

Introduction: Why Study Heaven?

1. Our _____ are crippling us.

- Common misconceptions

- Predictable results

2. We're _____ to do so.

Colossians 3:1-4

3. A faulty view of heaven destines us to a _____ life on earth.

John 14:1-11

A Theology of Heaven

Definition – 3 uses of the word:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

The promise of heaven:

- It's a real, tangible, place John 14
- The Father is there Matthew 6:9
- Jesus is at His right hand Hebrews 9:24
- Believing loved ones are there Hebrews 12:23
- Our names are recorded there Luke 10:20
- We have an inheritance there 1 Peter 1:4
- Our citizenship is there Philippians 3:20
- Specific, eternal rewards given Matthew 6:9-21
- It's the best of earth...better Revelation 22
- Sin, death, and sorrow are absent Revelation 22
- Adventure, work, discovery and rulership await us Revelation 22

Heaven in historical context:

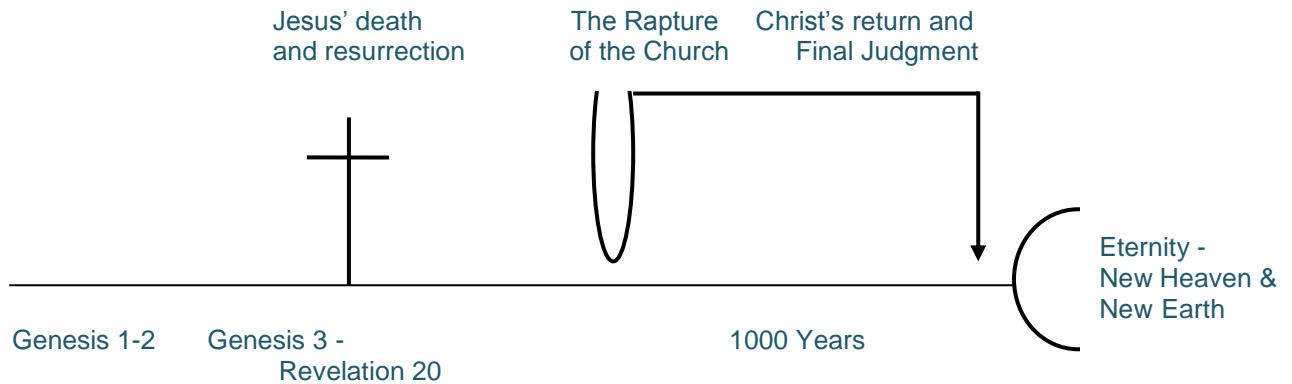
1. Past: Eden Genesis 1-2

2. Present: Intermediate Heaven Genesis 3- Revelation 20
Philippians 1:20-21
2 Corinthians 5:6

3. Future: New Heaven on New Earth Revelation 22

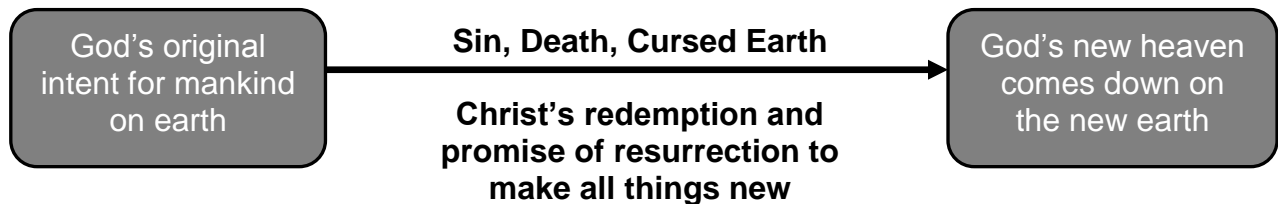
Understanding heaven requires a macroscopic view of _____
 and a microscopic view of God's _____ for His people.

Macro view of scripture:



Micro view of God's responses:

GOD	GOD	GOD	GOD
With man on perfect earth Genesis 1 & 2	Separated from man and a cursed earth Genesis 3 – Rev 20	With man on a temporary earth Revelation 20	With man on a perfect earth forever Revelation 21 & 22
JESUS	JESUS	JESUS	JESUS
In Theophany visits earth	The incarnate Savior and Redeemer	King of Kings	The Emmanuel forever



Summary: God _____ to be with His people!

An Accurate View of Heaven Provides...

- _____ in times of trouble 2 Corinthians 4

- _____ in times of temptation John 14

- _____ when under pressure Matthew 6

Application / Discussion Questions:

1. Prior to today's message, how would you rank your knowledge about heaven?

Minimal Expert

1 ————— 10

2. What did you learn today that shifted your view of heaven? It's importance? It's attractiveness?

3. What relationship do you see between overcoming challenges/temptations and one's view of heaven?

4. What are you facing today that requires perspective? Perseverance? Priorities?