

“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in His name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

John 1:12

1. As many as receive Jesus – they are enabled to become sons, heirs of God. The focus is on relationship

“I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.”

Revelation 21:2-4

1. Heaven is a real place
2. God will come to live with His people
3. Does this suggest the close relationship God seeks with His people?
4. How do you think such a close relationship can develop?

DISCOVERING THE BIBLE

LESSON 6 HEAVEN

“However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him” but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.”

1 Corinthians 2:9,10

1. At no time has an ordinary human seen or even dreamed of the wondrous things God has prepared for those who love Him
2. Christians can get a very good idea of what heaven is like
3. Why does God make sure that we know something of what heaven is like?

“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.”

Revelation 21:4

1. There are no undesirable traits in heaven such as sickness, sorrow or pain
2. What does this say about the character of God?

“Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards

and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat.”

Isaiah 65:17, 21,22

1. There is a re-creation of heaven and earth
2. The former things are not remembered, nor do they come to mind
3. All will build houses and inhabit them
4. We will plant vineyards and eat their fruit
5. Each shall enjoy the work of his own hands. None will labour in vain
6. It is a place of peace and tranquillity – Isaiah 11:6 says the wolf and the lamb will play together

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, I would have told you. 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 may also be where I am.”

John 14:1-3

1. Heaven is a place to look forward to
2. There will be a place prepared for me in heaven.
3. Jesus promises to return to take us to this place

“Now we see a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.”

1 Corinthians 13:12

1. We don’t know everything in this life
2. We will know each other in heaven

“... but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, “woman, why are you crying?”

“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.”

At this she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus. “Woman,” he said, “why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means teacher).

John 20:11-16

1. Mary had a very close relationship with Jesus. She loved Him
2. Look at 1 Corinthians 13:12. Just as Mary recognised Jesus by His voice so shall we recognise one another in heaven by our voices—at least