

Revelation 21:9-27
Heaven Will Be Breathtakingly Beautiful
(pt. 2)

INTRO: What is heaven going to be like? Briefly describe the indescribable-

Three features encapsulate the apostle John's glorious and inspired vision (Revelation 21:9-27).

Heaven will be:

1)

2)

3)

CONCLUSION

For Further Reflection/Application: *We must be doers of the Word and not merely hearers*

What is the most beautiful place you've ever been (or thing you've ever seen)? What features made 'it' so unforgettable?

What is the most beautiful "make believe" place that you have ever read about or watched a movie about? (The Emerald City; Rivendell; Narnia, Pemberley, etc).

"Heaven is a place more wonderful than we can ever begin to imagine. It is a place of joy and beauty, of peace and happiness that will never end." MacArthur commenting on Revelation 21.

General Outline of Revelation 21:9-22:5:

- i) Introduction- John's glorious vision of heavenly glory. (Rev. 21:9-10)
- ii) Body- John's eyewitness and Divinely inspired account of the glories of heaven. (Rev. 21:11-22:5)

Imagine if your ten-year-old niece came up to you and said, "What's heaven going to be like?" In the past how have you answered the following question (in less than two minutes)?

What three features encapsulate John's inspired vision of the capital city of heaven ("the New Jerusalem")?

Memorize 2 Peter 1:13

Why does God give the redeemed a new (and improved) glorified body? Why is a heavenly body necessary in view of our future home/inheritance? Note 1 Cor. 15:51f.

What details in this morning's sermon text make heaven so beautiful and lovely? (God's grand masterpiece)

How does this present creation reflect the glory and majesty of God (Psalm 19)? How will the new creation do so (all the more)? How does the breathtaking beauty of heaven impact your Christian life, hope, and perspective?

Note God's Holy Law in Exodus 20:15, 17. Why do people steal or covet? How does the prospect of a future home like this (Rev. 21:9-22:5) help us to overcome the sin of jealousy/envy and covetousness?

Why does God keep reminding us that everything that John reveals about eternity future is trustworthy and true? Note Rev. 21:5; 22:6a. Heaven is for real! Look in the Book!

If someone wants to spend eternity in Paradise how do they get there? Who then can go to heaven? How is one saved from wrath and judgement? (John 14:1-6; Romans 5:1-11; 8:1; Acts 16:31; Revelation 22:14)

How's is God's intrinsic beauty related to heaven and the new creation?

For Further Reflection/Application: *We must be doers of the Word and not merely hearers*

One preacher helpfully notes, that “a contemplative focus on the beauty of heaven frees us from excessive dependence upon earthly wealth and comfort. If there awaits us an eternal inheritance of immeasurable glory, it is senseless to expend effort and energy here, sacrificing so much time and money, to obtain for so brief a time in corruptible form what we will enjoy forever in consummate perfection.” We are citizens of heaven. Our future hope is what drives us, sustains, and shapes us.

Christians (according to Spurgeon) ought to “Pawn the present for the future. We need to be satisfied and ready to give up anything which Christ may require of us for the sake of that which is to come. Our inheritance is not on this side of Jordan. Our joy is yet to be revealed. I grant you that we have much thrown in, for the Lord is a good paymaster; but on the road to heaven he gives us only our spending money.” 1 Peter 1:3-9

Related Praise Songs: *Theology fuels Doxology! We dig deeply in God’s Word in order that we may go high in praise and adoration!*

See, He Comes- Sovereign Grace Music
City Called Heaven- Jubilant Sykes
If I Got My Ticket- Jubilant Sykes
One Day (When We All Get to Heaven)- Matt Redman
O That Will Be Glory- Hymn
Soon and Very Soon- Hymn
Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending- Hymn
Sweet Beulah Land- Hymn
When the Roll is Called Up Yonder- Hymn
I’ll Fly Away- Hymn
Home- Chris Tomlin
Not Home Yet- Steven Curtis Chapman
The Sands of Time Are Sinking- Hymn
Is He Worthy- Andrew Peterson
Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken
Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me- CityAlight

Related Scripture Passages: *Search the Scriptures to see if these things be so.*

Revelation 21:9-22:5; Psalm 19:1; Acts 16:31; Romans 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 15:51f; 2 Corinthians 5:7; 1 Peter 1:3-9; 2 Peter 1:13; Hebrews 11:14, 16.

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