

**QUESTION #31** – Will we have any privacy in heaven?

There are some people who think heaven will be a big eternal commune in which we all live together. Those who hold to this view believe that heaven will be a place of total “communal living” with absolutely no privacy.

But upon close examination of the Bible, we do not believe this to be the case. It appears from various passages that there will be some form of privacy and private ownership for the people of God. Randy Alcorn said, “Heaven isn’t a socialist utopia in which private ownership is evil. Materialism, greed, envy and selfishness are sins; ownership is not” (*Heaven*, p. 370).

In Luke 16:9 there appears to be private eternal dwelling places that one may or may not be permitted to enter.

If Jesus prepares a place for each believer, it would appear as though there would be some privacy for every single believer (John 14:3).

In Isaiah 65:15 we learn that God’s servants will have a new name in eternity. This would certainly lead us to conclude that each person is an individual person and not just part of a communal existence.

In Revelation 2:17, Jesus says that He will specifically give to every N.T. believer “a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.” Now that clearly indicates that there is some form of privacy that exists between God and the individual in eternity.

In Daniel 12:13, God tells Daniel that ultimately he will rise again to receive “your allotted portion.” What that means is there will be a specific allotment to Daniel that will be his. It will not be ours; it will be his. What that would mean is that it will be his private allotment.

**QUESTION #32** – What will our bodies be like in heaven?

Most people think when they get to heaven they will have a body that is healthy, fit and beautiful. Many believe they will have a body of bulging muscles, a sculptured physique and a model perfection that includes a gorgeous dark tan.

But from the Scriptures we may learn some things that are interesting:

**Observation #1** - Bodies will have a natural beauty without any cosmetic touch-ups.  
Esther 2:12, 15

Esther was the most beautiful woman of God in existence and she did not use any cosmetic touchups. We may assume that this will be true in eternity. All will have a God-given natural beauty.

**Observation #2** - Bodies will contain racial and ethnic identities. Rev. 5:9; 7:9

It would appear from these glimpses we get of those in heaven that there are ethnic divisions. In Revelation 5:9, people from “every tribe, language and nation” are there and they are recognizable. In Revelation 7:9 the same point is revealed. They may all be wearing white robes but they are not all white people. If God made each of us the color He made us, it stands to reason that we would maintain a resemblance of that in being ourselves.

**Observation #3** - Bodies will have the abilities to taste different tastes. Rev. 22:2

There are different fruits to eat in eternity, which means we have different abilities to taste the fruit or else there is no point to the difference.

**Observation #4** - Bodies will be like Christ’s, which means that we will be able to defy the normal laws of gravity and physics. John 20:19; Luke 24:31; Acts 1:9

Jesus was able to walk on water and go through doors without opening them, which defies the laws of physics and He was able to ascend up into heaven which defies the laws of gravity. We may assume that since our bodies will be like His, we, too, will have this privilege.

Now someone could argue what if you have this ability and just decide to show up in someone’s home unannounced. Remember heaven is a place of perfection and bad manners will be no more. No one will just show up somewhere unannounced. There will be respect for each other and for each other’s privacy. No one will ever use any heavenly ability that would embarrass or demean someone else.

**Observation #5** - Bodies will have a glorious shine to them. Matt. 13:43; Dan. 12:3; Luke 9:30-31

There is no doubt that our bodies will have a glorious shine to them.

**Observation #6** - Bodies may have different heights and forms. Luke 9:30-31

Obviously Moses and Elijah were not identical twins. They were both glorious, but they were not identical. We will be a perfect specimen of what God wants us to be.

**Observation #7** - Bodies will still have male and female gender.

Now many believed, based on Galatians 3:28 that those in heaven are genderless. But God created the genders. Jesus, who is now in heaven, is masculine. The twenty-four Elders in heaven are masculine (Rev. 4:10). The Bema Seat Judgment of every believer demands there be gender differences (Rom. 14:10; II Cor. 5:10). In fact, part of the differences in judgment are gender based (I Peter 3:1-7). A woman like Lydia, who was critical to Paul and the Philippian church, is honored as a woman. You will not see her in heaven as a transgender or androgynous being. You do not lose your gender at conversion nor do you lose it in heaven.

**Observation #8** - Bodies will wear clothes.

We get glimpses of people who are in heaven and they are wearing robes—Rev. 3:5; 6:11; 7:9  
In fact, glimpses we get of Jesus Christ also shows us that He wears a robe—Rev. 1:13; 19:13  
Now the white robes will certainly depict the righteousness we received from Jesus Christ.  
We do know that there are different colors of things in heaven because in Revelation 15:6, the  
angels are wearing “golden girdles” on their robes.

**Observation #9** - Bodies will have an age.

This is a major point of theological debate, how old will we appear to be in heaven? Would a  
child who dies be the same age as he died in heaven? Would a man or woman who dies at  
ninety, appear in perfect form as ninety?

Back in the A.D. 1200’s, there was a lot of “theological ink” given to this very topic and the  
consensus was a person reaches his or her peak age of perfection around age 30, so that in  
heaven all would be around age 30. Thomas Aquinas (A.D. 1225-1274) said he thought we  
would all appear at the age that Christ was crucified which is around age 33.

Now in the Millennium we do know that there will be age differences (Isaiah 11:6-8). There will  
be small children and even babies. This will be a very unique time period on earth in which  
Jesus Christ is reigning for 1000 years, fulfilling all the physical promises made to physical  
Israel.

We suspect that in heaven we will have a complete heavenly body that will be at its best. We  
know on earth that physically our bodies are at their best in our twenties and thirties. So it is  
very possible that this would be the age we would be in heaven.

**Observation #10** - Bodies will be capable of eating and drinking.

The heavenly concept of a future banquet clearly leads us to this conclusion (Is. 25:6; Luke  
14:15; Rev. 19:9). Paul said that our bodies will be transformed into being bodies like that of  
Jesus Christ (Philip. 3:21). Jesus ate and drank after He was raised from the dead (Luke 24:40-  
43; John 21:10-15).