

Rev. 23-1-7

SUBJECT: Visit ? Belgium Abroad
Season: 7/4 Boyscouts

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5/90
CP

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Rev. 22:1-7

What? Believe about Heaven: The Beyond
(What We Shall Do)

The unbeliever's answer

NOTHING

1. This is the contemptuous satire, the insulting way
travelling so often depicted and pictured.
of cartoon, a man with wings, halo or head,
seated on a fleecy cloud, strumming a harp

2. Loved such a grotesque parody, such a
ridiculous banalization to true?

We simply resign ourselves to endlessness of
nothingness?

We fall into the boredom of nothingness?

We are forced to look forward to nothingness?

There awaits us an inevitable Christian
Nirvana of nothingness?

We are graduated into a paradise / ^{nothingness} ~~inaction~~?

Heaven is nothing more than a ^{barren} ~~leaf~~
of worn-out bodies, a collection of ^{barren} ~~entities~~
consigned to the endless boredom of nothingness?
~~to do?~~

3. BUT what does it mean, Rev. 14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, ... that they may rest from their labors...."? Do you just mean ^{nothingness?} rest from their labors....?

It means:
We shall rest (be delivered from) sin,
temptation, weakness, failure, defeat

We shall rest in God's grace, love and
our heavenly citizenship
The very word "rest" implies the word "labor" used in the text.

We shall work without weariness.
We shall still be refreshed after the
toil of the day, the century, the eternity.

What shall we do in heaven?

II. THE ANSWER OF JESUS AND THE REVELATION OF INFALLIBLE SCRIPTURE

1. Service and unflinching rewards are basic
themes in Christ's teaching.

Look at Math. 24:45-47: "Who is a faithful
and wise servant whom his Lord has
made ruler over his household? Blessed
is that servant, whom his Lord when
he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I
say unto you, that he shall make him
ruler over all his goods."

Look at Matth 25:20-23: "He that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, 'Lord, I have diligently made you five talents.' Behold, I have gained beside your five talents more. His lord said unto him, 'Well done thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.' He also that had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, I have diligently made you two talents.' Beside these, I have gained two other talents: well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.'"

Look at Lev 19:15-19 ^(just next) "As it came to pass that when (the Lord) was returned, having received the offering, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. Then came he first and said

7th, thy pound hath gained ten pounds
as he had put into him, well, thou
good servant: because thou hast been
faithful in a very little, I will set thee
over many ten cities. And the
second came, saying, 7th, thy pound hath
gained five pounds. as he had
delivered to him, he also was
justified. 4

2. Jesus is the great instrument. He teaches
us to use the money as means of the life
for the service and advancement in the life to come.
For verse, th. 10:9, say with you, ready
to give of your own freewill of the name of
our Father, that, when ^{it (riches)} ye shall die, ye may
receive your inheritance. (When in death richer folk, those you have
blessed and benefited by your use of money, will
welcome you into Heaven.)

We must here be prepared for our greater
assignment and reward.

3. We have a picture of our work-assignment
in the heavenly world in the life and ministry
of Jesus himself.

Heb. 13:8 avows, "Jesus Christ, the same
yesterday, as today, as forever."

Yesterday: In his pre-existent state he
worked. He created the heavenly world and earth.

Today: In his earthly life he was a
workman, a carpenter. And in his ministry
he is the great Instructor, the Head of church,
the Saviour of the body.

Forever: he will be His and yet we a
vast re-created universe "heaven and earth
filled with living, labouring, serving
people."

4. The model work-ministry of our
Lord guides discussion in the heavenly
assignments of his redeemed people.

John 5:17 Jesus answered, my Father
works hitherto, and I work."

John 14:12 "Verily, verily I say unto you,
he that believeth in me, the works that
I do shall he do also; and greater
works than these shall he do..."

What are these heavenly wonders?

5. We shall be judges in the recreated world with Christ.

Matt. 19: 28 "And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

I Cor. 6: 2, 3 "Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? the world shall be judged by you. Know ye not that we shall judge angels?"

6. We shall reign and rule with Christ throughout the endless succession of ages.

II Tim. 2: 11, 12 "It is a faithful saying, if we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him; if we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him."

Rev. 5: 10 "Thou hast made us unto our God kings and priests, and we shall reign on the earth."

One as Luke 19: 17, 19 says, some of us are ten cities, some of us are five cities.

7. But all of us shall have our individual,
separate assignments.
Prov. 27:3 "and his servants shall serve him."

We shall have a place of honor, next to
the King, such as the servants described in
Esther 1:14 "they saw the king's face and
sat first in the banquet."

We shall not be passive spectators,
just observing; but we shall be an
active, vital part of the whole banquet
of God. We each shall have a voice
to render according to how God has
made us and endowed us. As we
differ in talents, likes, choices, abilities,
so also we shall differ in our
separate assignments and activities.

The biblical revelation 1

III The continuity of life

1. When the shadow of this life is over, the real life begins. There is progress in the pursuit of the purpose of God for us in the rich meaning of life on a higher level. What we have begun on earth we shall consummate in Heaven.

