# Purpose In The Vine Ministry

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Study Guide

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Exegetical Study

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## **What the Bible Says About Heaven**

# What does the Bible say about heaven?

# Theme

 **Contained in the Bible are many overlooked facts, things that are written down as well as facts that are left unwritten. Without knowing the entire Bible, photographically, it is very difficult to find every scripture referencing heaven in all its writings. Religion has a way of modifying what the Bible says by simply making implications and taking all sorts of truths and modifying them to become half-truths or using passages from the word out of text. The structure of this study is to see exactly what the Bible says about heaven and understand the truths of heaven taught in the word. This will include word definition, textural definition, and exhaustive searching of all relative scriptures about heaven including synonyms, and examination of some common beliefs that are either false or true for the renewing of the truth of the Bible taught beliefs about Heaven. From time to time this study will be added to as well as taken away from as the truth is found piece by piece. This is the beginning searches.**

#### Introduction

 **To understand the topic of Heaven one must understand what the definition was at the given time of the scriptures used. The Old Testament view is somewhat different than that of the New Testament.**

**The Old Testament definitions of Heaven do not include the abode of God in the definitions of Heaven. It did include a more concise definition with use of other words and text in “the dwelling place of God”.**

**There is little or no promises of a place called Heaven for saints or eternal life listed in the writings of the Old Testament except in statements that are vague indications that there is a belief in the hearafter often using the word “forever”. The King James edition spells this out (for ever)**

**The New Testament has teachings by Jesus and a promise that there is reward and eternal life for those in Heaven, which follow the word of God the father and Jesus himself.**

**The New Testament has an overview of the last days and end times that were never explained in as much detail in the former covenant of God with Abraham.**

1. The Definitions of Heaven are found 313 times in Old and 237 times in the New Testament.

**There are three Old Testament definitions of heaven in the Strong’s concordance 8064, 8065 and 7834. There are three NT definitions, 3772, 3321, and 2032**

1. These are the three Old Testament Definitions:

**OT:7834 suggest clouds or fine dust,**

**OT:8064 shamayim (shaw-mah'-yim); dual of an unused singular shameh (shaw-meh'); from an unused root meaning to be lofty; the sky (as aloft; the dual perhaps alluding to the visible arch in which the clouds move, as well as to the higher ether where the celestial bodies revolve):**

**OT:8065 same as 8064**

1. There are four New Testament definitions for the word heaven.

**NT:3772 (through the idea of elevation); the sky; by extension, heaven (as the abode of God); by implication, happiness, power, eternity; specifically, the Gospel (Christianity):**

**KJV - air, heaven ([-ly]), sky.**

**3735 abode of God, power, eternity**

**3321 suggests mid sky or cloud height.**

**2032: above the sky, celestial, or high.**

1. **Synonyms speaking in place of the word Heaven**
2. **There are 8 instances of thy dwelling place speaking of God’s dwelling place in heaven in the Old Testament. The idea of a separate place called heaven from the other uses of heaven was only scantly used in the Old Testament.**

**OT:3427 & 8064 together give Old Testament references to a heavenly (high or lofty, or celestial) place of dwelling: heaven thy dwelling place: This is during prayer usually looking to God to hear from heaven. (1Kings 8:30,39,43, 49, 2Chronicles 6:21,30,33,39)**

 **3427 yashab (yaw-shab'); a primitive root; properly, to sit down (specifically as judge. in ambush, in quiet); by implication, to dwell, to remain; causatively, to settle, to marry: the**

**OT:8064 shamayim (shaw-mah'-yim); dual of an unused singular shameh (shaw-meh'); from an unused root meaning to be lofty; the sky (as aloft; the dual perhaps alluding to the visible arch in which the clouds move, as well as to the higher ether where the celestial bodies revolve):**

1. **Heaven of the heavens used 5 times in Old Testament which seems correlating the thought of a separate or segregated place called heaven from the heavens, sky or space above the earth or even the celestial space. (Deut 10:14, 1Kings 8:27, 2Chron 2:6, 2Chron 6:18, Ne 9:6)**
2. **God’s Holy habitation spoken of 4 times in the Old Testament. (Dt 26:15, Ps 68:5, Jer 25:30, Zec 2:13)**

