

## “The Study of Heaven – Part 5”

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### Scripture

#### Isaiah 60:1-22

**“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.** For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the LORD will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. "Lift up your eyes round about and see; They all gather together, they come to you. Your sons will come from afar, and your daughters will be carried in the arms.

5"Then you will see and be radiant, and your heart will thrill and rejoice; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, the wealth of the nations will come to you. A multitude of camels will cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba will come; They will bring gold and frankincense, and will bear good news of the praises of the LORD. **All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you, the rams of Nebaioth will minister to you;** They will go up with acceptance on My altar, and I shall glorify My glorious house. "Who are these who fly like a cloud and like the doves to their lattices?

9"Surely the coastlands will wait for Me; And the ships of Tarshish will come first, to bring your sons from afar, their silver and their gold with them, For the name of the LORD your God, and for the Holy One of Israel because He has glorified you. Foreigners will build up your walls, and their kings will minister to you; **For in My wrath I struck you, And in My favor I have had compassion on you.**

11"**Your gates will be open continually;** They will not be closed day or night, so that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession. For the nation and the kingdom which will not serve you will perish, and the nations will be utterly ruined. The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the juniper, the box tree and the cypress together, to beautify the place of My sanctuary; and I shall make the place of My feet glorious.

14"The sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you, and all those who despised you will bow themselves at the soles of your feet; and they will call you the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel. Whereas you have been forsaken and hated With no one passing through, I will make you an everlasting pride, A joy from generation to generation. You will also suck the milk of nations and suck the breast of kings; Then you will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. Instead of bronze I will bring gold, and instead of iron I will bring silver, And instead of wood, bronze, And instead of stones, iron. And I will make peace your administrators and righteousness your overseers. Violence will not be heard again in your land, nor devastation or destruction within your borders; But you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise.

19"**No longer will you have the sun for light by day, nor for brightness will the moon give you light; But you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, and your God for your glory.** "Your sun will no longer set, nor will your moon wane; for you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, And the days of your mourning will be over.

21"Then all your people will be righteous; They will possess the land forever, the branch of My planting, The work of My hands, that I may be glorified. The smallest one will become a clan, and the least one a mighty nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time."

Last Time we looked at 2 questions

### Two Questions:

1. Where will we live?
2. Can we go back and forth from the New Heaven to the New Earth?

What do we remember from last week?

### This Week

### New Questions:

Good questions to begin Part 5 of the Heaven series

1. Are Old Testament saints in Heaven as a part of "the Church"?
2. Is there any time difference between the end of the Millennial Kingdom and the Eternal State?

Are Old Testament saints in Heaven as a part of "the Church"?

Good question!

There has long been confusion between Israel and the Church

Replacement theology holds that the Church replaced Israel -> not true -> Israel has unfulfilled promises still

Paul tells the Ephesians

### Ephesians 4:4-8

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN."

Paul is quoting **Psalm 68** here -> Old Testament quotation referencing Christ

There is one body and one Spirit -> not one from the Old Testament and another from the New Testament

When Jesus ascended, He led captives free -> the cross secured salvation for all who would believe

They were in prison in their sins -> under Satan's control

They were rescued by God -> we do not break out of prison ourselves

Paul writes to the Colossians:

### Colossians 1:13-14

"For **He rescued us from the domain of darkness** and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

We will dine at the table of Abraham:

### Matthew 8:10-12 (Centurion's faith)

"Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who were following, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel. **I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven**; but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

### The Centurion was from what nation?

A Gentile commander of 100 troops in the Roman army

So, here you have a Gentile being told that he will dine in Heaven with the Jewish patriarchs

### Luke 16:22 (Rich Man and Lazarus)

"Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried."

Old Testament saints expected to be in glory:

### Psalms 73:24-25

"With Your counsel You will guide me, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth."

Some Jews were translated into glory:

### Hebrews 12:22-24

"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, **the heavenly Jerusalem**, and to myriads of angels, to the **general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven**, and to God, the Judge of all, and **to the spirits of the righteous made perfect**, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel."

"**general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven**" -> "the Church"

"**to the spirits of the righteous made perfect**" -> these cannot be the Church, they must be OT saints

"the blood of Abel" -> temporary cleansing from sin

"the sprinkled blood" -> permanent cleansing from Jesus

### Hebrews 11:8-10

"By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; **for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.**"

Abraham had his sight on Heaven

So, yes. OT saints would be in Heaven just like the church

Definitely a large group in Heaven

### Is there any time difference between the end of the Millennial Kingdom and the Eternal State?

The Millennial Kingdom will last for 1000 years, and the eternal state is, well, eternal

There are many passages in the Old Testament that can be confusing

Isaiah 60 is one of them

Is Isaiah speaking of the Millennial Kingdom or of the eternal state?

#### **Isaiah 60:1-4**

**“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.** For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the LORD will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. "Lift up your eyes round about and see; **They all gather together, they come to you.** Your sons will come from afar, and your daughters will be carried in the arms.”

