

Some Things We'll Never Do In Heaven

Text : **Rev. 21: 1-27**

INTRODUCTION :

A. Have you ever thought about what Heaven will be like ?

1. Day after day we strive to go there, but do we really comprehend what Heaven is ?
2. One man told me he hadn't thought that much about Heaven, but he knew he didn't want to go to Hell.

B. We don't have the ability to fully understand Heaven.

1. Man's ability to understand is limited by his life experience and knowledge.
2. God is forced to use figurative language to communicate what man cannot grasp.
 - a. The streets are not literally made of gold. ... The city is wanting for nothing.
 - b. It doesn't literally have walls and gates of pearl. - It's completely secure & splendor.

C. One way to further our understanding is to observe some things we now experience in life on earth that have been eliminated from life in Heaven.

1. Our lesson will demonstrate to us that Heaven is a totally different existence, not just an improved version of life on earth.
2. As we see the vastly superior quality of life with God in Heaven, we'll be motivated to further concentrate our efforts to insure that we and those we love will dwell there.

I. In Heaven we'll never turn on a light switch.

A. Rev. 21: 23- And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

B. On earth we :

1. Pay for electricity to light our homes, work places, streets, etc.
2. Getting the correct lighting is a perennial problem. (**fried eyes**)
3. Defects in wiring, switches, etc. burn down houses.

C. In Heaven, the very presence of God will be a constant source of perfect light.

II. In Heaven we'll never have to lock our doors.

- A. **Rev. 21: 27-** and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.
- B. Do you lock the doors on your house, your car, your shed, your ...?
- We all do; it's a necessity.

ill. - My wife grew up in a third world country; she's obsessed with locks.
 - Saying, "*Locks only keep honest people honest.*" A true thief can get past any lock.
- C. Jesus warned us about laying up treasures on the earth :
- Matt 6: 19-** Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. **20-** But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; **21-** for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Place both heart and treasure in Heaven)
- Our great reward in Heaven will be secure from thieves. (**Luke 6: 23, 35**)
 - Rev. 21: 25-** In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;
 - All of Heaven will be secure. (**There will be no need to fear ... no evil.**)
 - No police are needed. (**unlike this wicked society in which we now live**)
 - There will be no need for locks on our mansion.
- D. There will be NO evil people there. (**Only those whose names are written ...**)
- There is no such thing as a bad neighbor in Heaven.
 - Never be afraid to go anywhere.

Rev. 21: 8- But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

ill. - Imagine what it will be like to watch the news there. (no murder, rape, ..)

III. In Heaven we'll never be tempted to do evil of any kind.

- A. On earth we live as "**aliens and strangers.**" (**constantly being tempted**)
- The Apostle Peter warned us to maintain our status as aliens in the world.

I Pet. 2: 11- Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. **12-** Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that ... (**resist social pressure - different**)

2. The Apostle Paul warned us not to be pressured into conforming to the world.
Rom. 12: 2- And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.
3. Jesus prayed that we would be able to stand in the world. (without being assimilated)
John 17: 14- I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **15-** I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. **16-** They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **17-** Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. **18-** As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

B. Our sojourn on this earth is a constant struggle against it's evil influences.

1. We war against the evil ruler of this world. (**Against the devil ... the accuser**)
 - a. **Eph. 2: 2 -cf- 6: 10-17**
 - b. **Luke 4: 6 -cf- I John 5: 19**
 - c. **I Pet. 5: 8** ... Satan is ever seeking an occasion to destroy the Christian's faith.
2. Our struggle is ONLY while we're on this earth.
 - a. While we are on the earth, we are in a body prepared for the earth.
ill. - In space Astronauts must wear a special suit to enable space walks.
 - b. Even when the spirit is willing and strong, the flesh is weak. **Rm 7:14f -cf- Mk 14:38**
3. Satan tempts the weakness of our flesh. ... **James 1: 13-15** (**flesh is battleground**)

C. Temptations will not be possible in Heaven :

1. We will be in a different kind of body, one that does not have earthly cravings.
 - a. **II Cor. 5: 1-10**
 - b. **I Cor. 15: 35-49**
 - c. As our present body was prepared to live on earth, so our eternal body is **for** Heaven.
It will not be subject to lusts.
2. Neither the devil nor any of his followers will be there to tempt us. (**Rev. 21: 8**)
 - a. Satan will be bound away from Heaven in a place prepared for him and his followers
 - b. Only the righteous will be in Heaven.