**OT:6944 with OT: 4791 and OT:4583 defining a holy and elevated place of abode Speaking of a place above**

**OT:6944 qodesh (ko'-desh); from OT:6942; a sacred place or thing; rarely abstract, sanctity:**

**OT:4791 marowm (maw-rome'); from OT:7311; altitude, i.e. concretely (an elevated place), abstractly (elevation, figuratively (elation), or adverbially (aloft):**

**OT:4583 ma`own (maw-ohn'); or ma`iyn (1 Chron 4:41) (maw-een'); from the same as OT:5772; an abode, of God (the Tabernacle or the Temple), men (their home) or animals (their lair); hence, a retreat (asylum):**

1. **The Kingdom of heaven is used 32 times all in the New Testament. The kingdom definitions are: The definitions of (932 and 3772) together are found forming this term meaning the rule of God in his abode:**

**Kingdom - NT:932 basileia (bas-il-i'-ah); from NT:935; properly, royalty, i.e. (abstractly) rule, or (concretely) a realm (literally or figuratively):**

**Heaven - NT:3772 ouranos (oo-ran-os'); perhaps from the same as NT:3735 (through the idea of elevation); the sky; by extension, heaven (as the abode of God); by implication, happiness, power, eternity; specifically, the Gospel (Christianity):**

**. God is a spirit and his kingdom is spiritual as well as physical. One day all things that sin has affected will be renewed in the kingdom of earth. At that time the rule of God will not be to a few but to all. God’s patience and love has prevented him from forcing rule upon man at this time. A physical man cannot even see the kingdom of God until he is “born again”. (John 3:3) God will not rule man because of sin, for the kingdom of Heaven is the rule of God over all things in heaven. This is the reason man is most wretched even to himself. (Romans 7:22-25)**

1. **Kingdom of God - There are 69 matches for the Kingdom of God all found in the New Testament. The definitions of (932 and 2316) together are found forming this term meaning the rule or realm of God:**

Kingdom - NT:932 basileia (bas-il-i'-ah); from NT:935; properly, royalty, i.e. (abstractly) rule, or (concretely) a realm (literally or figuratively):

**God - NT:2316 theos (theh'-os); of uncertain affinity; a deity, especially (with NT:3588) the supreme Divinity; figuratively, a magistrate; by Hebraism, very:**

**Beulah OT:1166 ba`al (baw-al'); a primitive root; to be master; hence, (as denominative from OT:1167) to marry:**

**Beulah - OT:1167 ba`al (bah'-al); from OT:1166; a master; hence, a husband, or (figuratively) owner (often used with another noun in modifications of this latter sense):**

**Words not found in the Bible, but used in some explanations.**

## **definition of supernatural**

**1: of or relating to an order of existence beyond the visible observable universe; *especially* : of or relating to God or a god, demigod, spirit, or devil**

**2a : departing from what is usual or normal especially so as to appear to transcend the laws of nature**

**(b : attributed to an invisible agent (such as a ghost or spirit)not used here**

##### What is Heaven -

1. The arch of the sky above us is the heavens in our language use.

**We are limited when we have a present knowledge of space and distance to think in the same ways as did even the prophets and writers of the Old Testament and New Testament because of what we have learned in science. Yet with their own limitations these men understood space as well as most men today. Astrology was slow in learning that the earth was not the center of the universe, but anyone that knows God knows that we are a limited and created being.**

 **One of the first things that God did was to create a place of spherical dimension and to separate solid land from the waters of that place. This being done he separated the life forms he created to abide on the earth and above the earth. (Gen 1:1-20)**

**Man looked up to see the heavens and saw the roundness of the earth over the waters and in the horizon. This was the arch of the earth or sky so high above him. Inside the arch flew birds, drifted clouds, and man was on the earth. The use of heavens often in the Old Testament was describing the sky above, not speaking of a heavenly place of God.**

1. **The celestial spaces above the arch of the earth is the heavens.**

**The celestial objects such as the moon, the planets and the stars moved before man. In awe man knew that the realm of God was higher than upon this earth. A place further and further away became a part of his definitions of heaven. The stars finally in man’s knowledge were the further of distances.**

**The definition of heaven, God’s dwelling place, is not inclusive of the entire spectrum of stars as well as moon and planets. If anything is above the earth then it is a part of the heavens. (Ge 26:4, Ex 32:13, Dt 1:10, Dt 10:22, DT 28:62, Ge 1:20, Ne 9:23, Isaiah 13:10, Nahum 3:16, Mark 13:25, revelations 6:13, 12:4)**

