"Stand up if you want to go to heaven!"

Heaven is a real place described in the Bible. The word "heaven" is found 276 times in the New Testament alone. We've learned that heaven and hell are prepared places for a prepared people!

Matthew 25:41 - Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons."

When I get to heaven, I will see three wonders there:

The <u>first wonder</u> will be to see many people there whom I did not expect to see.

The <u>second wonder</u> will be to miss many people whom I did expect to see.

The third and greatest of all will be to find myself there.

Some things about Heaven:

- 1. We will have a body
- 2. We get to have a social life
- 3. A life designed to fit us
- 4. A perfect life
- 5. An endless life
- 6. A God centered life
- 7. Paradise

1.We will have a body

We will be like Jesus

"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." 1 John 3:2

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all <u>sleep</u>, but we will all be <u>changed</u>." 1st Corinthians 15:51 And just as we have born the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from <u>heaven</u>. 1st Cor. 15:49

Jesus, after His resurrection, told them to touch Him and to watch Him eat, demonstrating that He was not merely a spirit. Luke 24:39 Jesus' resurrected body was capable of entering <u>locked rooms</u> at will (John 20:19). Our earthly body limits us in ways and dimensions that our spiritual body will not.

To summarize, we are not told exactly what we will look like in the next life, but many believe we will bear some <u>resemblance</u> to what we look like now.

2. We get to have Social Life

We won't have to log on to facebook in heaven...

Life in heaven is shown in the Bible to be in <u>relationship</u> with others.

A wedding feast (Rev 19:7), - It will be a time of being with friends and family. It will be a celebration. The perfect city (Heb. 13:14) What would a perfect city look like? No crime. No homelessness. No unemployment. No pollution.

No unrighteousness, no favoritism. Fairness and truth will be the norm. Goodness will be second nature. Morality will reign. Everyone there will be upright and honest.

3. A life designed to fit us

There will be activities in heaven designed to employ your highest capabilities. Matthew 25:14-30

New songs are to be written and sung. Rev 5:9

So, we will get to learn new things.

There'll be times of <u>service</u>. Rev 22:3

4. A perfect life

No one in heaven is a failure. In heaven, everyone is morally perfect.

We read in Hebrews 12:22-23, that the only people who dwell in heaven are the righteous who have been made perfect.

Everyone who lives in heaven possess a perfect knowledge.

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known (1 Corinthians 13:12).

5. An endless life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have <u>eternal life</u>" (John 3:16).

Eternal life is a <u>successful life</u> and a <u>fruitful life</u>. In John 10:10, Jesus says, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

6. A God centered life

Revelation 21:3...

- -God will live with us
- -We will live with God
- -We will be His people
- -God will be with us
- -He will be our God

What's heaven going to <u>look like</u>? 7. Paradise

Heaven will have a beauty beyond our imagination.

The best John could do to describe heaven was to say it was like an entire city of <u>transparent gold</u>.

He says: The walls of the new city are precious jewels. The gates are twelve single pearls. The city itself and its streets are <u>pure gold</u>, like transparent glass. Rev. 21

The whole city is <u>lighted</u> by the glory of God.

Crystal pure water of the river of life will flow from the throne of God to the tree of eternal life.

For the first time since the Garden of Eden, God's children may eat from the tree of life. (Genesis 3:22 and Revelation 2:7).

It will be worth it all, when we see Jesus.

Last verse: John 14:2-3, "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."