

Helps to Bible Study

5. Revelation 5:11. There are many more angels in God's universe than there are people in this world. Hebrews 12:22.

6. Matthew 18:10. In speaking of the Father's watch care over His children, Jesus mentions "their angels," showing that to every child of God an angel is assigned, to take care of him or her—an attending, guardian angel. Thus the Scripture speaks of Peter's angel. Acts 12:15. Among those countless billions of angels, there is one assigned to you, to watch over you by day and by night.

7. Psalm 91:11, 12. This angel has been given charge over you, to help you in your journey to heaven.

8. Psalm 34:7. When danger threatens, and troubles come upon you, this attending angel, your angel, will deliver you (Daniel 6:22), provided you have rightly related yourself to God. There are two kinds of angels—Christ's angels, who compose two thirds of the angels created, and Satan's angels, who compose one third of those created. Every person will be under the control of either good or evil angels. When you obey God there are twice as many for you as ever can be against you. 2 Kings 6:16.

9. Matthew 25:31. All the holy angels will come to the earth when Jesus appears. The angels are God's chariots (Psalm 68:17), and they will come with Jesus Christ at His second advent to take the righteous to heaven, just as they took Elijah to heaven. Matthew 24:31; 2 Kings 2:11. Let us make sure that we live each day so that we will be ready for Jesus' coming, and may have a home among the "many mansions" which Christ has prepared for those who love God.

6. HEAVEN

1. 2 Corinthians 12:2. Since there is a third heaven, there must be a first and a second. So there are three heavens.

1. The aerial heaven, where the birds fly (Revelation 19:17), where the clouds form, and from which the rain and snow come down. This is the belt of air which reaches from the surface of the earth up into the sky. This first heaven will pass away some day, and God will make a new pure atmosphere, a new first heaven to surround the new earth which He will make. 2 Peter 3:10, 13; Revelation 21:4.

2. The stellar heaven, where the sun, moon, and stars move in their orbits. Psalm 19:1-4.

3. The third heaven is Paradise (2 Corinthians 12:2, 4), where the throne of God is, where Jesus is now.

2. John 14:3. Jesus said that He would prepare a place in heaven for His people.

3. Hebrews 11:16, 10. This place that Jesus has prepared is the city of God, or the New Jerusalem. A description of this wonderful city will be found in the last two chapters of the Bible.

4. Revelation 21:10-18. This New Jerusalem is 12,000 furlongs, or 1,500 miles, in circumference, or 375 miles to each side. It contains 140,625 square miles. North Carolina contains 52,426 square miles; South Carolina, 30,989 square miles; Tennessee, 42,022 square miles. So the city of God is larger in area than these three States. It has a wall of jasper 216 feet high, 12 foundations of 12 precious stones, 12 gates each of one solid pearl, streets of gold, and mansions of gold for the saints.

5. Revelation 21:4. It is a city where everyone will have a perfect immortal body, where there will be no sickness, trouble, or death, where His people will be perfectly happy through all eternity.

6. Revelation 21:1-3. This New Jerusalem will be the capital of the new earth. The New Jerusalem is now in, the third heaven, and the saints will all go up to that city when Jesus comes, to reign with Him there for 1,000 years. At the end of that 1,000 years, the earth will be made over into a new earth, free from sin and sinners, and the New Jerusalem will rest on this new earth as its grand capital. With Christ, the saints will reign forever over this new earth.

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7. Revelation 22:14. We must keep all of God's commandments if we would ever enter that city.

8. Philippians 3:20, 21. When we go to the New Jerusalem we will each have a glorious spiritual body, just as Jesus has. 1 John 3:2; 1 Corinthians 15:44.

9. John 20:11-16. Just as Mary knew Jesus by His voice after His resurrection, so we will know our friends in heaven by their voices.

10. John 20:27, 28. Just as Thomas recognized Jesus by His appearance, so we will recognize our friends in heaven.

11. Matthew 17:3, 4. Just as the disciples on the mount of transfiguration recognized Moses and Elijah, men whom they had never seen before, men who had died hundreds of years before that; so with our glorious spiritual bodies we will have powers of recognition and cognition to know millions of people in heaven that we have never seen before.

12. 1 Corinthians 13:12. We will know each other fully then, as God knows us now.

7. THE WAY OF SALVATION

1. Matthew 19:16. The supreme question before every person in this world is, What must I do to have eternal life? Eternal life in God's kingdom is worth more than all this world. Matthew 16:26. If we lose an eternal home in heaven, we have lost everything.

2. Revelation 21:27. Nothing that defiles can enter into God's city, and since sin is what defiles, that means we must get rid of every sin before we can be ready for a home in heaven.

3. John 3:1 In addition to having all our sins forgiven, we must be born again, have a change of heart, be converted. Matthew 18:3.

4. Hebrews 5:9. Eternal salvation will be given only to those who obey Jesus. So it takes three things to make a sinner right with God and fit him for a home in God's heaven:

1. The pardon or forgiveness of all his sins, which is justification.

2. Being born again, or the new birth, which is regeneration.

3. Obedience to all of God's instructions each day through the indwelling of Christ in his heart by the Holy Spirit, which is sanctification. This brings up six important questions:

A. How can I have all my sins forgiven?

5. Psalm 32:5. God forgives our sins on three conditions repentance, confession, and faith in the Lord Jesus as our personal Savior and Sin Bearer. Repentance is accompanied by a godly sorrow, which leads us to turn from all that we know is wrong. It is produced in the heart by the Holy Spirit, and will be given to everyone who yields to the convicting, drawing power of the Spirit. Confession is to be definite (Leviticus 5:5); we are to confess the very sins of which we are guilty.

B. How can I know that all my sins are forgiven this minute?

6. 1 John 1:9. Simply by complying with God's condition of repentance and confession. I must then believe that I am pardoned, and thank God for forgiveness.

7. Psalm 5:17, 10. Along with our prayer for pardon, we must ask God to give us a new heart, a clean heart, a new life from above.