

Small Group Study Guide

one minute *after you die*

The Glory of Heaven **Sept 1, 2019**

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we love You. Thank You for preparing a place in heaven for us. Thank You for sending Jesus as the way, the truth, and the life. Teach us to seek You and Your will on earth as it is in heaven. Help us to share the hope we have with others. We pray this in the matchless and powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 21:1-7

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 I heard a loud voice from the throne say, “Look! God’s dwelling is here with humankind. He will dwell with them, and they will be his peoples. God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. There will be no mourning, crying, or pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” 5 Then the one seated on the throne said, “Look! I’m making all things new.” He also said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” 6 Then he said to me, “All is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will freely give water from the life-giving spring. 7 Those who emerge victorious will inherit these things. I will be their God, and they will be my sons and daughters.

SCRIPTURE:

Philippians 3:19-20

19 Their lives end with destruction. Their god is their stomach, and they take pride in their disgrace because their thoughts focus on earthly things. 20 Our citizenship is in heaven. We look forward to a savior that comes from there—the Lord Jesus Christ.



INTRODUCTION

We all have questions about Heaven? What is it like? Who goes there? Will I see my loved ones? Will I see my pets? Unfortunately, along with all the questions come many misconceptions about heaven. So what does scripture actually tell us about heaven?

Heaven can be thought of as paradise restored. In the garden of Eden, God and humanity dwelt together. However, humanity was disobedient and paradise was lost. Heaven and earth now become two distinct places. The union of heaven and earth is what the story of the Bible is all about. When Christ returns, heaven and earth will be one again and those who put their faith in Christ will live there throughout eternity.

QUESTIONS

- 1) What do you think heaven will be like? What do you hope to experience when you first enter heaven?
- 2) Read Revelation 21:1-7 on page 1. How does this change or confirm what you believe about heaven?
- 3) How does your specific view of heaven change the way you live on earth?
- 4) Have you ever felt unsure of whether or not you're going to heaven? How have you worked through that?
- 5) Read Philippians 3:19-20 at the top of the page. What do you think it looks like to live believing your citizenship is in heaven?

FINAL APPLICATION

What actions will you take in response to this message series?