

What Happens After We Die?

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Our final state – joy in heaven for believers or torment in hell for unbelievers – is permanent.

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II. Christians Go Immediately to Be with Jesus

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And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

And he [Jesus] said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

(Luke 23:42-43)

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- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 1 Corinthians 15:35-57

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IV. Christians will enjoy a perfect life in a perfect place for all eternity (Rev.21:1-8).

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A. The place we will enjoy (21:1-2).

Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind (Is.65:17).

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But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness (2 Pet.3:13).

For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

(Rom.8:20-21)

“If words mean anything, these words of Paul denote not the annihilation of the present material universe on the day of revelation, to be replaced by a universe completely new, but the transformation of the present universe so that it will fulfill the purpose for which God created it.”

– F.F. Bruce

v.3 - And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

B. The perfection we will enjoy (21:3-6a).

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v.4 - He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God (Lk.20:34-36)

“The new creation is not a time of lesser intimacy, but greater: intimacy with God and with other members of his body.

I have no doubt that we will share our gifts with one another to a degree unheard of today. We will no longer be suspicious or fearful or envious of one another, so we will share openly what we are, what we think, what we are able to do.

I don't know exactly what will replace sexual pleasure, but I know that our intimacy with God and with one another will be something greater and better than anything we know and enjoy on this earth – as everything will be.”

– John Frame

C. The people who will enjoy it (21:6b-7).

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1. The thirsty - *To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.*
(v.6b).

*As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
(Psalm 42:1-2)*

C. The people who will enjoy it (21:6b-7).

1. The thirsty - *To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.*

(v.6b).

2. The conquerors - *The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.* (v.7)

D. The people who will not experience it (21:8).

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But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.