

“Eternity in the Hearts of Men”

Pastor Kent

“He (God) has also set eternity in the human heart.” Ecclesiastes. 3:11

“Just as *people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.*” Hebrews 9:27

Why do people believe in heaven?

- * The Bible and Jesus speaks of it as a reality
- * We long for justice
- * This life/world cannot meet our greatest and deepest longings/dreams/hopes
- * Tens of Thousands of Near-Death Experiences
- * My inner desire and passion to worship God.

Jesus to the thief on the cross;

“ . . . today, you will be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:43

- * Heaven is greater and more beautiful than we can imagine.
- * In heaven, we will be with Jesus.
- * not everyone is bound for heaven (dreams, NDE of hell).

“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.” Revelation 21:3-6

“No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.” Revelation 22:3-5

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me My Father’s house has plenty of room; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may where I am.”

John 14:1-3

SO WHAT?

*** We can celebrate, not grieve for our loved ones who die in Christ.”**

“Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord’s word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words..” 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

***We can experience heaven here, now, as the Spirit of Christ is in us.**

***We taste heaven when we experience inexplicable joy, love, and peace**

*** We need not fear death.**

“For to me, to live is Christ, to die is gain,” Philippians. 1:29.

*** We can work to bring heaven to earth now.**

*** The great question is, if you died today, do you know where you are going? And Why?**

“ . . . I will dwell in the house of the Lord.” Psalm 23