1. **The air above the earth is the heavens.**
2. **Things of heaven that are not above the air but are above the earth is called things of heaven in the Old Testament.**

 **Clouds of heaven ( Daniel 7:13, Matthew 26:64, Mark 14:62), Rain of heaven(Dt 11:11), the dew of heaven(Ge 27:28, 39, Daniel 4:15, 4:23, 4:25, 4:33, 5:21), thunder out of heaven (1Sam 2:10), water out of heaven (2 Sam 21:10), and the hoary frost of heaven (Job 38:29), hail out of heaven ( revelations 16:21), clouds of heaven ( Daniel 7:13, Matthew 26:64, Mark 14:62), and the four winds of heaven (Daniel 8:8, 11:4) are all things that are in the air below the arch of the sky and celestial heavens.**

**God made the fowls of heaven that fly above us every day. The fowls have a natural ability that is not of man. We now can fly, but not from our natural ability but rather from the intelligence that God has allowed us to acquire.**

**When God moved more closely to earth in super natural power it was often in things seen in the sky. Great events were seen by man in the stars (Matt 2:2), as well as announced by angels (Luke 2:9-15) at various times by beings from the sky or the work at hand of God by an angel from the heavens, (judges 13:19-20) and the voice of the angel of the Lord speaking or calling out of heaven(Ge 16:9.10,11, 22:11).**

 **Thunder and lightning, winds, clouds, and rain, or even hail were all from that place seen of man in closer proximity and found in scriptures: see the various lists of things of heaven, in heaven, from heaven, into heaven in the last pages of this study.**

1. **The abode of God, his dwelling place, is in heaven.**

**We are given by scripture in the Old Testament that God’s dwelling place is in heaven. (I Kings 8:30, 8:39, 8:43, 8:49, 2Chronicles 6:21, 6:30, 6:33, 6:39, 30:27). Even though God does dwell in heaven it is not correct to say; “Where God is, is heaven.” This is a false statement because hell is not in heaven. David said that he could flee and make his bed in hell, because God is there also. (Psalms 139:7-8)**

**God is omnipresent, everywhere). It is correct to say that “God dwells in heaven”.**

**The idea of a bright shining greatly lighted heaven seems somewhat the standard. Yet in his mystery God said that he dwells in thick darkness. (1Kings 8:12, 2Chronicles 6:1) The word reveals things about Gods dwelling place that deny things often believed. Yet when he was on the earth, he dwelt here in thick darkness also. (Exodus 20:21)**

1. **There is a third heaven.**

**Paul was caught up into the third heaven. This teaches us that there are at least three heavens. We do not know if this means a third location of heaven or different levels of heaven. We only have this one scripture reference of this episode. (2 Corinthians 12:2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.)**

 **Jesus ascended up above all the heavens. There must be some order that is not detailed in the word about the supernatural heavens.**

 **Eph 4:10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)**

1. **Heaven is a place of reward to the saints of God.**

**There is the promise of reward in heaven for the saints of God. This is found in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament. Although eternal life is not spoken of in the Old Testament a reward to those who have passed on that were Jewish, is found at least once in this passage in (Isaiah 62:1-11) This speaks about a land called Beulah, which is spoken of no other times in the Bible. It is strange how songs heard are so full of unproven statements and ideas of men claiming all sorts of Biblical inspiration.**

 **Learned in the New Testament words from Jesus tell that there is reward in Heaven for his saints. These rewards are all based on how well we observe and do those things taught by the word of God. (Matt 5:12, Matt 6:1, Matt 10:42, Matt 16:27, Mk 9:41, Lk 6:23, Lk 6:35, 1 Cor 3:8-9, 1 Cor 3:14, Col 3:24, Heb 10:35, Heb 11:26, 2 John 8, Rev 22:12)**

1. **Where is Heaven?**

**What is the Location of Heaven? For a fact it is above all the heavens. (Eph 4:10) We know this is where Jesus ascended to beside of his father. Yet heaven, as far above and distant, is so close to those who attend God in their spirit and life. One can see this with the story of Stephen(Acts 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.)**

**The proximity of Heaven is within sight of the spiritual eyes. We do not know what depth or distance these eyes see. Recall the in Old Testament when Elisha prayed that the man with him could see. (2 Kings 6:16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.) That spiritual world is right beside us by many facts presented in the word.**

