

## YOUR HEAVENLY HOME

Matthew 24:35 ... “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my [Christ’s] words will by no means pass away.”

Revelation 21:1 ... “Now I [John] saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...”

As we discussed in our previous study, humans are never quite content to accept what God reveals to us. We always demand answers to our questions, and explanations for everything. Part of this may come from the parenting model where parents, rightfully so, demand to know what their children are doing, where they are going, and where they have been. Of course, there are parents who do not care about such things, and they are often responsible for creating kids that get into trouble. The Kingdom of God, to which we belong when we are born again, is built on a different model, where faith and trust are all that is required to give us peace about things we cannot explain. Is your faith strong enough to convince you to stop guessing about heaven and just accept what you will find when you get there?

In the interest of giving you a few clues provided from the Word of God, let us state that:

- When you die, your spirit will go to the heaven that is still somewhere separate from earth. We do not know where it is, nor what it looks like, but in all likelihood, it will not have a physical form because God and us are all represented there by our spirits. This Heaven is like the departure lounge in an airport. The lounge is not your destination. It only a waiting or holding area on your way to your destination.
- When Christ returns to earth to defeat satan, those of us who died and went to heaven previously, will have our spirits reunited with our bodies that are now perfect, and we will return with him to re-occupy the same earth we were born on. Christ will rule earth for 1,000 years from the temple in Jerusalem. That is clearly a physical heaven that will be familiar to us, but it also is not our final destination. It is like a stopover in a pretty place on your way to your destination.
- After the 1,000 year reign of Christ, God will restore the earth to its former glory (perhaps like it was in the Garden of Eden) and we will live forever in that environment, in the presence of God and Christ. That will then be the permanent and eternal version of heaven. That is our final destination.

There are other minor aspects of this timeline, but these are the major points. This should be enough to reinforce your faith, to trust God and his plan, and to await eternity with patience and hopefulness. Is it enough? Or do you feel the need to listen to the imaginations of men who claim to know more details that God has intentionally withheld from us in his Word? God is testing you and your faith. If your faith in his explanation of heaven is enough, God will find you ready for more assignments to serve him. If your faith is not enough, you may be stuck in neutral until it is enough.

Copyright © 2019 Datu Wali Mission Foundation