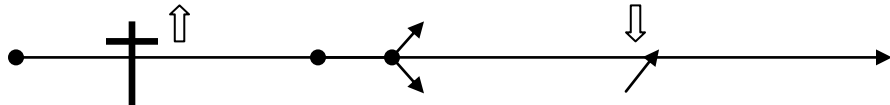


# “The Christian Theology Of Heaven”

## He Who Raised The Lord Jesus Will Raise Us Also

2 Corinthians 4:8-5:10 (16D, 121C)

In the Roman Catacombs beneath Rome lie a myriad of Christian martyr graves dating from the earliest of Christian persecutions. They contain inscriptions such as these: ‘In Christ, Alexander is not dead but lives,’ or ‘One who lives with God,’ or ‘He was taken up to his eternal home.’ Today let us remember that for true believers *Jesus is the Person, and Heaven is the Place* as we explore the Bible’s teaching on this most important subject. Appropriately the resurrection of the Christ for your own life of hope and peace!



### I. \_\_\_\_\_: The Bible and the \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Study the \_\_\_\_\_ things, where the kingdom is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\*.
2. Root your thinking about the future in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (v 14).
3. Ask God to help you see the \_\_\_\_\_ with your redeemed mind and \_\_\_\_\_.\*\*

### II. Our eternal \_\_\_\_\_ as we anticipate the \_\_\_\_\_ Heaven.\*\*

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ state is where God’s people go when they \_\_\_\_\_ (v 8, 1 Th. 4:13).
2. At physical \_\_\_\_\_, regenerated souls go to \_\_\_\_\_ (Ec, 12:7; Lu. 23:43)
3. The physical part of us “\_\_\_\_\_” while the spiritual part of us relocates to \_\_\_\_\_ existence with Christ in Heaven (Dan. 12:2-3; 2 Cor. 5:8).

### III. Settled \_\_\_\_\_ of the “new \_\_\_\_\_ and new \_\_\_\_\_.” (2 Pe. 3:13)

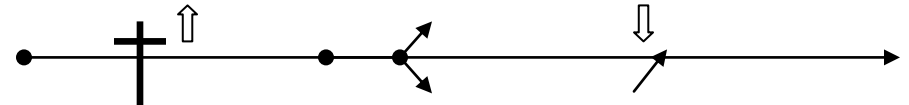
1. Do not redefine the \_\_\_\_\_ where Jesus promises to \_\_\_\_\_ us (Jn. 14:2-3).\*\*\*\*
2. \_\_\_\_\_, Restoration, \_\_\_\_\_ await (Mt. 19:28, Acts 3:21, Lu. 2:38).
3. Don’t turn away at the \_\_\_\_\_, understand your soul’s \_\_\_\_\_, “not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed” (v 4) in our physical, glorified bodies to dwell \_\_\_\_\_ on the New \_\_\_\_\_ (Is. 68:15; Re. 21:1)!

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## Quotes About Heaven

### He Who Raised The Lord Jesus Will Raise Us Also

\* “When believers die their souls go immediately to be with Christ. Paul wanted to ‘depart and be with Christ, which is far better’ (Phil. 1:23). The Savior himself said to the dying thief, ‘Today you will be with me in Paradise’ (Luke 23:43) and this is precisely what happens to every Christian at death. Conversely, when an unbeliever dies, he goes to be with Satan, which is far worse. As he passes from this earth, the devil whispers gloatingly, ‘Today you will be with me in hell.’ No other possibilities exist. Our souls will be with Christ or with Satan ... this is why the gospel is so urgent. That is why God call on us to believe today, for once we die it is too late. The soul is, at that moment, irrevocably lost, awaiting only it reunion with the doomed body at the last day.”

*Biblical Teaching On The Doctrines Of Heaven And Hell*  
Edward Donnelly

\*\* “At the center of our consideration of cosmic eschatology is the Second Coming of Christ. Christ has come to inaugurate his kingdom, but he is coming *again* to usher in the consummation of that kingdom. Though the kingdom of God is present in one sense, it is future in another. We now live between two comings ... the faith of the New Testament church is dominated by this expectation. Every book points us to the return of Christ and urges us to live in such a way as to be always ready for that return.”

*The Bible And The Future*  
Anthony A. Hoekema

\*\*\* When a Christian dies, he or she enters into what is referred to in theology as the intermediate state, a transitional period between our past lives on Earth and a future resurrection to life on the New Earth. Usually, when we refer to “Heaven,” we mean the place that Christians go when they die. This is what I am calling the *present* or intermediate Heaven. When we tell our children “Grandma’s now in Heaven,” we’re referring to the present Heaven. But by definition, an intermediate state or location is *temporary* (p. 41).

