

things i wonder about heaven

"but as it is written: 'eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.'  
1cor 2:9

i think about heaven a lot. so many people whom i love with all my heart are there and i miss them every day.

i wonder what they are doing and if they think about us. i wonder if my brother is jumping and running around since he was paralyzed at an early age and spent the end of his life in a wheelchair; a place i currently reside in also.

what will heaven be like? after all, in addition to loved ones in heaven, there are also uncounted millions of brothers and sisters of all races and tribes whom we have yet to meet. there are "myriads" of angels, and best of all, our wonderful Lord and Savior Himself. who would not want to go to heaven?

some have suggested they could eat all the sweets and dainties to their heart's content without gaining an ounce. ah, would that it be true.

joni erecockson tada has said that when she gets to heaven, the first thing she plans to do is ask Jesus to dance. (she's been a quadriplegic all her adult life.)

some more serious things i wonder about heaven include... who specifically will be there? will there be some unexpected ones? and so many people are

borderline, it seems to me, and i would find it impossible to decide whether they are true believers or not. i'm eternally grateful it's not up to me to decide! i hope everyone is in heaven, even though i know that's not going to happen. no one wants anyone to go to hell.

will we have the option of seeing a replay of our lives here on earth? and why would we want to? the point of allowing us to see the replay would be to show us: a) what God was doing behind the scenes, b) how He used the tiniest deeds and words and gifts to achieve His purposes, c) how even the sufferings and pain were all instruments in His hand, and d) a thousand other things we cannot even imagine. or would He not do that out of love and mercy? it's impossible to know.

will we have classes where the apostles fill us in on "the rest of the story?" i'd like that. perhaps heaven will be a time of sitting around discussing events from scripture with the actual characters and hearing their stories. and will there be history classes where the saints of the ages give their personal stories? oh, sign me up for as many of those as you can!

i want to hear the Lord's people of the early days, the middle ages, from the black plague years, those who came through the inquisition and experienced the reformation. boy, we imagine we have it hard. i'd love to sit at the feet of the godly ones who came through the fires of hitler's extermination camps and revel in their stories.

i reflect on these and think, "all of this and Jesus too!" no wonder they call it heaven. and through it all, i wonder how eternity will feel. i sometimes try to imagine endless time and limitless space. how could this be? it is almost frightening. imagine trying to explain the operation of computers to an ant. imagine you and me in the presence of the Creator of the vast reaches of the universe. some matters are so grand they exceed the capacity of small minds to grasp. in these and so many spiritual matters, we all stumble along with the understanding of infants. we see only through the glass darkly.

heaven is the culmination of everything we have hoped for and ever dreamed of. "we shall know as also we are known," 1 cor 13:12 we shall "see face to face." no one is deformed, unformed, partial or incomplete in heaven. it is the end of all the grief and pain we have known in this lifetime. no tears, no pain, no darkness, no wickedness, no devil, no death, and no bullying or competition. clearly, human language throws in the towel and admits that these things are indescribable. but still i wonder. i cannot help myself.

what i do not wonder about however – just so you will know – is whether i'm going there. i believe in the Lord Jesus and, "i am persuaded that He is able to keep that which i have committed unto Him until that day." 2 tim 1:12 i believe He is preparing that place even now. my only prayer: to take as many people with me as possible.

i worry about people who think because they have just

prayed a little prayer they're going to heaven. i worry about those who think because they belong to this church or that denomination they are automatically in. i worry about some who have no personal inner witness of God's Spirit that they are saved but go forward in the blind assurance that they are because some preacher or priest said they were.

get into the Word of God and read it. know for yourself. be persuaded as i am. if you have not already, i wonder if you will start on this journey with the rest of us today. and i wonder why anyone would choose to delay another second and chance missing out. second chances are a blessing but honestly, how many can one hope for? and are you on your second one already?