

February 3, 2026  
led by Mary Lowman

Last week we focused on the New Earth—what it will be like when the curse on the earth is lifted. There are so many aspects of Heaven to look forward to. What are some of them? What do you think will be the primary joy in Heaven?

### Revelation 22:1 – 4

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. <sup>4</sup>They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

Our resurrected bodies will have physical eyes, free from sin, or disease or death. We will be able to see like we've never seen before.

Jesus' brand will be etched on our foreheads for all to see!

We will see the face of God. Certainly the primary way we will see God is to see the face of Christ. "I don't pretend to understand how we will see the Father's face, but it seems that in some sense we will." (Heaven by Randy Alcorn, p. 174)

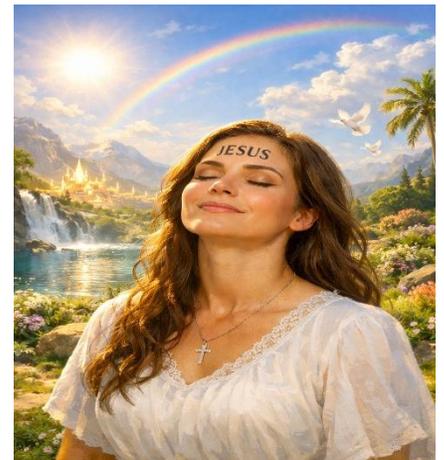
**Matthew 5:8:** *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

**Job 19:25 – 27:** *I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. <sup>26</sup>And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; <sup>27</sup>I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!*

The children of Israel were precisely **not** allowed to see God. God specifically told Moses he could not see his face.

### Exodus 33:18 – 23:

Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."<sup>19</sup> And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. <sup>20</sup>But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live."<sup>21</sup> Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. <sup>22</sup>When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup>Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."



**1 Timothy 6:15b - 16:** *God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.*

**Psalm 63:1:** *You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.*

God has put eternity in our hearts and God is the one we really long for. "Our longing for Heaven is a longing for God—a longing that involves not only our inner beings, but our bodies as well. Being with God is the heart and soul of Heaven. . . "God's greatest gift to us is, and always will be, himself." (Heaven by Randy Alcorn, p. 171)

**Hebrews 12:14:** *Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.*

In our resurrected bodies there will be no sin. We could never see his face except that we will be made holy by the blood of Jesus.

**1 John 3:2:** *Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.*

"Not only will we see his face and live, but we will likely wonder if we ever lived before we saw his face!" (Heaven by Randy Alcorn, p. 172)

**Hebrews 10:19-20:** *Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body.*

In Heaven he will welcome us to live in his presence as resurrected people with our sinless bodies and minds.

**Psalm 27:4:** *One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.*

Seeing Jesus is the same as seeing the Father.

**John 14:9:** *Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"*

No doubt we will spend eternity exploring and recognizing the beauty of Heaven.

**1 Timothy 6:17:** *Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.*

God richly provides; he is and always has been and always will be an extravagant God.

How has God been extravagant in your life?

God is a lavish, gracious giver.

**Romans 8:32:** *He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?*

**Matthew 7:9 – 11:** *Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup> Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? <sup>11</sup> If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!*

God gives us so many good things to enjoy on this earth. Imagine how much more wonderful the New Earth will be.

How do people today think about God—envision God?

All of our existence in Heaven, all of the joys of Heaven, will be secondary to the joy we will experience because we will be in the presence of the Triune God—and indeed we will enjoy him forever. We will never get tired of learning more and more about God. Jesus said:

*“Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” (John 17:3)*

Knowing God and Jesus is what Heaven is all about! There will be no unanswered questions in Heaven. All the answers are found in God our Father and his Son, Jesus Christ.

### **God Will Dwell Among Us**

**Genesis 3:8a:** *Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day.*

The curse on Eden, that perfect world, will be removed. And in the New Earth, God will again be with us.

**John 1:14:** *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John said he had seen the glory of Jesus when he dwelled among them on earth. But note what John said when he saw Jesus in Heaven:

**Revelation 1:17 - 18:** *When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.”*

We know Jesus now, but we haven't yet seen his full glory. And we will see it with our physical eyes—not just the eyes of our heart. Imagine!

God and his redeemed people will live together forever in the same home—the New Earth.

**Leviticus 26:11 – 12:** *I will put my dwelling place among you, and I will not abhor you. <sup>12</sup> I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.*

**2 Corinthians 6:16b:** *As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.”*

### **Ephesians 1:3 – 10:**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup> For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, <sup>9</sup> he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup> to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

## Heaven on Earth

**Revelation 21:3:** *And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.”*

Notice that it says *God himself* will be with them. Not some substitute.

“Thus, wherever we go in Heaven, we will be in the immediate presence of the full glory of God. . . Throughout all eternity, we will never be separated from direct, unhindered fellowship with God.” (Heaven by Randy Alcorn, p. 185)

We won’t need faith any longer. Our faith will be turned to sight. God will bring with him the New Jerusalem. It is a vast complex and could contain hundreds of millions of rooms—residences.

**Hebrews 11:16:** *Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.*

God has prepared a city for all the saints and prophets who came before Christ.

**Hebrews 11:13:** *All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.*

“All these people” were: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Esau, Moses’ parents, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets. These are the specific ones mentioned in Hebrews 11.

### Hebrews 11: 35b – 40:

There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— <sup>38</sup>the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.<sup>39</sup>These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

There will be no temple in the New Jerusalem.

**Revelation 21:22:** *I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.*

## Worship on the New Earth

When we worship on the New Earth, we’ll never have to repent! Because of Jesus, you will be sin-free like him forevermore.

**John 17:24:** *“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.”*



If the New Jerusalem were brought to our present earth, it would cover most of North America.

John Piper: “God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in him.”

“So, although we cannot conceive exactly how it could happen, I believe it’s entirely possible that Jesus could in the future remain a man while fully exercising the attributes of God, including, at least in some sense, omnipresence.” (Heaven by Randy Alcorn, p. 189)

If Jesus dwells within us now, we who are saints and yet sinners, how much more can he dwell with us in the New Earth where sin no longer comes between us.

“Might we walk with Jesus (not just spiritually, but also physically) while millions of others are also walking with him? Might we not be able to touch his hand or embrace him or spend a long afternoon privately conversing with him—not just with his spirit, but his whole person? It may defy logic, but God is capable of doing far more than we imagine.” (Heaven by Randy Alcorn, p. 190)

We are confident that we will have full, unhindered personal access to him.