*Heaven* by Randy Alcorn

\*\*\*\* Once we understand that Christ’s resurrection is the proto-type for the resurrection of mankind and the earth, we realize that Scripture has given us an interpretive key to understanding human resurrection and life on the New Earth. Shouldn’t we interpret passages alluding to resurrected people living on the New Earth as literally as those concerning Christ’s resurrected life during the forty days he walked on the old Earth?

*50 Days Of Heaven* by Randy Alcorn

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# “Living In Light Of Heaven”

## 15 Practical Lessons From 1 Corinthians 15

1 Corinthians 15 (49A, 73C)

“Jesus promised that he was going to prepare a place for us, a place where we will live with him forever. The Heaven we go to when we die is part of what he has prepared, but it is not our final destination, just as the airport where we wait for a flight is part of our trip but not part of our destination. Where we’re really going, the location of our eternal home, is the New Earth” (50 Days of Heaven, 276). The Apostle meditates upon our entrance into this glorious estate, giving us solid foundations upon which to build our understanding. Here are 15 practical lessons for those bound for the Eternal Heaven!

1. The truth of the Gospel ought to inform us in our \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thess. 4:13).
2. Jesus’ resurrection is the \_\_\_\_\_ of a massive harvest (1 Co. 15:20, 23).
3. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to the apostles so their teaching about \_\_\_\_\_ is true (Acts 1:3).
4. The resurrection of Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christian \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:32).
5. We can visit \_\_\_\_\_ understanding “fallen \_\_\_\_\_” (Mt. 27:52; Jn. 11; 1 Th. 4:14).
6. The one who is “The \_\_\_\_\_” (Jn. 14:6) is intent on \_\_\_\_\_ unbelieving rebellion.
7. We ought to meditate upon Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_ and the new \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 19:28).
8. Consider carefully the \_\_\_\_\_ that reanimated Jesus & will reanimate \_\_\_\_ (Ro. 8:11).
9. Learn to \_\_\_\_\_ your present fallen body with your future \_\_\_\_\_ body .
10. Submit your heart and body to the \_\_\_\_\_ decreed by the Lord (John 12:24-26).
11. Ponder your share with the “man of \_\_\_\_\_” and the “man of \_\_\_\_\_” (Ro. 5:12-21).
12. Be like the detective who \_\_\_\_\_ in order to decode this mystery.
13. Not every Christian will die before the Second Coming, but each will be \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Plan for the day when the death of death in the death of Christ will be your \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Hear the direct exhortation to \_\_\_\_\_ in Gospel living, and \_\_\_\_\_ to do it.

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## Quotes About Heaven II

### In The Lord Your Labor Is Not In Vain

“I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death; I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside; I must make it the main object of life to press on to that other country and to help others do the same.

C. S. Lewis

“We are to believe that, at the Last Day, there shall be a general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust: when they that are then found alive shall in a moment be changed; and the selfsame bodies of the dead which are laid in the grave, being then again united to their souls forever, shall be raised up by the power of Christ. The bodies of the just, by the Spirit of Christ, and by virtue of his resurrection as their Head, shall be raised in power, spiritual, and incorruptible, and made like to his glorious body: and the bodies of the wicked shall be raised up in dishonor by his as an offended judge.”

*Westminster Larger Catechism #87*

“If Heaven is truly our home, we should expect it to have the qualities we associate with home. *Home* as a term for Heaven isn’t simply a metaphor. It describes an actual, physical place – a place promised and built by our bridegroom; a place we’ll share with loved ones; a place of familiarity and comfort and refuge; a place of marvelous smells and tastes, fine food, and great conversation; a place of contemplation and interaction and expressing the gifts and passions that God has given us. It’ll be a place of unprecedented freedom and adventure. The unbiblical stereotypes of Heaven of Heaven as a vague, incorporeal existence hurt us far more than we realize. Among other things, they diminish our anticipation of Heaven and keep us from believing it is truly our home.”

*Heaven by Randy Alcorn, 457*

“When I meditate on Jesus and my future in Heaven, sin is unappealing. It’s when my mind drifts from that person and that place that sin seems attractive. Thinking of Heaven leads inevitably to pursuing holiness. Our high tolerance for sin testifies to our failure to prepare for Heaven ... When we realize the pleasures that await us in God’s presence, we can forgo lesser pleasures now. When we realize the possessions that await us in Heaven, we will gladly give away possessions on the Earth to store up treasures in Heaven. When we realize the power offered to us as rulers in God’s Kingdom, a power we could not handle now but will handle with benevolence then, we can forgo the pursuit of power here. Following Christ is a call not to *abstain* from gratification but (sometimes) to *delay* gratification. More to the point, it’s a call to *pursue* the gratification that will last. It’s finding our joy in Christ, rather than seeking joy in the things of this world.”

*50 Days Of Heaven by Randy Alcorn, 269-270*

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