2. We shall be the same persons there as here, otherwise a heavenly life has no meaning. Our traits, abilities, personalities will be the same, only they will be redeemed and glorified.

The forgotten example that is seen in the resurrected, glorified life is the 7th year. The man the same 7th year in his resurrected life as he was in the days of his flesh. His recognitions were human.

He said in Lk. 24: 39 "Behold of myself and of feet, that it is I myself; handle me and see, for a spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see me have." He was recognized by John by the way he ^{held} the disciples.

may ... pronounced ^{the} ~~the~~ name

the two Eucharist discourses by the way he said the blessing - the Galilean discourses by the miraculous ways, ^{which} ~~which~~ 15

So we shall be the same persons, with
our separate faculties, abilities and personalities.
We shall continue developing & progressing
in the world to come.

Mozart died at 35 years of age. Can
the gifts he possessed in this life be carried
away? Is he not to be recognized as
heaven as the great musician? Is his
genius to be separated from the man himself?

Rafael died at 37 years of age. Is
he not to be recognized as Raphael?
Is his sublime career to be obliterated
and forgotten?

Samuel Stennett our Indian Baptist
Pastor died in the prison, his ministry. He
wrote many beautiful hymns, including
"On Jordan's Shore" (Psalm 134) and
"Magnify Sweetness with Goodness." In
heaven are he cast his gift of song?
The Book of Revelations constantly speaks
of the new song, that we shall sing.

(Rev. 5:9; 14:3; 15:3) The Revelations
contains more songs than any other book
and even in the Psalm the "new song" are
constantly referred to: Ps. 33:3; 40:3; 68:30;
96:1; 98:1; 149:4; 149:1
We shall hear or sing of them!

Our lives, talents, gifts, abilities,
shall continue to be developed throughout
the ages. In heaven we shall be permitted
to finish tasks we dreamed of so but
here ^{on earth} we had no opportunity, or time or
strength or ability to finish.

(4) We remember Prof. O. M. Mitchell,
the great astronomer, who believed that
in the future the voices of far
worlds would be heard, planet to planet,
continuing his study of astronomy.

The air, we also shall ascend
of that narrow, ^{circumvented} valley
of life into the ^{BRANDER} ^{VALLEY} ^{of} ^{heaven}
of heaven.

Our life and work here are interrupted by
death. As Cecil Rhodes said in his last
words, "I go little way, as usual to heaven."
We shall continue in heaven.

4 The injustice and inequality of the life of flesh
for another ^{and} ^{recompensing} creation. A good seed
could not have as a prey to a leering
devil in a ruined mine. The moral
law, however, not as in that but also
deeply in us, demands a vindication?
adjustment after death.

People in this life live with talents, never
use a seed. Many have a gift cherished
but possess no opportunity to use it.
They are like a bird with wings, but
placed in a cage.

They are poor and philanthropic - and
but their talents and gifts are lost
in a coffin and buried in a grave.

But they will get their chance -
will come into their own in heaven.

God will not create us here - and endow
us here to cast us away here -
in quest, abundance, triumph if
beyond death.

(6) ^{as} the ^{word} says, "There is no disappointment in heaven"

- F. M. LERMAN

There is no disappointment in Heaven
no weaviness, sorrow or pain;
No hearts that are bleeding and broken,
no song with a minor refrain.
The clouds, your earthly horizon
will never appear in the sky.
For all will be sunshine and gladness
With never a sob nor a sigh.

There will never be crepe on the donkey,
no funeral train in the sky
no graves on the hillside of glory,
For there we shall never more die.

The old will be young and forever
Transformed in a moment of time.
Immortal we'll stand in His likeness,
The stars at the Sun to outshine.

I'm bound for that beautiful city
my feet are prepared for His own;
I see the redeemed, all ages
Singing "Hallelujah" around the throne
Somehow I know how much He loves
and the glory that shall be His
with a joy that will be mine
In that beautiful city of gold!

IV A Summary

There are two possessions we shall carry into the future, free from death

1. Our character, redeemed by the blood of the Crucified One.
2. Our capacity, given and endowed by the Father and Son.

Shall these gifts from the creative hand of God be wantonly neglected, discarded in unbelief and forgetfulness? Shall we be consigned to a future of idleness and nothingness?

no, a thousand times no.

(a) Alfred the Tennyson, always at end, his words, "Crossing the Bar"

So Robert Browning. Written at end, his words, "Epilogue."

EPILOGUE

Robert Browning. Last day he wrote. Dial year
1890.

One who never turned his back but
marched breast forward.

Never doubted clouds would break.
Never dreamed, though right were
wrong would triumph,
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to
fight better,

Sleep to wake.

So, at morning in the battle of man's
rough-timber,

Bent the universe with a cheer!
Bid him forward, breast as back as
either should be,

"Stirre or thrive!" cry "Speed -
fight on, fare ever

There as here!"

END