 **There have always been speculations of where heaven may be physically. There is very little evidence to be found in scripture about such a location. In the research there was an association of heaven to north, south, east, and west with corroboration of a few scriptures using the word north but it never associated heaven or any of its synonymic names in the word.**

 **There may be some indication in a few scriptures of Heaven’s location but God’s secrets are still his secrets. These are the scriptures that may be some indication of a northward direction but the lack of evidences in associations to heaven leave much to be desired in a heavenly location.**

 **If there is any relation to direction, keep in mind that north and south are unique among directions as each have a start point in the earth so that everyone looking north are always looking in the same direction as does the South. East and West are both in relation to the point where one stands.**

 **These are the few scriptures that may be taken as a delineation towards heaven in the north. This is not sufficient to say heaven is above the north pole however. Be careful with forming doctrines with such speculation. Heaven is a place that is supernatural, above all things and hidden to a telescope and natural eyes.**

**Lev 1:10-11**

 **10 And if his offering be of the flocks, namely, of the sheep, or of the goats, for a burnt sacrifice; he shall bring it a male without blemish.**

**11 And he shall kill it on the side of the altar northward before the Lord: and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall sprinkle his blood round about upon the altar.**

**Ps 75:6-8**

 **6 For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.) 7 But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another. 8 For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out and drink them.**

 **The transverse of promotion not being east, west or south suggests that promotion comes from the north. Suggesting since God judges and provides all promotion, he must be in the north.**

 **Job 26:7-9**

 **7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing. 8 He bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds; and the cloud is not rent under them. He holdeth back the face of his throne, and spreadeth his cloud upon it.**

 **Isa 14:13-14**

 **13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.**

**Ps 48:1-3**

 **48 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. 2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. (saying that the city of God, perhaps heaven is on the right side of Zion) 3 God is known in her palaces for a refuge.**

**Job 37:21-22**

 **21 And now men see not the bright light which is in the clouds: but the wind passeth, and cleanseth them. 22 Fair weather cometh out of the north: with God is terrible majesty.**

**Ezek 1:3-4**

 **3 The word of the Lord came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was there upon him.4 And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire**

1. **Old testament idea of heaven and eternal life.**

 **Gen 13:14 And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: 15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.**

**Deut 5:29**

 **29 O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!**

**Ps 61:6-62:1**

 **6 Thou wilt prolong the king's life: and his years as many generations. 7 He shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, which may preserve him. So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows. 62:1 Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation.**

**Ps 73:25-26**

 **25 Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee. 26 My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.**

**Job 19:25-27**

 **25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: 26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: 27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.**

1. **Jesus spoke of a reward in Heaven.**

**He taught us that we will be rewarded in heaven for how we obeyed his word here on earth unto tribulations. (Matt 5:12, 6:6, 6:18, 10:41, 10:42, 16:47, Mark 9:41, Luke 6:23, 6:35)**

1. **How big is Heaven**

**There can be no definition of the size of heaven. If heaven includes the stars and galaxies as well as everything that the Bible says is in or of heaven, the square space of such could not be measured.**

**Many things may be figures of speech in the definition of the verses containing “in heaven or of heaven” yet being recorded into God’s word they have merit as to being real and in some form in or of God’s heaven.**

 **When Solomon was contemplating building the Temple of God he was aware that he could not build anything that would contain God. (1Kings 8:27, 2Chronicles 6:18) The temple of God on earth was where God said “my name shall be there”.**

 **When the temple was finished and the spirit of God came into the temple, the priests could not stay inside but were driven out by the pure presence of God.**

 **Earth alone cannot contain all the presence of God.**

1. **Jesus teaches of the order of reward in Heaven.**

**We must be able to see the Kingdom of God, to understand and do the will of our father before we can hope to be fruitful.**

* **John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**

**KJV**

* **Matthew 5: teaches the attitudes Christian believers must possess. The attainment process begins with salvation. The reward of salvation is eternal life. The soul of man must be renewed after the born-again experience to produce the fruit that Jesus expects for us to produce. The reward of renewing the mind is those things that are rewarded in Heaven. We will be rewarded for our works. All works start in the heart of man.**
* **Matthew 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.**

**KJV**

**To renew the mind, we must put in things that the word speaks instead of the things we have experienced in this world.**

