



Four Portraits, One *Savior*



That you may
have *life*

A Glimpse of Heaven – Part 2

John 14:2-3; 17:24

What if we used the MLB Playoffs as our metaphor to answer the “why” questions of life? The world series = Heaven.



1. *Jesus' death acts like "divine currency" to purchase my "place" in heaven.*

- *Jn 17:24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, be with me where I am..."*
- *Jn. 14:2 In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. (NAU)*
- *1 Peter 1:18-19 knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold ..., but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.*



*To not believe in the atoning work of Jesus on the cross is
to refuse Christ's offer for eternal life and a "home."*





*The soul of a deceased believer does not “roam”
looking for a place to call home.*

- *Matt 12:43-45 Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through **waterless places seeking rest, and does not find it.** Then it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came’; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. Then it goes and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. **That is the way it will also be with this evil generation.**”*
- *Job 1:7 The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From **roaming about** on the earth and walking around on it."*





- “Home” in heaven already exists for a believer.

A. Title deed.

- Heb 12:23 ... to the **church of the firstborn** who are **enrolled** in heaven”
- Luke 10:20 “... rejoice that your **names are recorded** in heaven.”
- Eph 1:4 “He **chose us** in Him **before** the foundation of the world...” Rev 13:8

B. Possession **pending (living)**.

- Eph. 1:13-14 In Him, you also, ... were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is given as a **pledge** of our **inheritance**, with a view to the **redemption of God’s own possession** ...



*“Is there a purpose for life beyond the here and now or
is this all there is?”*

“Why do we have memories in heaven?”



2. My “works” in this life are *paid forward* to the next – in heaven or hell, as I have believed.



- A. “*Crown*.” 2 Tim 4:7-8
- B. “*Marathon*”- to *win*. Heb 12:1; 1 Cor 9:4
- C. “*Seat*” in the “stands.” Heb 12:1

- Rev 14:13 “And I heard a voice from heaven saying, ‘Blessed are the **dead who die in the Lord** from now on!’ ‘Yes,’ says the Spirit, ‘so that they may rest from their labors, **for their deeds follow with them.**’”
- 2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**, so that each one may be **recompensed** for his deeds in the body, **according to what he has done**, whether **good** or **bad**.
- Lk. 16:24-25 "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.'²⁵ "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that **during your life you received your good things**, and likewise **Lazarus bad things**; but now **he is being comforted here, and you are in agony.** (NAU)



3. *At Christ's 2nd coming, body and soul are reunited and the result is a "glorified, resurrection body."*

- *Jn. 14:3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again and receive you to Myself**, that where I am, there you may be also.*
- *1 Thess. 4:16-17 For the **Lord Himself** will descend **from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the **dead in Christ** will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we **who are alive and remain** will be **caught up ["raptured"]** together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and **so we shall always be with the Lord.***
 1. *Dead in Christ, first, join their soul*
 2. *Living – body and soul, "caught up"*
- *1 Cor 15:51-53*





One resurrection, one transformation, one body – eternally.

- 1 Cor. 15:51-53 *Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, **but we will all be changed**,⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the **dead will be raised imperishable**, and we will be changed.⁵³ For this perishable must put on the **imperishable**, and this mortal must put on **immortality**. (NAU)*
- Phil. 3:21 *who will transform the body of our humble state into **conformity with the body of His glory**, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself. (NAU)*





God's ultimate plan is that body and soul become immortal – “redeemed,” “glorified.”

- *2 Cor. 5:1-4 For we know that if the **earthly tent** which is our **house** is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.² **For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven,**³ inasmuch as we, having put it on, **will not be found naked.**⁴ For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is **mortal will be swallowed up by life.** (NAU)*



Believers are challenged to be ready for the return of Christ as emanate.

- *Matt. 24:37-44 "For the **coming of the Son of Man** will be just like the days of Noah.³⁸ "... they were **eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage**, until the day that Noah entered the ark,³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; **so will the coming of the Son of Man be.**⁴⁰ "Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.⁴¹ "Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.⁴² **"Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming...***



Call to Action.

1. Are you “running the race” to win? Take an inventory of your life and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal if you are making a difference for Jesus Christ. Decide to change your course of direction today.





4. *What about those who believe after the return of Christ, i.e., during the Great Tribulation period? Will they have a resurrection body?*
- *Do unbelievers come to Christ after the rapture?*
 - *The Jews – 144K. Rev 1:7, Zec 12:10, Rev 7:4, Rom 11:25-26*
 - *Rev. 7:6 “a **great multitude**, ..., from every nation, tribe, peoples and tongues, ..., 13 ... who are they...? 14 I said to him, “My lord, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones **who come out of the great tribulation**, and they have **washed their robes** and made them white **in the blood of the Lamb**. (NAU)*
 - *Not all – Rev 9:20-21, 16:9, 11. “Pharoah.”*

