











- 1  **“Are Your Ideas About Heaven Biblical?”**
- 2  **Something is drastically wrong with the attitude today’s Christians have toward Heaven**
- 3  **This is dangerous!!!**
 - **Because our generation has lost its direction and wandered into a wilderness of empty and unfulfilling substitutes**
 - **Because life is too short to become distracted and to waste years on matters which have no eternal significance!**
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- 5  **The history of all civilizations demonstrate a sense that there is something beyond death**
 - **Randy Alcorn** said: “... the unifying testimony of the human heart throughout history is belief in life after death. Anthropological evidence suggests that every culture has a God-given, innate sense of the eternal - that this world is not all there is.”
 - The early Finns
 - Mexicans, Peruvians, and Polynesians
 - Native Americans
 - The ancient Babylonians
 - The Egyptians
 - The Romans
 - **Eccl. 3:11** God has “*set eternity in the hearts of men.*”
- 6  **Ways people think about heaven**
 - “When I was a boy, the thought of Heaven used to frighten me more than the thought of Hell. I pictured Heaven as a place where time would be perpetual Sundays, with perpetual services from which there would be no escape.” - **David Lloyd George**
 - “Nearly every Christian I have spoken with has some idea that eternity is an unending church service ... We have settled on an image of the never-ending sing-along in the sky, one great hymn after another, forever and ever, amen. And our heart sinks. *Forever and ever? That's it? That's the good news?* And then we sigh and feel guilty that we are not more 'spiritual.' We lose heart, and we turn once more to the present to find what life we can.” - **John Eldridge**
 - “Whenever I think of Heaven, it makes me depressed. I'd rather just cease to exist when I die.” ...“I can't stand the thought of that endless tedium. To float around in the clouds with nothing to do but strum a harp... it's all too terribly boring. Heaven doesn't sound much better than Hell. I'd rather be annihilated than spend eternity in a place like that.” - A pastor quoted by Randy Alcorn
- 7  **Satanic opposition to this doctrine**
 - The satanic beast “... opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven.” - Rev. 13:6
 - **WHY would Satan be so anxious to do this?**
 - **Isa. 14:12-15** Remember, Satan himself was forcibly expelled from heaven!
 - “**When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.**” - **John 8:44**
 - “Satan need not convince us that Heaven doesn't exist. He need only convince us that Heaven is a place of boring, unearthly existence. If we believe that lie, we'll be robbed of our joy and anticipation, we'll set our minds on this life and not the next, and we won't be motivated to share our faith.”- Randy Alcorn
- 8  **Some insights about heaven we want to consider in future studies in this series**
 - “Trying to develop an appetite for a disembodied existence in a nonphysical Heaven is like trying to develop an appetite for gravel.” ... “We do not desire to eat gravel. Why? Because God did not design us to eat gravel.”- **Randy Alcorn**
 - “God will not completely destroy the physical world (which would be an acknowledgment that sin had frustrated and defeated God's purposes), but rather He will perfect the entire creation and bring it into harmony with the purposes for which He originally created it. Therefore we can expect that in the new heavens and new earth there will be a fully perfect earth that is once again 'very good.' And we can expect that we will have physical bodies that will once again be 'very good' in God's sight, and that will function to fulfill the purposes for which He originally placed man on earth.”- **Wayne Grudem**
 - “All our explorations and adventures and projects in the eternal Heaven - and I believe there will be many - will pale in comparison to the wonder of seeing God. Yet everything else we do will help us to see God better, to know Him and worship Him better.” - **Randy Alcorn**
- 9  **What is Heaven?**
 - **Heaven is a place!!!**
 - **Heaven is the place where nearly everything that is dear to us is located! - John MacArthur**
 - **Heaven is the abode of God!**
 - **The resurrected and ascended Christ, our Savior, is in Heaven**
 - **All of our brothers and sisters in the Lord who have gone on [both Old Testament and New Testament saints] are located in heaven!**
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- ***“to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect” - Heb. 12:23***
- **Luke 10:20 - *“do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”***
- **Phil. 3:20** says “our citizenship is in heaven”
- **Eph. 1:14** speaks of a guaranteed inheritance which the Christian has waiting for him in Heaven.
- **Matt. 5:12** - In the Sermon on the Mount, **Jesus spoke of an eternal reward in Heaven**
- **Matt. 6:19-21** - Jesus speaks of the only treasure we’ll ever possess forever, which is in Heaven!

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Where is Heaven?

- **Heaven is “UP”!!!**
- **II Cor. 12:2** - The Apostle Paul speaks of how he was “**caught up to the third heaven.**”
- **Psa. 33:13-14** - ***“From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind ...”***
- **Acts 1:11** - ***“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”***
- **Eph. 4:8-10** - ***“it [Psa. 68:18] says: When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men. (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)***

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Where is Heaven?

- **I Thess. 4:16-17** - ***“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.”***
- **Rev. 4:1** - A voice from Heaven spoke to John and said: ***“Come up here , and I will show you what must take place after this ...***