

The Bible has just enough to say about heaven for us to know it exists,

But for us to not have a clue about what it actually is going to be like for those who love Christ.

Both Isaiah and the Apostle John tried their best to describe what they saw, but we still can't imagine such a place.

We have all seen the art work,

people's imaginations put on a canvas,

Amazing clouds, and light, and as much beauty as the human mind can imagine,

In fact my wife and I honeymooned in Hawaii, and I gotta tell ya.

85 during the day

78 at night. Constant light breeze, no rain for 5

days.

Clear beautiful turquoise waters. Sea turtles swimming past my feet.

Beautiful sunsets while on the balcony with my beautiful new bride...

with no worries or strife.

No kids yet.

Those 5 days were heaven on earth by my small minded expectations.

But the truth is... we can't even imagine....

1 Corinthians 2:9 ESV — But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—

We will one day see what the full grace of God looks like.

I can see us becoming like toddlers...

What's that? What's that? What is that. Wow.  
What's that. And that and that.

We will see The Trinity's full power and  
imagination on full display.

But what is Heaven? And even, where is heaven?

I would like to speak on 4 aspects of Heaven  
that the Bible provides, to give us some kind of  
understanding or a picture of what we as  
followers of Christ are going to experience one  
day.

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The First aspect of heaven is it's a home.

The abode of God.

Where is the Father, where is the Son, where is  
the Holy Spirit?

Matthew 6:9 ESV – Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

And his Son?

Hebrews 12:2 ESV – looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jesus is with His Father, at his right hand, where he belongs, in heaven.

Jesus the Lamb of God is worshiped in chapter 5.

Well what about the Spirit. He's everywhere, but does He reside in heaven?

Revelation 4:5— From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God,

The Holy Spirit, ever present in heaven, before the throne.

Father, Son, and Spirit, in the abode of the Triune God.

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Pastor Phil and I have had discussions on where heaven is. You may have had discussions around your own tables.

He was thinking it's in another dimension, we just can't see it.

And I said , heaven is up. Its always described as above.

For the Lord himself will come down...

Jesus ascended before the disciples eyes...

God came down to see what this tower of Babel was all about.

Heaven is up...

But...

we as humans have gone up.

We have rocketed ourselves as far up as we can possibly go.

The farthest human-made objects, Voyager 1 and 2, have traveled over 16–17 billion miles (over 170 AU) from Earth, crossing into interstellar space. Launched in 1977, they are currently the most distant, with Voyager 1 being the farthest. In contrast, humans have only traveled as far as the Moon, about 250,000 miles.

NASA Science (.gov)

Voyager 1 is not in heaven.

In 1969 Neil Armstrong did not make it to heaven, he made it to the moon.

We have powerful telescopes that can see out into the vastness of space.

Our most powerful telescopes, like the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) and Hubble, can see over 13.5 billion light-years away,

I don't remember anyone saying there's heaven.

Found it.

If we can't see heaven 13 billion light years away, how far is it?.....

1 Corinthians 15:52 ESV – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

Heaven is closer than you think.

And We have built over and over again, generation to generation, tall towers that reach the clouds,

Man has always tried to get to heaven on his own.

But we haven't gotten ourselves to heaven.

I think heaven is up, but as Pastor Phil thinks, in a "dimension" no man can acquire on his own.

Acts 7:56 ESV – And (Steven) said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

Heavens opened, another dimension.

God can open our eyes to see.

But either way it's obvious Mankind by his own power, strength, and ingenuity, cannot get to the abode of the almighty.

We can only make it by the power of our savior.

John 14:6 ESV – Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to

the Father except through me.

Heaven is only attainable through Christ.

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... now trying to describe this home, this abode is pretty difficult.

As the Apostle John found out.

Revelation chapter 4 John describes that before the throne was a sea of glass, like crystal.

This signifies purity, around the throne.

One thing is certain, the Father's abode is clean and pure...

Do you know any neat freaks?

Take your shoes off, we don't live in a barn.

Even the cleanest house on earth cannot hold a

candle to the purity of God's house.

Heaven is pure.

Sin cannot reside there.

No dirty vile thing dwells in the presence of our Holy, Holy, Holy God.

Isaiah 35:8 ESV – And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

But there is a truth at the same time that the Bible briefly speaks of.

Job 1:6 ESV – Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.

Apparently the father of lies and lover of all things filthy and vile still has the privilege of

entering into our Lords clean court.

But with an angelic escort.

Satan was created a mighty cherub, and this cherub's privilege to come to the abode of the Most High remains....

Remember that God is faithful. Even when we are not.

Revelation 12:10 ESV – And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

Non stop Satan is before the throne constantly accusing you and me, every time we sin, or mess up.

Chirping in Christ's ear,

Look what he did. He is a sinner to the core,

But Christ has the final say.

Father, I died on the cross, all his sins have been given to me and my righteousness is given to him.

I rose from the dead and he has put his faith in me, he is now justified by your declaration Father.

1 Corinthians 6:11 ESV – And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Satan can accuse all he wants.

We are justified in Christ.

But Satan's time is short.

Revelation 12:7-9 ESV – Now war arose in

heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

I gotta say as a side note, I'm very happy for the archangel Michael here. It must be an absolute honor for God to delegate to Michael the privilege to personally throw Satan out of heaven. How long do you think hes been waiting for that.

