



Revelation 21—part 4
Verse 4
From Sermon 5.19.19

Read *Revelation 21:4*

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: deep down, many Christians are tempted to give up, partly because we think heaven is so far away (time wise), because the devil has sold us on the comforts and joys of this world, and because the topic is neglected in the Church.

On Sunday, what was listed as three possible results of believing heaven is < earth? Discuss each.

1. We're Reluctant to Share our Faith.
2. We Place Unrealistic Expectations on this Life and the People in it.
See *John 16:33 & 1 Corinthians 13:12*
3. We can Fall Back into Old Life Patterns/Practices. See *2 Peter 1:3-11*

Can you think of any other possible consequences of a poor heaven doctrine? Various answers. We lose hope. Complacency. Poor/absent financial stewardship. Justify my sin and that of others. Become resentful of God for my situations and problems.

One of the great blessings of heaven will be reunions and introductions. Who are you looking forward to meeting for the first time? Who are you excited about seeing again? Various personal answers.

Read *1 Corinthians 2:9*. Since heaven is beyond our full comprehension, is it beneficial or detrimental to imagine what it will be like? It is beneficial when done in accordance with Scripture. If we weren't supposed to be contemplating it, Revelation 21 & 22 wouldn't be in the Bible. We don't want to make it our own opinion and wishes. We don't buy into the world's portrayal of heaven. We can take the joys, blessings, love, and peace that Christ alone gives us in this life and imagine it beyond measure.

From Sunday, what are some things that touched you, for the first time, that are absent in heaven? Various Personal Answers.

What will it be like to live in a place with no Pain? _____

No Crime? _____

No Death? _____

No Loss? _____ See *Matthew 6:19-20*

See also *Revelation 7:13-17*. Part of the curse is: food/water must be consumed for life and it spoils. Money must be spent daily, weekly, monthly...so we have to continually replace it = we have to work. Our bodies tire, break down, and feel pain...so we must devote time and resources to replenish and repair them & to protect ourselves. All that is gone in heaven. Discuss