

# #1 What's Next?

## WHAT HAPPENS TO PEOPLE AFTER THEY DIE?

SCIENTIFIC THEORY	PREDICTION FOR AFTERLIFE
1. COSMIC INFLATION	You will live again.
2. MECHANISM	You will reincarnate.
3. CONCORDANCE MODEL	You have infinite incarnations.
4. QUANTUM MECHANICS	You are subjectively immortal.
5. SPECIAL RELATIVITY	You have an eternal existence.
6. BIOLOGICAL IMMORTALITY	You can be made immortal
7. SIMULATION HYPOTHESIS	You are already immortal.
8. TECHNOLOGICAL SINGULARITY	You will be resurrected.
9. TRANSCENSION HYPOTHESIS	You are part of a God-like mind.
10. OPEN INDIVIDUALISM	You live wherever there is life.

*“For there to be no afterlife, all of these theories must be wrong. If just one of these theories is right, then this life will not be your last.”*

**... We would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 2 Corinthians 5:8**

## IS HEAVEN REAL?

1. The Bible mentions “heaven” **422** times.
2. Jesus believed in **A REAL** heaven...
  - a) He declared that He came here from heaven John 6:38
  - b) He **SPOKE** often about “the kingdom of heaven” Matthew 3:2; 5:3,10
  - c) He declared He **WOULD RETURN** to heaven John 17:13; Acts 1:2; Luke 24:51
3. **OTHERS** were given visions and glimpses of heaven...
  - a) Stephen Acts 7:55-56
  - b) Paul II Corinthians 12:2-4
  - c) John Revelation 21-22

## WHAT IS HEAVEN LIKE?

*Revelation 21:1-5a* Then I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning, crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” He who was seated on the throne said, **“I am making everything new!”**

1. Heaven is a **PLACE**
2. Heaven is a **BETTER** place

*Hebrews 11:16* Instead, they were longing for a **better** country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

### **3. Heaven is like a CITY or a COUNTRY**

#### **4. The capital city of the new Heaven—the NEW JERUSALEM—will be breathtaking!**

Revelation 22:1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb **2** through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

### **JESUS IS THERE!**

Revelation 21:22 And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

### **COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE IN HEAVEN**

Will we still have names in heaven? Will we know and recognize each other there? **YES.**

Will our bodies be different in heaven? **YES AND NO.**

Will there still be gender—maleness and femaleness? **PROBABLY.**

How old will we be in heaven? **WE'RE NOT TOLD.**

Will we eat in heaven? **YES.**

Will we remember our lives on the earth? **YES.**

Will we become angels? **NO.**

Will there be any sin or disease in heaven? **NO.**

Will there be music, arts, and sports in heaven? **PROBABLY.**

Will we just sit around and play harps all the time? **NO!**

Will we be able to be in several places at once? **PROBABLY NOT.**

Will there be animals in heaven? **APPARENTLY.**

Will there be sex in heaven? **PROBABLY NOT IN THE WAY WE KNOW IT HERE.**

Will we be reunited with loved ones in heaven? **IT DEPENDS.**

### **WHO WILL GO TO HEAVEN?**

Revelation 21:27 Nothing impure will ever enter [heaven], nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

“There have been times when I think we do not desire heaven. But more often I find myself wondering whether, in our heart of hearts, we have ever desired anything else.” C.S. Lewis

RESOURCES for further exploration...

Heaven, Randy Alcorn

Things Unseen, Mark Buchanan

One Minute After You Die, Erwin Lutzer

AFTER: A Doctor Explores What Near-Death Experiences Reveal about Life and Beyond, Bruce Greyson