



Course DC213: Heaven and Hell

And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. Matthew 25:46

Intro: There is an end to all this time of probation under the sun to get right with God: **"We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: 'In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.' Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation"** (2 Cor. 6:1-2). There is no purgatory, there is no offer of grace in hell, and there is no amount of long suffering for a sinner in torment which could eventually purge him from his sin. In this Gospel period mankind is earnestly entreated to be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. For although the coming Day of the Lord's return will mark the beginning of untold eternal joys and glories for a vast multitude gathered around the Throne (*God be praised for His grace!*), it will also be the Day that ushers in eternal woe and suffering for a vast multitude of others. Not because they could not be saved, for sufficient atonement was truly provided for the needs of all of Adam's fallen race. Rather, it will be because they were not willing.

I.) A Final Divide Will Come on the Last Day

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. . . . ⁴⁶ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." Matthew 25:31-33, 46

- John 5:29 ²⁸ Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice ²⁹ and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.
- Dan. 12:2-3 ² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.
- 2 Thess. 1:9:6-10 ⁶ since *it is* a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, ⁷ and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ⁸ in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, ¹⁰ when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who have believed, because our testimony among you was believed.

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- Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- John 3:36 He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.
- Luke 16:25-26 ²⁵ But Abraham said, “Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.”

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II.) Damnation in Hell / Salvation in Heaven

Mark 9:44-48 ⁴³ If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched-- ⁴⁴ where *'Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched.'* ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched-- ⁴⁶ where *'Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched.'* ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire-- ⁴⁸ where *'Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched.'*

Luke 16:23-24 ²³ And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴ Then he cried and said, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.”

Matt. 25:41 Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Rev. 21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving and sinners, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

Matt. 13:43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

Dan. 12:3 Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.

John 14:3 ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

John 17:24 Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

Matt. 25:34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Heb. 9:28 so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

Rev. 14:10-11 ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.

Rev. 20:10, ¹⁵ The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where also the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. . . . ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Matt. 13:41-42 ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴² and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

1 Thess. 4:16-17 ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

1 Peter 1:4-5 ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Rev. 7:17 for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to fountains of the waters of life. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Rev. 21:4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

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III.) Various Degrees of Reward in Heaven

Certainly there will be various rewards that the saved experience in heaven. This is not to teach that there are different levels of heaven. There is but one final destiny for the saved and but one final destiny for the lost. But there are certainly various degrees of rewards for the saved just as there are various degrees of suffering for the lost. Concerning reward, some will be saved with little reward, and some will have great rewards. It is grievous to think of one being saved yet having little further reward when he could have laid up treasure in heaven. That is, one may have a saved soul (*because he remained on the one foundation of Christ*) and yet built on that foundation so poorly that he has nearly a lost life—i.e., much (perhaps even all) of his works being burned up. There is no greater illustration of this than that of Lot. That he is clearly declared to be righteous, being one who was truly oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked, even tormented *his* righteous soul day after day, yet, he chose to both dwell in Sodom and raise his family there—illustrating well those who let financial decisions dictate more how they will live in this world than spiritual concerns (see Gen. 13:10-13, 19:1-38, 2 Pet. 2:7-8). And thus, all of his life’s works were burned up though he himself was saved. Let us labor in the Lord because we love Him, and let us humbly bow our heads in gratitude to God that in doing so we lay up treasures in heaven. Salvation is by grace. But rewards are associated with our works. The reward of our works is not in proportion to the gifts which we have received, but according to our personal faithfulness associated with what God has committed to us. For one with more gifts than another may actually receive less reward than that of a faithful one with less gifts—just as the widow who put in her last two mites put in more than all the rest. Consider:

- Matt. 19:21 Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” (cf. Luke 18:22)
- Luke 6:35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.
- Col. 3:23-24 ²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.
- Heb. 11:25-26 ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.
- Heb. 11:6 ⁶ But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
- Heb. 6:10 For God *is* not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.
- Rev. 11:18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth.
- 1 Pet. 1:4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you
- Matt. 10:41-42 ⁴¹ He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. ⁴² And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold *water* in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.
- Heb. 10:35 Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.

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IV.) Degrees of Suffering in Hell¹

It is also certain that, whereas hell will be torment for all, there will be varying degrees of suffering in hell. Clearly, not all of hell’s inhabitants will suffer the same intensity. This truth is revealed in several ways:

- And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more. Luke 12:47-48

¹ This section from: Don Minkler, *In Defense and Promotion of the Traditional Doctrine of Hell* (Mt. Sterling, KY: Reformation Publishers, 2017), 75-78. This book is the textbook used for the course DC307 Doctrine of Hell. Those interested in a much more thorough work on the doctrine of hell are encouraged to pick up a copy. You can contact School of the Called Seminary (541) 714-3626 to order one, or it can be purchased through Amazon. The cost is \$20.⁰⁰ for this 500 page book—purposely priced to be affordable. If price is a problem, contact the Seminary and a copy will be sent to you for whatever you can afford, even free.

Thus, Scripture speaks of those who will receive the greater condemnation, condemnation which is equal to their privilege and opportunity to rightly respond:

- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation. Matthew 23:14
- But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who "will render to each one according to his deeds" Romans 2:5-6
- But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you. Matthew 11:24
- My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. James 3:1

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Clearly the amount of suffering is proportional to the amount of spiritual light one had and yet rejected.

