

CrossRoads Baptist Church
January, 31, 2007 6:30 p.m.
Revelation 22: 1-5
Eternity: Heaven or Hell #13

“What Shall We Do In Heaven?”

We have clearly demonstrated the reality of Heaven as set forth in the Scriptures. Heaven is real and will be a reality for all God’s children. But the question tonight in this last message is what will we do when we get there?

The sarcastic replies, Nothing! The cartoonist pictures a man going to heaven with wings and a halo around his head and sitting upon a fleecy cloud and playing his harp. My response to that is BORING. Is this all that heaven will be? No, it will be a city with much activity.

I find four things for sure we will do in Heaven:

I. We will work in Heaven.

Immediately we think, but work is the one thing I am most looking forward to being without in Heaven. But the truth is that if you couldn’t work today you would not be happy because we were created to be productive. Why then do we hate it? Because of the curse. The sweat of the brow and the hardships all came because of sin. Revelation 22:3 “There will be no more curse.” This means you will be able to work continually and get nothing but the total satisfaction of it, you will never get weary.

I believe we will work in the areas of our gifts and abilities. Those gifts you have here will be forever further developed there. For example, Mozart was a wonderfully gifted composer. He was robbed from us by death at only thirty-five years old. Someone must write those new songs for the orchestras of Heaven. Every child of God will enjoy the full realizations of his full potential of his gifts and abilities in Heaven.

We will continue to learn in Heaven. Only God is omniscient – all knowing. God will teach us for all of eternity.

II. We will serve in Heaven.

I believe this to be closely related with our work in Heaven.

Revelation 22: 3 “His servants will serve Him.”

The word translated serve here is not the normal word for service and servant which is the word for slavery. It’s the word associated with worship. This is the same

word used in Romans 12:2 “your reasonable service or worship.” This is not passive worship of someone merely watching others. We will engage in a worship that will continually be going on day and night with no possibility of ever ending and we will not get weary or fatigued.

Certainly in Heaven we will also serve by praising Him.

- This praise will take the form of a shout (Rev 5:12; 7:10; 19:6)
- This praise will be a melodious song (Rev. 14:3; 15:3)
- This praise will be directed to the Lamb (Rev. 5:12)
- This praise will be toward God for His creative artistry (Rev. 4:11)
- This praise will be toward God for His justice and judgment (Rev. 11: 17-18; 15: 3-4; 16: 5-6)

III. We will reign in Heaven.

Revelation 22:5 “and they shall reign forever and ever.” This is twice spoken in Revelation 20: 4,6

II Timothy 2: 11-12 “It is a faithful saying, for if we be dead with Him, we shall also live with Him, if we suffer, we shall also reign with Him.”

Rev. 5:10 “And he has made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

We shall reign in this created heaven above us and over this renewed earth on which we live. Some will reign over ten cities, some five and some one and some none.

Again, authority is not a curse of sin. There was authority with Adam before he sinned and we shall once again experience that wonderful blessing of living in authority that is pure and holy.

IV. We will rest in Heaven.

How can we work and be at rest at the same time? Because it is sin that causes us weariness. It is sin that is draining on our emotions. Worry, stress, pressure, guilt, and all such emotions are direct results of sin.

What does it mean for us to have rest? For the nomadic people of the Scriptures it meant rest from harassments, military conflicts and business demands. Every Sabbath day was an anticipation of that rest.

We will rest from our labors. We will rest from our warfare with Satan. “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on for they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.”