

Heaven

Heaven's Population

Sunday, July 24, 2011

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Message Truth:

There is much for a Christian to look forward to in Heaven. In Heaven I will finally live in a place that is curse-free. In Heaven I will hear my new name, which is known only to me and my Lord. In Heaven I will see the place Jesus has prepared for me. In Heaven I will have the knowledge I have desired revealed. In Heaven I will see the perfect fulfillment of my faith. In Heaven I will finally occupy a body that has not been cursed. In Heaven my flesh will finally be my ally and not my enemy. In Heaven I will receive rewards, which I will in turn be able to cast at Jesus' feet. In Heaven I will have perfect fellowship with God and others. The question arises, "Who will make up heaven's residents?" The answer, according to the Scriptures, is God's chosen ones, or His elect.

Message Text:

²² "If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the **elect** those days will be shortened. ²³ At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. ²⁴ For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the **elect** - if that were possible. ²⁵ See, I have told you ahead of time. ²⁶ "So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. ²⁷ For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. . . ²⁹ "Immediately after the distress of those days "the sun will

be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' ³⁰ "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his **elect** from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. Matthew 24:22-27, 29-31

Who will populate Heaven? The e_____!

1. True saving faith includes k_____, a_____, and p_____ t_____.

- Knowledge alone is not e_____.
- Knowledge and approval are not e_____.
- I must decide to d_____ on Jesus to save personally.
- Faith should i_____ as our knowledge increases.

2. True saving faith and repentance must come t_____.

²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ **Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.** ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:27-30 (ESV)

3. Both faith and repentance c_____ throughout life.