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Observation #3 - The soul that goes to heaven is no longer capable of sinning.

Romans 6:23 says that the wages of sin is death and since there is no more death in heaven, there is no more sinning in heaven. When we get to heaven, we will be completely clothed with the full righteousness of Jesus Christ (II Cor. 5:21). Once one is in heaven there is no more chance to sin and there is no chance of eviction from heaven.

Jonathon Edwards said, “Even the very best of men, are, on earth, imperfect. But it is not so in heaven. There shall be no pollution or deformity or offensive defect of any kind, seen in any person or thing; but every one shall be perfectly pure and perfectly lovely in heaven” (*Heaven, A World of Love*, p. 16).

In heaven we will not be able to be tempted to do something sinful because nothing sinful is there. Satan won't have any access to this place plus no one in heaven will ever think God is withholding something good from them so they need to seek some new experience. Our hearts and minds will be pure. One writer said, “Our greatest deliverance in Heaven will be from ourselves. Our deceit, corruption, self-righteousness, self-sufficiency, hypocrisy—all will be forever gone” (Randy Alcorn, *Heaven*, pp. 314-315).

Observation #4 - The soul that goes to heaven does worship God. Rev. 4:10; 5:9-12; 7:9-10

There can be little doubt that God's people in heaven do worship God. The Psalms are filled with passages of Scripture that teach God's people will praise God forever and ever (i.e. Psalm 145:21). Many Psalms speak of this—Ps.29:2; 95:6; 96:9). The last six Psalms of the book of Psalms indicate there will be praise and worship services that will feature all people praising and worshipping God and singing praises to Him. We may assume that even though much of this occurs when Christ reigns on earth, this is certainly part of a heavenly existence. The passion to want to worship God is certainly greater in heaven than it was on earth and we know we have a desire to worship God while here on earth.

It is a true observation that we may make that as people increase in their knowledge of God, they have a desire to worship and praise God. Certainly this will be at a much higher level in heaven because our knowledge level will be much greater than it is now. All there will want to worship God.

Observation #5 - The soul that goes to heaven does serve God. **Rev.7:15; 22:3**

Now we know from certain texts that part of service will involve judging angels (I Cor. 6:1-3). We are not sure all that is involved here, but clearly heaven will be a place of service.

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It is interesting that in Revelation the word “servant” is a word frequently used (1:1; 7:3; 10:7; 11:18; 15:3; 19:5; 22:3, 6).

Now typically the servant and service concept is applicable to the believer while on earth and by being a faithful servant, one is able to earn rewards and lay up treasures in heaven. However, there is no doubt that the idea of serving after one is in the presence of the Lord is clearly taught (Matt. 24:45-46; 25:14, 19, 21, 23). So service is something that does have eternal realities.

Now the word “serve” used in Revelation 7:15, is *latreuo* and it refers to ministerial service. This is the kind of service that is carried out in the house of God, in the Temple or in the Church (G. Abbott-Smith, *Greek Lexicon*, p. 265).

However, we do not think one can limit the service to just the temple and worship in heaven. Dr. N. A. Woychuck wrote: “Many Christians have the dwarfed idea that heaven is a place where religious services go on all the time, where we shall play harps and join voices with the angels in praise to God. Doubtless there will be many such scenes in heaven too. But we are led to believe from Scripture that the entire life in heaven consists of more than adoration. Simply because Christians on earth meet for worship and enjoy the house of prayer is no proof that heaven will be just that but no more. We could hardly want to go to a place where the whole time was spent in golden pews, with the sound of the organ and choir around us constantly. Of a certainty we will witness such things in heaven and ourselves participate in them, nevertheless the eternal life in heaven consists of many phases and so it is not fitting to conceive of heaven in any such circumscribed fashion” (*Life In Heaven*, Bibliotheca Sacra, April-June, 1950, p. 235).

Certainly part of our service in heaven will include worship, but that is not all it includes. There is no doubt that believers in heaven will be involved in some form of service ministry. It will be service that will be free from any care, toil, threat, hardship, fatigue and labor.

William Hendriksen made a good point when he said we can infer from I Corinthians 15:40-41 that we will serve in heaven. He said angels do not have physical bodies and serve God in a variety of ways and we will as well (*The Bible On The Life Hereafter*, p. 60).

Observation #6 - The soul that goes to heaven does know, fellowship and visit with other people.

One of the great hopes that believers have is the hope of seeing each other again on the other side of the grave. This hope is perfectly consistent with Scripture.

In **Luke 13:28**, we learn that those who have believed on Jesus Christ actually have the privilege of fellowshiping with people like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the prophets. From **Luke 16:19-31** we see that there was recognition in eternity of those who were known. In **I Corinthians 13:12** we can conclude that everyone in heaven will fully and accurately know everyone else.

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In **I Thessalonians 2:19-20** it is clear that Paul knew we would know each other in heaven. In **I Thessalonians 4:17** we learn that the Rapture reunites family members. In **Hebrews 13:17** we learn that there is some form of church reunion that takes place in heaven, probably at the Bema Seat Judgment. People who went to the same church would know each other.

Now all of these passages lead us to the conclusion that we do know each other in heaven and we certainly will talk with each other. We are not going to see someone in heaven and cross the street and refuse to visit with them because we are all in a state of perfection.

Observation #7 - The soul that goes to heaven will continue to learn new things.

Heaven will be the ultimate place of learning. Jonathon Edwards said, “the saints will be progressive in knowledge to all eternity.” “The number of ideas of the saints shall increase to eternity” (Cited from Randy Alcorn, *Heaven*, p. 319). We may easily prove this from several passages of Scripture, but we will just observe 10 passages:

1) Luke 15:7

Obviously there is rejoicing in heaven over a sinner who gets right with God, which means something new was learned in heaven specifically—a new sinner just got right with God.

2) I Corinthians 2:9

Obviously if it hasn't yet entered into a man's heart and mind “all that God has prepared for those who love Him,” we may conclude that there are some new things we are going to learn in our hearts and minds once we are out of this world.

3) II Corinthians 5:8

The moment a believer leaves the body he is at home with the Lord. Now that moment is not like any other moment the believer has experienced. This moment when one leaves the body and is in the presence of Jesus Christ is obviously a new experience. Obviously just that moment is a new learning experience.

4) Ephesians 2:6-7

Jesus Christ intends to show us new things about grace in the ages to come. That certainly means we will learn new things.

5) I Thessalonians 4:17

Let us say that we do not die but are raptured and caught up to meet the Lord in the clouds. We would have to admit we never had this happen before. There will be a lot to see and learn and experience concerning just this moment.