In the book of Jude Michael was disputing with Satan over the body of Moses, and Micheal said the Lord rebuke you.

But a day in the future is coming when the accuser of the brethren will be thrown from the throne room by the archangel Michael,

never to accuse The Lords justified ever again.

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The second aspect of heaven is the throne,

Central Command aka CENTCOM,

Revelation 4:2 ESV – At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.

This throne room is where all events and decisions of the Bible and of earth have been laid out, before the foundations of the world.

Where all prophets got their words to speak to the congregations of the old testament.

Where the Apostles were given the words to write the perfectly inspired scriptures for us to live by,

And all prophetic future events have been

perfectly carried out and worked out for his glory,

No higher authority,

No higher might,

And no higher power is above the one who sits on the throne in heaven.

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Lately, because of world events, Central command. Aka CENTCOM, has been in the news alot.

But what is CENTCOM?

## **Key Aspects of CENTCOM**

- **Area of Responsibility (AOR):** Centered on the Middle East, CENTCOM's region stretches from Northeast Africa across the Persian Gulf to Central and South Asia.

Heavens area of responsibility is the universe.

The earth is the Lords and everything therein.

- **Mission:** Its mission includes defending U.S. interests, deterring conflict with Iran and its proxies, and competing with adversaries like China

Heavens mission is to glorify God, destroy the works of the Devil, and save humanity from our sins via the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- **Structure:** It operates through component commands: Army Central (ARCENT), Naval Forces Central (NAVCENT), Air Forces Central (AFCENT), Marine Corps Forces Central (MARCENT), and Special Operations Central (SOCCENT).

Heavens Structure is miriads and miriads of angelic armies. Along with archangels Micheal and Gabrial.

- **History & Operations:** Formed in 1983, it grew out of the Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force and has overseen major operations including the Gulf War, the War in

Afghanistan, and Operation Inherent Resolve against ISIS. And today, this conflict in Iran. Heavens History is yesterday, today and forever.

- **Coalition Focus:** CENTCOM works with a 46-nation coalition to manage regional security, according to the CENTCOM website.

Heavens coalition forces include the Trinity working with men and women from all nations tribes and languages, and angels for works that were given before the foundation of the world to manage and disperse the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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Wikipedia +5

CENTCOM provides a critical, localized command structure to address instability in one of the most volatile regions in the world.

The throne room in heaven is the centralized, localized command structure of both heaven and earth.

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Wikipedia

Matthew 28:18 ESV – And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Colossians 2:10 ESV – and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

Jesus is Jehovah saboath.

LORD of heavens armies.

1 Samuel 17:45 NLT – David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

Our enemy doesn't stand a chance, no matter the size.

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Then there is: Isaiah 6:1 ESV – In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a

throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

I would like to focus on His train.

Back in the olden days the longer a king's train, the more power and authority he wielded.

As a king would conquer, he would add to his train.

In Isaiah's vision, the train filled the temple.

Our God and king is a conquering king.

With his pinnacle on the cross and his resurrection.

Revelation 1:17-18 ESV — When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Our conquering King holds the keys in victory.

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My 3rd aspect of Heaven: is it is full of energy and is very active.

Full of hustle and bustle so to speak.

There will be feasting and worshipping and we will have new found gifts to try out and enjoy for an eternity.

And we will have responsibilities.

Revelation 2:26 ESV – The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations,

It won't be boring. It won't be us in togas playing harps on clouds eating grapes.

It will be miriads of angels and a great multitude of people too great to count worshipping with

love and reverence.

All the saints of old will be there to have conversations with and to worship with.

There will be such a great cloud of witnesses.

Revelation 7:9 ESV – After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

There will be Fellowship like we've never experienced before.

No more barriers, no more walls between us.

Just joy filled exaltation among friends and family.

All this before our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

For 10000 years we will be there praising our great God and we will not have one second less to continue to do so, for eternity and beyond.

We will be able to talk about our Lord without interruption, for ever and ever.

And my 4th and final aspect:

Heaven is paradise....

Luke 23:43 ESV – And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

A big reason why heaven is paradise is:

Revelation 21:4 ESV – He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Paradise might mean something different from

person to person.

It might be the Incorruptable bodies.....

Might be: a perfect tranquil peaceful environment. Ahhhhh, peace.

Might be: being with loved ones once again, never to lose them again,

Or to just sit with Jesus and bask in his glorious presence.

Might be: no more battling flesh, and Satan, and the world. We will enter into His Rest.

.....Worship team.....

Whatever you may want paradise to be....

It is worth the temporary pain.

It is worth the battles.

It is worth everything.

Matthew 13:45-46 ESV – “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

They say you can't take it with you.....

Who cares, we who are in Christ are about to inherit everything.

And the meek shall inherit the Earth.

There is one quick truth i would like to close with.

Acts 14:22 ESV – strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

We must endure before we get to heaven.

Christians, like Jesus before us, must endure their crosses.

But Jesus sits on a great throne of grace.

And He is full of compassion.

We are not alone. Heaven awaits, but His Spirit is already here.

He gave us a deposit.

Keep fighting and keep battling.

Keep fighting your flesh with the fruit of the Spirit.

Battle evil by doing good.

Jesus promised us the gates of Hell will not prevail.

The victory is His.

.....Worship team.

As we are released remember this verse:

1 Corinthians 2:9 ESV – But, as it is written,  
“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the heart of man imagined,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

Pray.

