

# HEAVEN

MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 2022

## HEAVEN: Q & A

### Why take time to answer questions about our future life?

**1 Peter 1:13** *Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

### Is there awareness and/or interaction between those who have gone already to the intermediate heaven and those who remain on earth?

1. This kind of awareness seems possible. (Acts 7:55-56, 59-60)

**Acts 7:55** *But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ... 59 And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.*

2. Life in the intermediate heaven is depicted in Revelation 6:9-11.

**Rev. 6:9** *When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. 10 They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.*

3. Do the believers in heaven witness our lives on earth?

**Heb. 12:1** *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us*

## Do we go to heaven when we die? What about “paradise” and the third heaven?

**2 Cor. 12:1** *I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. 3 And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—4 and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.*

## How does 2 Corinthians 5:8 fit with 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17? Will the dead be with the Lord in heaven or will the dead rise first to meet Christ?

**2 Cor. 5:6** *So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.*

**1 Thess. 4:14** *For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.*

## SONGS

“HOW GREAT THOU ART” – Carl Boberg

“I AM SET FREE” – Leslie Jordan

“REVELATION SONG” – Jennie Lee Riddle

“O PRAISE THE NAME” – Dean Ussher, Marty Sampson, and Benjamin Hastings

## BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 24,865.68

WEEKLY GENERAL FUND NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$127,992.73

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$180,465.00