* **Matt 12:34-35**

**34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.**

**35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.**

**KJV**

**Rom 12:2**

**2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

**John 15:1-2**

**15 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.**

**KJV**

**To be fruitful we must be led by the spirit of God**

**Gal 5:18-25**

**18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. 24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**

**KJV**

1. **Jesus told us to lay up treasures in Heaven.**

**The fruit of what we become is treasures towards our heaven. Jesus told us that we must bear fruit and we will, either good fruit rewarded in the kingdom of God or those rewarded in hell as corruptible fruit.**

**Matt 6:19-21**

**19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

**Heb 11:5-6**

**5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.**

**6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

###### KJV

1. **Heaven is a place of rest.**

**Heb 4:1-9 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.4 For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.5 And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest.6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.8 For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.**

**KJV**

1. **Mis-teachings about Heaven**
2. **Jesus did not promise us a mansion. (John 14:3)**

**Read this scripture, Jesus did promise to prepare us a place. John 14:2-3**

**2 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.**

**3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.**

###### KJV

**Heaven is a supernatural (see definitions) place. It is some type of s place that can endure the presence of God. When Jesus arose, he was not a spirit either. He had a new body and it was spiritual. He ate with the disciples and they determined that for what they understood, he was not some ethereal spirit. God is a spirit and the things of God are spiritual. There is no depiction of what needs if any the new bodies which we will be clothed with will have needs or are totally self-sufficient. We do know that manna was food from heaven.**

**Our bodies will be supernatural in our new home. In that place we will be transformed from the time that Jesus comes for us for eternity. Evidently a supernatural body can do a lot of things that we cannot do in this one. (John 4:23-24)**

**John 4: 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

**Why then does everything we have heard about heaven always tell of earthly things? Perhaps because scripture also speaks about a city coming out of heaven called New Jerusalem.**

**The only scripture we have telling about any part of heaven other than Jesus telling us about many mansions there, or cities of heaven is found in those about New Jerusalem. (Revelations 3:12,21:2)**

**New Jerusalem is sent out of heaven, it never says it is heaven. It speaks of rich earthy things in its walls, foundation, and streets.**

**If we are taught how to live and be like Jesus, we should not be taken with the love of things.**

**We hear of martyrs of the Islam faith that are said to believe that they will have 72 virgins for their own when they die and go to their god. We consider this foreign and absolutely against any form of our God. Why can they have such lustful bliss in heaven with a god when it is against their god to have it here?**

**Is this not the same thing for Christians to believe that it is almost impossible to get into heaven with riches suddenly obtain all kinds of riches as is known in this world, in a spiritual place known as heaven?**

