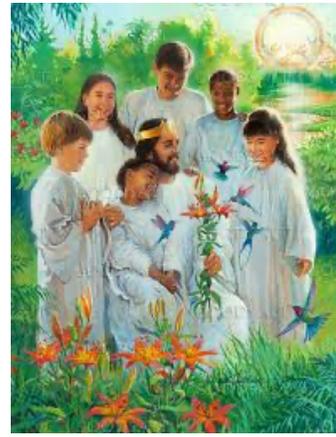


What Does the Bible Say About Going to Heaven?

By Karen Sue Nyquist

**Children's Song - "Heaven is a wonderful place,
Filled with glory and grace, I want to see my Savior's face,
For heaven is a wonderful place. I want to go there!" - by O.A. Lambert**



1. **What is heaven?** - Heaven is the place where the Lord God lives with His angels and other heavenly beings. Jesus prayed, "Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name" (Matthew 6:9).
2. **Where is heaven?** - It is in a different dimension, a spiritual realm, often described as being above the earth. King David praised God saying, "For as the heavens are high above the earth ..." (Psalm 103:11). Moses prayed to God saying, "Look down from Your holy habitation, from heaven ..." (Deuteronomy 26:15). Jesus said, "I have come down from heaven" (John 6:42), then returned after His resurrection (Acts 1:9-11).
3. **What is heaven like?** - "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" (1 Corinthians 2:9). But the Bible does tell us a lot. It says heaven is a place where:
 - a. **We will be living with God** - "God Himself will be with them *and be* their God" (Revelation 21:3).
 - b. **We will be enjoying God's presence!** - "In Your presence *is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore*" (Psalm 16:11).
 - c. **God will be a loving Father to us** - "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes..." (Revelation 21:4).
 - d. **There will be no reason to cry because** - "... there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4).
 - e. **We will receive - comfort** (Luke 16:25), **rest from our earthly labors** (Revelation 13:14), **and rewards** (Matthew 16:27).
 - f. **We'll be made perfect with no sin, no temptations, no regrets, no shame, no remorse, we'll truly be enjoying everlasting life with God** (Hebrews 12:23).
4. **What do people do in heaven?** -
 - a. **We'll experience God's glory**, (Revelation 21:23) **His mercy, and total forgiveness** (Micah 7:18).
 - b. **We'll get to know Jesus, our Savior who died for us, and His amazing love** (Ephesian 3:18-19).
 - c. **We'll get to know the precious Holy Spirit.**
 - d. **We'll be busy, worshipping and serving the Lord** (Revelation 22:3 NIV, NKJV).
 - e. **We'll fellowship with our loved ones who are in heaven** (Revelation 7:9).
 - f. **We'll make many new friends** (Revelation 7:9).
 - g. **We'll learn and discover many amazing things** (Colossians 2:3).
 - h. **We'll grow in knowledge, wisdom, understanding, and skills** (Romans 11:33).
5. **What must we do to go to heaven when we die?** -
 - a. God has a plan for saving you and bringing you to heaven! The LORD God says, "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with loving kindness I



have drawn you” (Jeremiah 31:3). Unfortunately, “all have sinned” (Romans 3:23), and “the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

b. God has an answer! “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). To fulfill the demands of justice, Jesus willingly died on the cross, paying the death penalty for our sins. Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (John 15:13). That’s how much Jesus loves us. He calls us “friends” and died to save us!

6. What should someone do so they can be saved and go to heaven? - Do you believe what Jesus said and that He is the Son of God? Do you want to follow Him and go to heaven? If so, then you must ... “repent of your sins” (Luke 13:3), “... confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, (*then*) you will be saved” (Romans 10:9). “As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him” (Colossians 2:6).

7. Is it ever too late for someone to accept Jesus as their Lord? - No! Someone can accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior even on their death bed. Remember, the repentant thief on the cross next to Jesus? He was dying at the same time that Jesus was. He believed in Jesus. “And Jesus said to him, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise (*Heaven*)’” (Luke 23:43). But don’t put it off too long, or you may miss your chance!

8. Do you want to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior? - If so, here is a suggested prayer - “Jesus, I am repenting of my sins and want to follow You. Please forgive me and cleanse me from my sins. I believe that You are God’s Son, that You died to pay for my sins, and that God raised You from the dead. Now, I confess You and receive You as my Lord and Savior. I want to live with You in heaven forever. Amen!” **Name** _____ **Date** _____

9. You can have assurance of your salvation. - Jesus said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him (*God*) who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life” (John 5:24).

10. What will happen to me when I die? - Before Jesus ascended into heaven, He said, “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ... I go to prepare a place for you. ... I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also” (John 14:12-3). When you are dying you will not be alone. The Bible says, “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I will fear no evil; For You are with me**” (Psalm 23:4). Jesus will never leave you nor forsake you. Jesus said, “I am with you always,...” (Matthew 28:20). You will not go to heaven alone. Once there, you will live with Jesus forever!

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