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- Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin. James 4:17
- I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. Romans 7:9
- Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains. John 9:41
- If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. John 15:22
- Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin. John 19:11

Such Scriptures reveal that advantage, opportunity and knowledge are all taken into account when sin is accounted for. Thus, judgment will be meted out to the degree that justice demands the offender suffer.

Ignorance, of course, can be no excuse when one remains *willfully ignorant of the truth*, for if one seeks he will find. From nature alone then one is without excuse.

- ... having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart. Ephesians 4:18
- For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. Romans 10:3
- If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. John 7:17
- Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind. Philippians 3:16

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More could be brought forth to reveal that the judgment is just, according to each one's ability and opportunity from a consideration of Romans 2:1-16 and Romans 14 (as well as other passages).² No one will be able to hide from the truth of this on that great Day. Truly, even if God did no more than reveal himself from nature, man is without excuse. But every soul knows He has given so much more in the hope that “. . . they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us. . .” (Acts 17:27). Paul revealed:

¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness [that is, they suppress, resist, hold out against and ignore the truth that they do understand rather than submit to that – which would have of course led to more truth if they would have responded to what they did understand – even to Him who is the Truth!], ¹⁹because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Romans 1:18-21

V.) Both Heaven and Hell are Literal Places

Scripture certainly presents hell as a literal place even as it presents heaven as a literal place. Concerning heaven our Lord said, “In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:2-3). That a place is prepared is clear, and that our Lord's risen body was received in heaven testifies to an actual place, for a body inhabits/occupies its place. Likewise, not only are we told that hell was prepared for the devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41), but we are told that bodies (after the resurrection of the dead) will be received there (Matt. 5:29-30; 10:28; 18:9) – a clear testimony to a literal place. Even hell in its embryonic stage of *Hades* for the spirits of the damned is referred to as a “place of torment” (Luke 16:28). How much more that final place into which hell in its embryonic form is swallowed up in the final form of *Gehenna* (called the lake of fire, the second death), which receives more than just the spirits of the damned, receiving also their resurrected bodies (Rev. 20:14).

Hell, a literal place:

- Matt. 25:41 Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels
- 2 Peter 2:4-11 ⁴ For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast *them* down to hell and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; ⁵ and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, *one of eight people*, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; ⁶ and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned *them* to destruction, making *them* an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; ⁷ and delivered righteous Lot, *who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked* ⁸ (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds)— ⁹ *then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, ¹⁰ and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. *They are* presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, ¹¹ whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.

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² The subject of justice in hell is considered in Chapter 7 [*my book mentioned in the footnote above this one*].

- Jude 7 . . . the vengeance of eternal fire. . .
- Mark 9:44 . . . the fire is not quenched.
- Matt. 25:46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.
- Daniel 12:2 . . . shame and everlasting contempt . . .
- Mark 3:29 . . . of eternal condemnation. . .
- Matt. 25:46 . . . everlasting punishment. . .

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Heaven, a literal place:

- John 14:1-3 ¹ Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.
- Acts 7:55-56 ⁵⁵ But he, being 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 said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
- Mark 16:19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.
- Acts 3:21 whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.
- John 17:24 Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.
- 1 Thess. 4:13-18 ¹³ But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. ¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

VI.) Our Heavenly home is not of this world:

Heaven exists apart from and up from the earth:

- John 14:2-3 ² In My Father's house are many mansions [μνοαὶ (literally, *dwelling*s)]; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- Matt. 25:34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

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- Col. 1:5 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel . . .
- Heb. 13:1 For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.
- Heb. 11:9-10⁹ By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.
- Heb. 11:16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.
- Heb. 10:34 for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.
- 1 Pet. 1:4-5⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
- Luke 6:22-23²² Blessed are you when men hate you, And when they exclude you, and revile *you*, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man's sake. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward *is* great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.
- Luke 16:9⁹ And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home.

This world is not heaven, this world will be burned up and will pass away:

- 2 Pet. 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.
- Rev. 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.
- Matt. 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.
- Ps. 102:25-26²⁵ Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens *are* the work of Your hands. ²⁶ They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed.
- Matt. 5:18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.
- 1 Pet. 4:7 But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.
- 2 Cor. 4:18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

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- 2 Cor. 5:1 ¹ For we know that if our earthly house, *this* tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.
- Matt 25:34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

The earth is one of the things we see. What does Paul say of the things which are seen? Ans. "The things which are seen are temporal [lasting for a time only—transitory]; but the things which are not seen are eternal." 2 Cor. 4:18.—H. M. Riggle

Samuel L. Speck and H. M. Riggle, *Bible Readings* (Prestonsburg, PA: Reformation Publishers [reprint, 1902], 2007), 249.

Heaven is up from the earth already:

- Mark 16:9 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.
- Luke 24:51 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.
- John 3:13 No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven.
- John 6:62 *What* then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?
- Acts 1:9-11 ⁹ Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."
- Eph. 4:8-10 ⁸ Therefore He says: "*When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.*" ⁹ (Now this, "*He ascended*"--what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)
- 1 Thess. 4:16-17 ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.
- 1 Tim. 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

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VII.) Heaven is called or represented under various figures:

New Heavens and the New Earth, the home of righteousness:

- Matt. 5:5 Blessed *are* the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.
- 2 Pet. 3:10-13 ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. ¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.
 - Rev. 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.
 - Rev. 21:1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

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A Heavenly country:

- Heb. 11:16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*.

A city:

- Heb. 13:14 For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come.
- Heb. 11: 16 Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.
- Rev. 22:14-15 Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

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The Father's House:

- John 14:2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

¹ "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14:1-3

