

My Heaven

HEAVEN IS DIFFICULT TO DESCRIBE



Revelation 21:1-4

- ▶ 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. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and* be their God. 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."

Problem with understanding heaven

- ▶ It is spiritual – we are material
- ▶ We try to describe the indescribable
- ▶ We are mortals trying to understand the eternal

- ▶ Let me describe “My Heaven”

My Heaven is a Place

- ▶ Heaven is real
- ▶ Beyond description
- ▶ Try to describe a rose to a person born blind
- ▶ Try to describe New York City to one who has never been out of Gibson County, TN

My Heaven is a Place

- ▶ Heaven is real place
- ▶ Not on your GPS
- ▶ But is the place where God is
- ▶ There is a place called heaven, and there is a place that is NOT heaven

My Heaven is a Person

▶ **God**

- ▶ Heaven is the dwelling place of God
- ▶ God is there

My Heaven is a Person

- ▶ God
- ▶ **Jesus**

- ▶ Jesus loves me
- ▶ He died for me
- ▶ He is preparing a place for me

My Heaven is a Person

- ▶ God
- ▶ **Jesus**

▶ **Philippians 1:23** For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, *which is far better.*

My Heaven is a Person

- ▶ God
- ▶ **Jesus**

- ▶ **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.

My Heaven is a Person

- ▶ God
 - ▶ Jesus
 - ▶ **Bible Heroes**
- ▶ Hebrews 11 – Hall of Faith
 - ▶ Abraham, Moses, David
 - ▶ Paul, Peter, John

My Heaven is a Person

- ▶ God
- ▶ Jesus
- ▶ Bible Heroes
- ▶ **Personal Heroes**
- ▶ Family
- ▶ Fellow Christians
- ▶ Elders, preachers
- ▶ People I have known, loved, appreciated

My Heaven is a Person

- ▶ God
 - ▶ Jesus
 - ▶ Bible Heroes
 - ▶ **Personal Heroes**
- ▶ Grandfather, Manly French – served as an elder over 50 years
 - ▶ Father and son who served as elders – Red and Floyd Flowers

My Heaven is a Person

- ▶ God
- ▶ Jesus
- ▶ Bible Heroes
- ▶ **Personal Heroes**

▶ **1 Thessalonians 2:19-20**

¹⁹ For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Is it* not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? ²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

My Heaven is Life

- ▶ Put the emphasis on **LIFE**, not on eternal
- ▶ Put the emphasis on **LIFE** not on immortal
- ▶ **John 10:10** The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

My Heaven is Life

- ▶ Put emphasis on **SECURE**, not eternal
- ▶ **John 10:28** And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.
- ▶ Hell is also eternal
- ▶ Those in hell are immortal (never die)

1 Corinthians 15:42-44

Who I am / Who I will be

- ▶ ⁴² So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. *The body* is sown in corruption, it is raised in **incorruption**. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in **glory**. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in **power**. ⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body, it is raised a **spiritual body**. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.