

6-17-2026 – HEAVEN – week 3

Heaven. Our eternal destiny. Events that will happen . . . but why?

Jesus took John to heaven. God wants us to know about these events . . .

Why? . . . God wins! **Why?** . . . God is just. Justice is coming.

“Wail, for the day of the Lord is near!” ([Isaiah 13:6](#));

“For the day is near, even the day of the Lord is near” ([Ezekiel 30:3](#));

“Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming. It is close at hand” ([Joel 2:1](#));

“Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near” ([Zephaniah 1:7](#)).

“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.” – [2 Peter 3:10](#)

[1 Thessalonians 5:2](#) – “For you are fully aware that the Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.”

[Matthew 24:35](#) – “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away.”

Why? . . . God loves those who love Him/wrath on those who reject Him.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” – [John 3:16](#)

How can God destroy people? Send them to hell?

People will receive what they choose. God is love; but hates evil

Why? . . . He’s preparing a place . . .

Five Stages of Future Events given in Revelation/book of Daniel:

- Rapture - Jesus returns to take believers out of the world to heaven.
- 7-year period of Tribulation begins. Reign of antiChrist.
- Satan’s defeat. Christ reigns 1,000 years. Millennium Kingdom (no satan)
- After the millennial reign, Satan will be loosed/ lead a brief rebellion.
- Satan finally defeated. Judgment. Eternity in God’s new heaven/earth.

- Jesus talked about the end. **Matt. 24**
- ¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. ¹⁵ “So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— . . . ²¹ For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. ²² “If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.”
 - **Rapture** of God’s people will **remove us** from/during Grt. Tribulation
 - Rev. 13: ⁸-“All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb’s book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.”

God holds a Scroll in R. hand. 7 seals guarantee safe-keeping of Scroll.

- **Rev. 5** - A mighty angel announces a search in heaven – who is worthy?
 - **Don’t weep. The Lion** of the Tribe of Judah – triumphed. He is able!
 - Only Jesus – **the Lamb** - is worthy to open the scroll/break its 7 seals.
 - The scroll represents installment of Jesus-King; judgment-humanity
 - The recipient of a scroll is the only one who could open it.
- **Rev. 6** – Scrolls opened. The judgment of God begins.
 - **God’s judgment will happen in 3 stages of 7s.**
 - First are the opening of 7 seals.
 - These are likely stages during the reign of the Antichrist.
 - But w/ the 6th seal – an earthquake.
 - Sun turns black; stars fall; heavens recede like scroll
 - People will be terrified, try to hide.
 - **Rev. 6:16-17** - “They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the

throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! ¹⁷ For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?"

▪ **After the 6th seal – we see God’s mercy – Rev. 7**

- **Angel puts God’s seal on 144,000 – Jewish witnesses**
- **God’s seal gives them protection**

▪ **And the “great multitude” are seen.**

- **Rev. 7:9** – “After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.”

• **This multitude in white is all of us –**

- (start in v.14) “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore, they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ ‘Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

- **Rev. 8 – the 7th seal. Silence** in heaven for ½-an-Hour.

- **A golden senser...** incense – prayers of God’s people.

- That senser is filled w/ **fire from God’s altar**, which is hurled to earth.
- From the fire – thunder, lightning, another earthquake.

- Then comes 7 angels w/ 7 trumpets (Rev. 8-9)

- Each angel destroys part of the earth.
 - 1st angel – hail & fire, burns a 1/3 of the earth.
 - 2nd angel – 1/3 of the sea turns to blood, 1/3 of the sea died.
 - 3rd angel – 1/3 of the rivers/springs turn bitter; many died.

- **Then – Jesus comes to harvest the earth.**

Rev 19 – a wedding!

⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

“Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.”

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s holy people.)

⁹ Then the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!”

- **The best part of the wedding? When the Groom sees the Bride.**
- **We are the Bride of Christ. The church is the bride of Christ.**
- Jesus is waiting . . . longing to see us.
 - This is the eternal union of us with Christ.
 - Jesus gave Himself willingly for us. We give willingly to Him.
 - No force to choose Jesus. But why chose anything else?

The Wedding supper will be incredible,

Isaiah 25 – “Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

² You have made the city a heap of rubble, the fortified town a ruin, the foreigners’ stronghold a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. . . .

⁶ On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine— the best of meats and the finest of wines.”

This awaits us. Be ready for the Groom. Keep your lamps lit.