

THINGS THAT MAKE HEAVEN GLORIOUS

Text: Isaiah 63:15

INTRO: Isaiah says that heaven, the abode of God, is holy & glorious. In some passages, like Col. 3:4, heaven is referred to by the word "glory." For the next few minutes, we want to think about some of the things that make heaven glorious.

I. HEAVEN IS GLORIOUS BECAUSE OF WHAT WILL NOT BE THERE.

A. Many things will not be in heaven because they would be out of place there.

1. No sin will enter heaven.

READ REV. 21:27

2. Since there is no sin there, there will be no curse,

3. There will be no death, sorrow or crying.

4. No separation from righteous loved ones. Cp REV. 21:1; 1:9

B. Some things will not be in heaven simply because they are unneeded there.

READ REV. 21:22-23; 22:5

II. HEAVEN IS GLORIOUS BECAUSE OF WHAT WILL BE THERE.

A. God's throne is there. REV. 22:3

B. Eternal life will abound there. REV. 22:1-2, 14

C. God will be there. Christ will be there. The H.S. will be there.
REV. 21:22-23; 22:2-3

D. The saints of all ages will be there.

Luke 13:28-30, There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham & Isaac & Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. They will come from the east & the west, from the north & the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God.

REV. 21:24

E. Faithful Christians we have loved & lost will be there.

David: "Now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me" (2 Sam. 12:31).

READ I THESS. 4:15-18

brothers, sisters, parents, grand parents, friends...

III. THE GLORY OF HEAVEN SHINES EVEN BRIGHTER IN VIEW OF THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE.

A. Of heaven, He says: REVELATION 21:27
B. Of hell: REVELATION 20:11-15; 21:8

IV. HEAVEN IS GLORIOUS BECAUSE IT IS WITHIN THE GRASP OF EVERY ONE OF US.

A. I'm glad it's not for sale. I couldn't make the down payment. But we don't have to buy it.

- B. If it required great skill or super intelligence, many of us might not be able to achieve it--but it requires nothing of us that we cannot readily do.
- C. If it required good health or physical stamina, perhaps some of us would be excluded--but this is not a prerequisite.

HEAVEN IS WITHIN THE GRASP OF EACH OF US!

1. Faith is required--Faith in Christ, Faith in His gospel. Faith enough to lead us to repent of our sins, confess Christ, & be buried in baptism for the remission of our sins, Acts 2:38; 8:36-38.

This kind of faith will make me a Christian, a servant & a steward of God.

2. One more thing is required: "Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful" (1 Cor4:2).

REV. 2:10

It is to the good & faithful servant that Christ will say: "Enter into the joy of your Lord." Matt. 25:21).

La Porte, TX, March 18, 1984

Exton, PA, July 3, 1988

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, February 26, 1995

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