

## Is God Fun? Heaven Is Fun! On Earth as it is in Heaven

July 17, 2022 – Part 3

Matthew 6 <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. NKJV <sup>10</sup> Manifest your kingdom realm, and cause your every purpose to be fulfilled on earth, just as it is in heaven. TPT

**Romans 14** <sup>17</sup> For the kingdom of God is not a matter of rules about food and drink, but is in the realm of the Holy Spirit, <u>filled with righteousness</u>, <u>peace</u>, <u>and joy</u>. TPT

FUN: <u>enjoyment</u>, light-hearted <u>pleasure</u>, playfulness, good humor, <u>amusing</u>
JOY: a feeling of great <u>pleasure</u> and <u>happiness</u>

## Love is the point of it all! God is Love!

1 John 4 <sup>8</sup> The one who doesn't love has yet to know God, for God is love. TPT

**1 Thessalonians 2** <sup>19</sup> After all, what gives us **hope and joy**, and what will be our proud reward and crown as we stand before our Lord Jesus when he returns? It is you! <sup>20</sup> **Yes**, **you are our pride and joy**. NLT

So if love and relationship is the goal of life on earth, why would we think God wants to tear that apart or take relationship from us in Heaven? Nothing could be further from the truth. **The whole point of this life is the creation of a spiritual family for God**.

Everything God claims to have done through the prophets and through Jesus is for the sake of love – to restore people to a love relationship with God, so He can teach us to love one another as He loves us. <u>He intends those relationships to last in Heaven</u>, and even more, to find their fulfillment in Heaven. <u>The greatest love we feel for children</u>, <u>a spouse</u>, <u>friends</u>, <u>or family on earth amounts to a teaspoon of love compared to the oceans we will experience together for eternity</u>.

The power of God can unite people in ways that overcome our relational squabbles and concerns, and that's what He will do for all His children. Don't worry about family feuds in Heaven.

"Then Abraham breathed his last and died at a good old age...and he was *gathered to his people*" (Genesis 25:8, author's italics). "Then [Isaac] breathed his last and died and was *gathered to his people*" (35:29, author's italics). God created love, relationship, and family, and they remain important to Him in Heaven.

**2 Samuel 12** <sup>23</sup> But why should I fast when he is dead? Can I bring him back again? <u>I will go to him one day</u>, <u>but he cannot return to me</u>." NLT

**Hebrews 2** <sup>10</sup> God, for whom and through whom everything was made, **chose to bring many children into glory**. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation. <sup>11</sup> So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. **That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters**. NLT

**Isaiah 65** <sup>24</sup> <u>I will answer them before they even call to me</u>. While they are still talking about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers! NLT

**Matthew 10** <sup>26</sup> "But don't be afraid of those who threaten you. For the time is coming when everything that is covered will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you now in the darkness, shout abroad when daybreak comes. What I whisper in your ear, shout from the housetops for all to hear! NLT

John 17 <sup>20</sup> "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. <sup>21</sup> I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. <sup>22</sup> "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. <sup>23</sup> I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. NLT

- 1. Out -of-body experience: separation of consciousness from the physical body (75.4%)
- 2. Heightened senses (74.4% said "more conscious and alert than normal")
- 3. Intense and generally positive emotions or feelings (76.2% "incredible peace")
- 4. Passing into or through a tunnel (33.8%)
- 5. Encountering a mystical or brilliant light (64.6%)
- 6. Encountering other beings, either mystical beings or deceased relatives or friends (57.3%)
- 7. A sense of alteration of time or space (60.5%)
- 8. Life review (22.2%)
- 9. Encountering unworldly ("heavenly") realms (52.2%)
- 10. Encountering or learning special knowledge (56%)
- 11. Encountering a boundary or barrier (31%)
- 12. A return to the body (58.5% were aware of a decision to return)

Heaven has no room for sin. Part of the joy I was experiencing was not only the presence of everything wonderful but the absence of everything terrible. There is no strife, no competition, no sarcasm, no betrayal, no deception, no lies, no murders, no unfaithfulness, no disloyalty, nothing contrary to the light and life and love.... The absence of sin was something you could feel. There was no shame, because there was nothing to be ashamed of. There was no sadness, because there was nothing to be sad about. There was no need to hide, because there was nothing to hide from. It was all out in the open.

Never-Ending Life! And the great news is...it never has to end. This is just the beginning. After your tour of Heaven's City, you will realize that all of the history of earth was merely the prelude to the first chapter of the real story of Life that's just beginning. And the present heaven with all its wonders is merely chapter one of God's Story of Life. Greater things are yet to come with a new story of heaven and earth renewed. You will realize that all the struggle, all the suffering, all the painful challenges, every act of faith, service, and sacrifice done on this earth produced for us "an eternal glory that far outweighs them all" (2 Corinthians 4:17). The life you always knew you were meant to live – that Life is just beginning. The most wonderful experiences imaginable lie before you. Imagine heaven! Live for it now!