**Matt 19:23-24**

**23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

**24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.**

**KJV**

**Summery**

1. **Defining Heaven**
2. **The definition of heaven is the lofty sky and where the celestial bodies revolve. Heaven contains the air, clouds, and the arch of the earth**
3. **Heaven is the dwelling place of God, his holy habitation.**
4. **There are three different levels or parts of Heaven that is written of by Paul. The Old Testament says there is a Heaven of Heavens. This either suggests more than one part to Heaven or a delineation from space and heaven. There is little clarification of the terms of Heaven.**
5. **Heaven is a place of rest in Jesus Christ for the saints.**
6. **The Location of Heaven**
7. **There are teachings about a location of Heaven but there is no sound scriptural background for a location of Heaven other than is it above the earth.**
8. **The Old Testament Idea of Heaven**
9. **The scriptures about men in heaven are very vague in the Old Testament. Men may have believed that they would last eternally, for those that were chosen of God, but the idea of a heavenly home are not very prominent and somewhat hidden.**
10. **There is reward for us in Heaven.**
11. **Jesus taught us that we had a great reward in Heaven if we believed in him and followed his word. He promised to prepare a special place for us to be with him.**
12. **He told us we had to be fruitful or be cut away from him. Jesus promised us our treasures of fruits laid up in heaven were without loss.**
13. **We must diligently seek God to be rewarded for our labors. He has a reward for us there.**
14. **How big is Heaven**
15. **The definitions of Heaven alone are inconceivable to the human mind.**
16. **The single city which came out of Heaven to the earth, the New Jerusalem, has a conceivable measurement, however it is not believed to be heaven for the saints. Remember, men are not spirits nor in a spiritual body. God has allowed men to continue to live on earth after all the judgement and has a river of water flowing out of this city for the healing of the nations.**
17. **It does not mention the many mansions that are in heaven but rather is a place for the temple of God here on earth. It is never called heaven. It is the biggest idea that mortal man has that he can understand as being heaven. It is a place for mortal man to see and visit if his name is written in the book of life. It is shrouded in mysteries of God. It has not been revealed as Heaven of Heavens. It is not above the earth. Remember also this is in the last times after Satan and his angels have been caste with hell and the grave into the eternal lake of fire.**
18. **Solomon could not conceive that any place on the earth was large enough for God to dwell. God said his name was written in the place on earth called the temple.**
19. **What is the Kingdom of Heaven**
	1. **The Kingdom of Heaven and the Kingdom of God may indeed be the same thing. Both are realms of God and both are ruled by God.**
	2. **Jesus taught us how to live in the Kingdom (rule) of God. He used the term “Kingdom of heaven” in the book of Matthew alone. In Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John as well as several of Paul’s letters to the saints he used the term “Kingdom of God”.**
	3. **The key understanding is that we must abide under the rule of God by knowing and following his word both here and in Heaven.**
20. **There is rest in Heaven**
21. **Heaven is a place of rest. This is a promise we can hold true. Even in this life we need rest and Jesus has promised to give this to us. Heaven will be a joy once our task is complete.**
22. **There are mis-teachings about Heaven.**
23. **Most of the mis-teachings that we have come as our ignorance of the written word. Traditions make us an easy target if we are not diligent in our study and understanding of the word of God.**
24. **We often take things for granted and in our assuming that what we have heard is truth it becomes stamped into our self- conscience as the written word of God truth.**
25. **Eternal life is a promise of God to his born-again believers. The fact that Jesus is preparing us a place makes it even greater if we can get past the carnality of this world and mindset.**
26. **Remember that we are carnal here but there we will be clothed by God. We will be in a body that is greater than we have here and, in a place, created and ruled with love by our Father. We can only imagine what good things God has set for us.**

**Conclusion**

1. **Few things are known about Heaven.**
2. **We do not know the location.**
3. **There is only one way to go to Heaven.**
4. **Heaven is not the purpose of salvation, it is the promise of eternity.**
5. **Heaven is the place Jesus has prepared for his saints.**
6. **No man goes to Heaven without being born again.**
7. **The gold of Heaven is in the things we are rewarded for our fruitfulness in Jesus Christ.**
8. **The praise of Heaven will come with the presence of Jesus and God in oneness with his saints.**
9. **It is larger than we can imagine.**
10. **Heaven is real beyond our hopes.**

**Research Lists:**

1. **The list of things “in heaven”**

In Heaven

1**. God is in heaven**. (*Deuteronomy 4: 39, Joshua 2:11, 2 Chronicles 20:6, Daniel 2:28)*

2. **Dwelling place of God is in heaven***. (1 Kings 8: 30, Ecclesiastes 5:2)*

3. **Windows in heaven.** (*2 Kings 7:2, 7:19)*

4**. My witnesses in heaven**. (*Job 16:19)*

5. **The Lord’s throne is in heaven**. (*Psalms 11:4)*

6. **A faithful witness is in heaven.** (*Psalms 89:37)*

7. **Thy word is settled in heaven***. (Psalms 119:8)*,

8. **Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that he did in heaven***. (Psalms 135:6*)

9**. His sword shall be bathed in heaven***. (Isaiah 34:5*)

10. **There are signs and wonders in heaven**. (*Daniel 6:27, Revelations 15:1)*

11**. Your reward is in heaven**. (*Matthew 5:12, Luke 6:23)*

12. **Your father is in heaven**. (*Matthew 5:16, 5:48, 6:1, 6:9, 7:11, 7:21, 10:32, 10:33, 12:50, 16:17, 18:10, 18:19, 23:9, Mark 11: 25, 11:26, Luke 11:2, 11:2)*

13. **His will is done in heaven*.*** *(Matthew 6:10*)

14. **There are treasures in heaven***. (Matthew 6:20, 19:21, Mark 10:21, Luke 18:22)*

15. **What you bind on earth is bound in heaven**. *Matthew 16:19, 18:18,*

16. **Little one’s angels behold the face of God in heaven***. Matthew 18:10*

17. **People do not marry in heaven, there we are as angels of God.** *Matthew 22:30, Mark 12:25,*

18. **The Son of Man is in heaven**. *Matthew 24:30, John 3:13*,

19. **All powers given to Jesus in heaven**. (Matt*28:18*)

