

## My Father's House

The biblical truth about our eternal home is often overshadowed by myths and cultural distractions, but as Christians, if we study what Scripture says, we gain a vibrant understanding of the place where we'll spend eternity. At the Last Supper, Jesus told His disciples, **John 14:1-3**: *"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; if that were not so, I would have told you, because I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you also will be."* Now, let's expand the context of these passages. Jesus announced to His disciples that He was going to the cross, that He was going to die, that He was going to be buried, that He was going to be resurrected, and that He was ultimately going back to heaven. His disciples didn't understand this, and their hearts were troubled and filled with grief. While the disciples didn't understand this, we do, and we know that Jesus was promising something not just to His disciples but to all of us. Notice what Jesus says. He's going to heaven to prepare a place, a place for us. The Bible repeatedly describes heaven as an actual place. One of the best definitions of heaven comes from Jesus: *"In My Father's house."* After the final judgment, believers will enter into the full enjoyment of life in God's presence forever. Jesus tells us, **Matthew 25:34**: *Then the King will say to those on His right, "Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."* Christians often talk about living with God in "heaven" forever, but the Biblical teaching is far richer than that. It tells us that there will be a new heaven and a new earth, an entirely renewed creation, and that we will live with God there. **Isaiah 65:17**: *"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former things will not be remembered or come to mind."* In this age, the place where God dwells is called heaven in Scripture. The Lord says, *"Heaven is My throne"* (**Isa. 66:1**), and Jesus teaches us to pray, *"Our Father in heaven"* (**Matt. 6:9**). Jesus now *"has gone into heaven, and is at the right hand of God"* (**1 Peter 3:22**). **Revelation 22:3**: *"No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and His servants will serve Him."* Amid all the questions we naturally have about the new heaven and new earth, we must not lose sight of the fact that Scripture consistently portrays this new creation as a place of great beauty and joy. **Revelation 21 and 22** describe this place as a *"holy city"*, *"prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."* Understand, there is only one way to heaven, and that's through Jesus Christ. It's not about a religion. It's not about a church. It's not about a doctrine. It's about Jesus, who said, **John 14:6**: *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me."* If you have not put your trust in Him, your name is not written in the Lamb's Book of Life. If you were to die today and seek entrance to heaven, you would be denied. Ask Jesus Christ to come into your life as your Lord and Savior and to forgive your sins. He will grant you eternal life in heaven.