Darkness could be spiritual darkness OR physical darkness (which occurs on the earth during the Tribulation)

“Nations will come to your light”?

That could be Jesus as the Light of the World

“They all gather together, they come to you” -> doesn't sound like a spiritual collecting here

Going further, let's see if we can learn more

#### **Isaiah 60:5-8**

“Then you will see and be radiant, and your heart will thrill and rejoice; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, the wealth of the nations will come to you. A multitude of camels will cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba will come; They will bring gold and frankincense and **will bear good news of the praises of the LORD.** **All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you, the rams of Nebaioth will minister to you**; They will go up with acceptance on My altar, and I shall glorify My glorious house. "Who are these who fly like a cloud and like the doves to their lattices?"

Israel will be rejoicing at its place on the earth

That certainly doesn't sound like our time -> it must be something in the future

“the wealth of the nations will come to you” -> Israel will gain economic prominence

**“will bear good news of the praises of the LORD”** -> nations will come praising God

“camels of Midian and Ephah” -> Abraham's lineage through his maidservant

“All those from Sheba will come” -> from Arabia

**“All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you, the rams of Nebaioth will minister to you”** -> Muslim nations, being children of Ismael

Wealth coming from the surrounding nations into Israel

Muslim nations bringing wealth and praise

This must be the Millennial Kingdom when Jesus returns to Zion

## Isaiah 60:9-10

“Surely the coastlands will wait for Me; And the ships of Tarshish will come first, to bring your sons from afar, their silver and their gold with them, **For the name of the LORD your God, and for the Holy One of Israel because He has glorified you.** Foreigners will build up your walls, and their kings will minister to you; **For in My wrath I struck you, And in My favor I have had compassion on you.**”

Israel will be glorified -> certainly not the case now -> Israel will be abandoned by all nations

“Foreigners will build up your walls, and their kings will minister to you” -> nations will rebuild Israel

“**For in My wrath I struck you, and in My favor I have had compassion on you**” – reverse the curse

## Isaiah 60:11-13

“**Your gates will be open continually; They will not be closed day or night, so that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession.** For the nation and the kingdom which will not serve you will perish, and the nations will be utterly ruined. The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the juniper, the box tree and the cypress together, **to beautify the place of My sanctuary;** and I shall make the place of My feet glorious.”

“**Your gates will be open continually**” -> Israel will dwell in security

“men may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession” -> constant flow of goods

“which will not serve you will perish, and the nations will be utterly ruined” -> nations will come or destroyed

Psalm 2 -> “the Lord will rule the nations with a rod of iron”

“**to beautify the place of My sanctuary**” -> rebuilding of the city

## Isaiah 60:14-18

“The **sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you,** and all those who despised you will bow themselves at the soles of your feet; and **they will call you the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.** Whereas you have been forsaken and hated With no one passing through, I will make you an everlasting pride, A joy from generation to generation. You will also suck the milk of nations and suck the breast of kings; Then you will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior and your Redeemer, **the Mighty One of Jacob.** Instead of bronze I will bring gold, and instead of iron I will bring silver, And instead of wood, bronze, And instead of stones, iron. And I will make peace your administrators and righteousness your overseers. Violence will not be heard again in your land, nor devastation or destruction within your borders; But you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise.”

The nations around Israel that have attacked will recognize their weakness

They will bow at Israel's feet

They will call Jerusalem “**they will call you the city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel**” and will worship Him

From being despised, Israel will be exalted

The city will recognize “**the Mighty One of Jacob**” -> the true God, Jesus

“Violence will not be heard again in your land, nor devastation or destruction within your borders”: no Hamas

“you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise” -> security and praising Jesus all the day long

But then the view changes a little:

### **Isaiah 60:19-20**

**“No longer will you have the sun for light by day, nor for brightness will the moon give you light; But you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, and your God for your glory. "Your sun will no longer set, nor will your moon wane; for you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, And the days of your mourning will be over.”**

No longer a sun for light?

That doesn't sound like the Millennial Kingdom any longer

We looked at **Revelation 21** last week:

### **Revelation 21:22-23** (The New Jerusalem)

**“I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.”**

**“days of your mourning will be over”** -> no more tears or suffering and pain

Sounds like Revelation 21 again:

### **Revelation 21:4**

**“He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”**

Isaiah then finishes:

### **Isaiah 60:21-22**

**“Then all your people will be righteous; They will possess the land forever, the branch of My planting, The work of My hands, that I may be glorified. The smallest one will become a clan, and the least one a mighty nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time.”**

**“all your people will be righteous”** -> sounds like the perfect state

**“They will possess the land forever”** -> the New Earth is theirs

Seems pretty clear that the OT prophets saw a combined Kingdom and Eternal State

We see Revelation 20 -> Millennial Kingdom followed by Revelation 21 -> New Heaven and New Earth

So, a few more answers this evening in our study of Heaven

**Prayer**

**Benediction**