20. **The powers shall be shaken in heaven.** (*Mark 13:25*)

21. **The angels in heaven do not know the return of Christ**. (*Mark 13:32)*

22. **Rejoice when you know your names are written in heaven**. (Luke *10:20)*

23. **There will be joy for every sinner saved on earth, in heaven**. (*Luke 15:7)*

24. **There is peace in heaven**. (*Luke 19: 38)*

25. **There are wonders in heaven**. (*Acts 2:19*)

26**. All things in Christ that are in heaven shall be gathered together**. (*Ephesians 1:10*)

27**. The whole family of God is named in heaven**. (*Ephesians 3:15)*

28. **Your master is in heaven**. (Ephesians 6:9, *Colossians 4:1*

29. **All things shall bow to Jesus in heaven**. (*Philippians 2:10)*

30. **Our conversation is in heaven**. (*Philippians 3:20*)

31. **Things are laid up for you in heaven, since your conversion**. (*Colossians 1:5*)

32. **All things were created by him in heaven**. (*Colossians 1:16*)

33. **All things are reconciled to Jesus, in heaven**. (*Colossians 1: 20*)

34. **You have a better and enduring substance in heaven**. (*Hebrews 10:34*)

35. **The church of the firstborn are written in heaven**. (*Hebrews 12:23*)

36. **The father, the word, and the Holy Ghost bear record in heaven**. (*1 John 5:7*)

37**. All creatures gave blessings, honor, power, and glory to God**. (*revelations 5:13*)

38. **There was silence in heaven for about an hour**. (*revelations 8:1*)

39. **There will be great voice in heaven**. (*revelations 11:15)*

40. **The temple of God was opened in heaven** (*revelations 11:19, 17*)

41**. Be a great wonder in heaven**. (*revelations 12:1, 12:3)*

42. **The accuser of the brethren is cast away in heaven**. (*revelations 12:10)*

43. **Signs in heaven**. (*Revelations 15:1*)

44. **The temple of the tabernacle of the testimony is in heaven**. (*revelations 15:5*)

45. **There is heard the voice of much people in heaven saying hallelujah**. (revelations *19:1)*

46. **There was armies in heaven**. (*revelations 19:14*)

 **The list of things “of Heaven”**

1. **firmament of heaven** (*Ge 1:20*)

2. **windows of heaven** (Ge *7:11, Ge 8:2*)

3. **fire & brimstone from the Lord** (*Ge 19:24, revelations 20:9*)

4. angel **of God of heaven** (*Ge 21:17*)

5. **Lord God of Heaven** (*Ge 22:15, 24:3, 24:7, 2 Ch 36:23, Ezra 1:2, 5:11, 5:12, 6:9, 6:10, 7: 12, 21,23, Ne 1:4, 2:4, Ne 2:20 Psalms 136:26, Daniel 2:18, 2:19, 2:37, 2:44, 5:23, Jonah 19, Luke 10:21, Acts 17: 24, revelations 11:13, 16:11)*

6. **The stars of heaven** *(Ge 26:4, Ex 32:13, Dt 1:10, Dt 10:22, DT 28:62, Ge 1:20, Ne 9:23, Isaiah 13:10, Nahum 3:16, Mark 13:25, revelations 6:13, 12:4)*

7. **The dew of heaven** (*Ge 27:28, 39, Daniel 4:15, 4:23, 4:25, 4:33, 5:21*)

8. **the gate of heaven** (*Ge 28:17*)

9. **the blessings of heaven** (*Ge 49:25*)

!0**: the body of heaven** (*Ex 32:13*)

11. **the midst of heaven** (*Dt 4:11, Jos 10:13, revelations 8:13, 14:6, 19:17*)

12. **Host of heaven** (*Dt 4:19, Dt 17:3, 1 Kings 22:19, 2 Ki 17:16, 21:3, 21:5, 23:4, 23:5, 2Ch 18:18, 33:3, 33:5, Ne 9:6, Isaiah 34:4, Jeremiah 8:2, Jeremiah 19:13, 33:22, Daniel 8:10, Zephaniah 1:5, Acts 7:42)*