* **What a glorious thought ... to be able to relax and enjoy eternal peace.**

IV. In Heaven we'll never shed tears.

- A. **Rev. 21: 4-** and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.
1. I love that old song, "*Not Tears In Heaven Fair.*"
 2. None of the reasons for tears will exist in Heaven. (**new Heaven & earth not effected**)
- B. **God will have removed all reasons for tears. (All have "passed away."**)
1. There will be no evil people there to inflict pain on the innocent.
 - a. Grief, pain, suffering, and death are consequences of sin.
 - b. Wars, conflicts, strife, envy, jealousy, etc. are all the result / the fruit of sin.
 - * **For the first time since Eden, we'll live without of consequences of sin.**
 2. There'll be no pain there.
 - a. Our heavenly mansion will have no medicine cabinet. **WHY ? There's NO pain.**
 - b. No pain because all of the consequences of sin are absent from our heavenly home.
 - * **Won't it be great to get up in the morning without stiff, achy joints ?**
 3. There'll be no physical degeneration in Heaven. (**no one gets old - 10k yrs. young**)
 - a. This earthly body is a temporary shelter for a brief sojourn on earth.
 - b. Our heavenly body does not break down, wear out, or grow old.
 - * **There'll be no senior citizen's ministries in Heaven or even AARP.**
 4. There'll never be a funeral in Heaven because no one will ever die in Heaven.
 - a. Thus, there will never be cause for grief or mourning in Heaven.
 - b. As Christ **IS** so will we **BE ... eternal existence ... no days, years, millennia, etc**
 - * **When we get to Heaven, we'll live forever ... eternity is outside of time.**
 (*Time is a scale to measure a finite commodity. Eternity is infinite.*)

V. In Heaven we'll never have to attend a wedding :

- A. **There will be no marriage in Heaven.**
- Luke 20: 34-** Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage,
35- but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage;
36- for they cannot even die anymore, because they are like angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.

B. The entire population of Heaven will be born before anyone goes there.

1. All those who will enter Heaven “**must be born again.**” ... **John 3: 3f**
2. All those who are born again have a place prepared for them in Heaven. .. **I Pet 1:3ff**
3. All those who have been born again are imperishable / eternal. ... **I Pet. 1: 23**

C. Marriage is about procreation, about maintaining population.

1. Since people don't die in Heaven, there is no need to procreate.
2. All of the temptations and sins related to procreation will be gone.
 - a. No lust of the flesh
 - b. No fornication
 - c. No jealousy

D. Won't it be great to live in a place where all that thought and energy goes into a love that is not defined by a physical act !!

1. It will be a place of total love.
 - a. God is there .. and His very essence is love.
 - b. Only those who have conformed to His image, **i.e.**, learned how to love will be there.
 - c. All unloving people will be kept out along with Satan and his minions. (**no influence**)
2. Everyone will love everyone else, but there will be no rivalry, no jealousy, no lust, etc.

CONCLUSION :**A. Heaven is the winner's circle. (Are you going to be in it ?)**

1. Heaven is for the overcomers. (**ALL overcomers ... NOT just one.**)
 - a. **Rev. 21: 4-** He who overcomes will inherit these things,
and I will be his God and he will be My son.
 - b. **Rev. 2: 7-** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.
To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which
is in the Paradise of God.
2. All that is required to overcome is to never surrender.
 - a. **Rev. 2: 10b-** Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
 - b. Cf. **II Tim. 4: 6-8** (**Just stay in the winner's circle until the end.**)

**B. The question is ... are you in the faith ? (in the winner's circle ??)
... only those who remain in the faith can live in Heaven****INVITATION :**