



General Topics :: What happens to the saints after they die?

What happens to the saints after they die? - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/1/20 11:08

I've noticed that when loved ones pass on it is said that they have gone on to heaven. I'm not entirely sure of this, in fact I think not but I would like someone to clarify this for me. Is there any scriptural backing for this?

Re: What happens to the saints after they die? - posted by ZekeO (), on: 2005/1/20 11:18

Not so sure about heaven, but certainly with the Lord. Then again we will probably be outside of time when we die so we might have already not yet stood before the judgement seat :-?

Re: What happens to the saints after they die? - posted by hredii (), on: 2005/1/20 13:53

To be with the Lord is heaven to me.

Re: What happens to the saints after they die? - posted by jeremyhulsey (), on: 2005/1/20 14:04

According to 2Cor 5:8 to be absent from the body (i.e. dead) is to be present with the Lord. The Lord ascended to Heaven 40 days after His resurrection to be seated at the right hand of the Father. So I would say that yes when a saint dies he/she goes immediately to heaven.

A point to remember is that Heaven is not going to be our final destination. Instead it's eventually going to be the new heavens and the new earth where we will live with God in the New Jerusalem. Philo could elaborate this point more eloquently and probably more correctly than I could but the heaven that exists now is the throne of God and serves as a holding place for the departed saints until the judgment as I see it.

In Christ,
Jeremy Hulsey

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/1/20 14:14

Did we talk about this before? Here is a gentle starter. Heaven and how to get there

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/1/20 14:26

Quote:
-----*Jeremy posted:* A point to remember is that Heaven is not going to be our final destination. Instead it's eventually going to be the new heavens and the new earth where we will live with God in the New Jerusalem.

I wonder whether we might have bit of confusion here over the different ways the scripture uses the word 'heaven'. As mentioned in the little tract linked in the earlier posting; the scriptures use the word heaven for 3 different locations; the air above us, the starry heavens, and the heaven of heavens. I don't think **And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. (Rev 21:1 KJV)** is referring to the heaven of heavens.

If you want to make it more complicated something has already happened in the 'heaven of heavens'. (Heb 9:23) I can't see why that would need to be renewed now that it has been thoroughly purified?

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Re: - posted by jeremyhulsey (), on: 2005/1/20 14:47

Are the "new heavens and earth" new because they're being purified or is it because God is inaugurating a new age??

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/1/20 18:06

Quote:

-----Are the "new heavens and earth" new because they're being purified or is it because God is inaugurating a new age??

Jesus used the language of regeneration to describe this consummation of the ages. (Matt 19:28) I don't think the new h
eaven (singular) and earth need purifying. I think they are the replaced physical creation. They arrive only after the first
heaven and earth have passed away. (Rev 21:1) I don't see this new heaven and earth as process ie purifying but as an
instant creation.

The process of the 'passing away' is the melting of the elements (2 Pet 3:10). This is a final and absolute judgment rathe
r than a purifying process.

Re:, on: 2005/1/21 8:23

I think about this occasionally and I always think about that scripture that says something about those that are asleep in
Christ will rise first or something (may have to correct me as I am no theologian!) and I wonder if it means that if someon
e dies before Christ comes again then they will kind of be put on hold until that moment but that maybe to them, it may ju
st be like blinking.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/1/21 15:53

I haven't been involved in any discussion of this subject and I was curious. I will check out the link you sent in your post
and see what it says.
thanks

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/1/21 15:59

I read the scripture you sent and I was wondering if that referred to us wanting to be seated in heavenly places with God
in spirit as opposed to being in the body? Also the bible goes on to say that we all have to be judged by Him at some poi
nt so can we in death be in His presence and await judgement also?

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2005/1/21 16:15

very interesting and simple to understand indeed. I long to go there. What's next Philologos