Spirit as a person or an “it”? Why?
10. Typically, do you think of cherubim as powerful angelic beings or harmless, well intentioned, chubby little rascals? From what source(s) did you develop this understanding? If not from the Bible, then take a look at: Ezekiel 10, Gen. 3:24, Ps. 80:1, Ex. 25:18. Are there other erroneous concepts in your mind about heaven’s hosts?
11. Do you agree with the statement, “We may be surprised at who we see in heaven”? What, would you offer, would be the basis of thinking that way, i.e. why would we be surprised?

What Will Heaven Be Like? (part 1)

Revelation 21

Sermon Notes

September 18, 2011

- I. What will heaven be like?
 - A. We must emphasize the *presence of God* over the place of heaven.
(Acts 7:56; I Thess. 4:17; Lk. 23:43; Revelation 21:3)
 - B. Heaven is a place that transcends both *space* and *time* as we know it.
(2 Corinthians 4:18)
 - C. New Testament contemporaries understood heaven as involving three levels:
 - a. *earth* and the atmosphere where we live were considered the first level
 - b. *Satan’s* territory was thought to be above the earth and was considered the second level of “heaven”
 - c. the third level represented the dwelling place of *God*.
(Eph. 2:2; 2 Corinthians 12:2; II Cor. 4:18; Eph. 6:12; II Kings 6:16)

- II. Who created heaven?
 - A. God the *Father* and *Son* have created heaven.
(II Cor. 5:1; Hebrews 11:10; I Cor. 2:9)
 - B. The design of heaven will reflect the *creativity* of God.
(Revelation 21:4c-5; I Jn. 1:5; Revelation 21: 27a; Lk. 10:20)

- III. Who are heaven’s inhabitants?
 - A. God the *Father*.
 - B. God the *Son*.



Dr. Larry G. Shelton • • • • • Contemporary Service

A copy of today’s sermon can be purchased at the Information Center
and is also posted on our web site, paradisecma.org.

C. God the *Holy Spirit*.
(Rev. 22:17)

D. *Archangels*.

E. *Angels*.
(Hebrews 1:14)

F. *Cherubim*.
(Gen. 3:24)

G. *Seraphim*.

H. *Christians* from every nation and time.
(Revelation 7:9)

Growth Group Questions

What will Heaven Be Like? (Part I)

1. What do you think will be the most enjoyable aspect of heaven?
2. Can you give some examples of how the media, false religions, or current culture has affected our understanding of heaven?
3. What do you think happens to you when you die?
(cf. Lk. 23:43)
4. Is heaven really “up”? Conversely, is hell really “down”?
Explain your answers.
5. Given the beauty of this world, can you share some thought as to how amazing will be the heaven God has created for us?
6. In Rev. 21:4-5 we are told in heaven the “old order of things” will have passed away. What, do you think, is included in this passing old order?
7. Which part of John’s description of heaven in Rev. 21 fascinates you the most? Puzzles you the most?
8. Rev. 21:27 tells us that nothing impure will be in heaven (Cf. Rev. 21:8). Does this concern you or encourage you?
Why?