13. **one side of heaven** (*Dt 4:32)*

14. **His voice out of heaven** (*Dt 4:36)*

15. **the rain of heaven** (*Dt 11:11)*

16. **the Days of heaven** (*Dt 11:21)*

17: **the outmost parts of heaven** (*Dt 30:4)*

18. **the things of heaven** (*Dt 33:13)*

19. **thunder out of heaven** (*1Sam 2:10)*

20**: water out of heaven** (*2Sam 21:10)*

21. **foundations of heaven** (*2 Sam 22:8*)

22. **Height of heaven** (*Job 22:12*)

23. **Circuit of heaven** (*Job 22:14*)

24. **Pillars of heaven** (*Job 26:11*)

25. **Fowls of heaven** (*Job 35:11, Jeremiah 16:4, Ezekiel 31:6, Hosea 2:18, 4:3*)

26. **Hoary frost of heaven** (*Job 38:29*)

27. **Ordinances of heaven** (*Job 38:33, Jeremiah 33:25*)

28. **Bottles of heaven** (*Job 38:37*)

29. **Doors of heaven** (*Psalms 78:23*)

30. **Corn of heaven** (*Psalms 78:24*)

31**. Days of heaven** (*Psalms 89:29*)

32**. Bread of heaven** (*Psalms 105:40*)

33. **End of heaven** (Isaiah 13:5)

34**. Signs of heaven** (*Jeremiah 10:2*)

35. **Four quarters of heaven** (*Jeremiah 49:36*)

36. **Bright lights of heaven** (*Ezekiel 32:8*)

37. **Army of heaven** *(Daniel 4:35*)

38. **King of heaven** (*Daniel 4:37*)

39. **Clouds of heaven** (*Daniel 7:13, Matthew 26:64, Mark 14:62*)

40. **Four winds of heaven** (*Daniel 8:8, 11:4*)

41**. The windows of heaven** (*Malachi 3:10*)

42. **Kingdom of heaven** (*Matthew 3:10, 3:2, 4:17, 5:3, 5:10, 5:19, 5:19, 5:20, 7:21, 8:11, 10:7, 11:11, 11:12, Matthew 11:25, 13:11, 13:24, 13:31, 13:33, 13:44, 13:45, 13:47, 13:52, 16:19, 18:1, 18:3, 18:4, 18:23, 19:14, 19:23, 20:1, 22:2, 23:13, 24:30, 24:31, 24:36, 25:1, 25:14)*

43. **Uttermost part of heaven** *(Mark 13:27)*

44. **Powers of heaven** (*Luke 21:26*)

45.**New Jerusalem Cometh down out of heaven** *(revelations 3:12, 21:2, 21:10*)

46. **Temple of heaven** (*revelations 16:17)*

47. **Hail out of heaven** (*revelations 16:21)*

48. **Voice out of heaven** *(revelations 21:3)*

**The list of things carried into Heaven.**

1. when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind (Kings 2:1, 2:11)

2. the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven (Mark 16:19)

3. the angels were gone away from them into heaven, (Luke 2:15)

4.he was parted from them and carried up into heaven. (Luke 24:51)

5.why stand ye gazing up into heaven (Acts 1:11)

6. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven (Acts 7:55)

7.This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven (Acts 10:16

8.Who shall ascend into heaven? (Rom 10:6)

9.For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, (Heb 9:24)

10. by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:22 Who is gone into heaven (1 Peter 3:21-22)

#### List of things from heaven

**1.A voice from heaven** (Mt 3:17, Luke 3:22, John 12:28)

**2.sign from heaven** (Mt 16:1, Mk 8:11, Luke 11:16, 21:11)

**3. baptism of John from** (Mt 21:25, Mk 11:30-3, Luke 17:29, 20:5)

**4.stars fall from heaven** (Mt 24:29)

**5.Lord descended from heaven** (Mt 28:2)

**6.voice from heaven** (Mk 1:11)

**7.fire from heaven** (Luke 9:54, 17:29)

**8.lightning from heaven** (Luke 10:18)

**9.angel from heaven** (Luke 22:43)

**10.spirit from heaven** (John 1:32)

**11. son of man from heaven** (John 3:13)

**12.recieve from heaven** (John 3:27)

**13. bread from heaven** (John 6:31, 32, 33,41, 50, 51, 58)

**14. I(jesus) from heaven** (6:38, 41)

**15.sound from heaven** (Acts 2:2)

**16.light from heaven** (acts 9:3)

**17. sheet from heaven** (Acts 11:5)

Incomplete list total of 63 matches NT