



May 10, 2015

Heaven...Is Heaven the Default? Revelation 21

Introduction

Heaven is mentioned in the Bible 677 times and hell is even mentioned more. Most people believe in an afterlife, but do we take it seriously? While we might gain some comfort from knowing more details about heaven, and become more knowledgeable about the anguish of hell, everyone needs to make an eternal decision. God's love is amazing in that He desires for everyone to come to Him through Jesus Christ. "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

Discussion Questions---Seven Realities of Heaven

Does everyone go to Heaven? Explain your answer.

Reality #1 God made you to love you and He wants your love back. Why does a Holy God give imperfect people His love? Why does a loving God allow evil? We know we should love God back, so how do you and/or your family demonstrate that? In what ways can we show our love for God? In what ways do you help others love God?

Reality #2 You were made to live forever. Pastor David explained that life is like a pyramid. We reach a particular pinnacle and then as we age we scale downward (up and then down). We need to have the reality of heaven on the way up or on the way down. If we are not careful, do you think it's possible to lose a place in heaven? Why? "...He has set eternity in the hearts of men..." Ecclesiastes 3:11 Discuss what this means to you.

Reality #3 God has prepared two eternal places. Heaven was prepared to reestablish perfection. Hell wasn't originally intended for human beings. How does knowing about heaven and hell affect your relationship with Jesus?

Reality #4 You choose your eternity. Why would God send anyone to Hell? What would it be like to be separated from God for eternity? What would it be like to be with God for eternity?

Reality #5 There is no second chance after you die. Think about your day to day life. What would a world without God look like? What do you think your life would be like without God? How does this knowledge effect how you are living your life today?

Reality #6 Saying "yes" to Jesus is as much about the present as the future!

What changes or disciplines do you feel you need to make in becoming more effective in following Christ in the present?

Reality #7 We have a responsibility to tell others. How should we talk to others about Heaven if they aren't sure they believe in God? What are some ways to tell your parents/children about heaven? About Hell? Is your life and your words keeping someone out of heaven?

Conclusion

Nothing on earth compares to being with Christ in heaven.