



# Contemplating Heaven

## TROUBLING TIMES

Threat of a very contagious virus  
Many stores with empty shelves and limited quantities  
We are taking precautions because of the fear upon us

But we have a view for our long term goal because we are

## CONTEMPLATING HEAVEN

Let us sing this song - Sing to me of heaven

II peter 1:2-11 (NKJ)

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,  
3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through  
the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,  
4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through  
these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in  
the world through lust.

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue  
knowledge,

6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness,  
7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.

8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the  
knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that  
he was cleansed from his old sins.

10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if

you do these things you will never stumble;  
11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### **This is a promise from Peter for here and now as well as forever in heaven**

Philippians 3:17-21 (NKJ)

17 Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.  
18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:  
19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.  
20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,  
21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

### **Our citizenship is in Heaven**

We sometimes sing this song - This world is not my home

### **There are no travel restrictions in this home**

Revelation 21:3-7 (NKJ)

3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.  
4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”  
5 Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”  
6 And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.  
7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

## **John gives us a revelation - a vision of heaven**

### **Whoever overcomes shall inherit all things**

Let us sing this song - No tears in heaven

Revelation 21:10-27 (NKJ)

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

16 The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.

17 Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel.

18 The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald,

20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.

21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. The Glory of the New Jerusalem

22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.

25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there).

**26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.**

**27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.**

**This is an amazing picture of heaven "can you imagine?"**

**Is this real as described or a representation of heaven?**

**We wonder what heaven is about - we wonder, we hope for, we inspire for**

**We look forward to being surrounded by the glory of God**

**That's why Christians are calm in the face of a calamity like we are faced with today**

**Bruce Towar**

**Sunday Morning 03/15/2020**