

# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GO TO HEAVEN?

*Session Two ...*

Next, you wait in some very good company



# REVIEW: WHAT IS “HEAVEN”?

- Stated most simply: ***Wherever God Is!***
- 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 – three “levels” of life

## Now

Earthly Tent  
Away from  
the Lord

## Today’s Heaven

“Unclothed”  
Home with the Lord  
in “first” heaven/paradise

## “New”/Final Heaven

“Clothed”  
With the Lord in “new  
Heaven and new Earth”

- The “unclothed” state is the *waiting room* to our final state
- How will the intermediate (heavenly) state be experienced?



# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE?

- Scripture doesn't "cater to curiosity," but it would be strange for this question to go totally unaddressed in the Bible.
  - All of us wonder! Job 14:14
  - There are hopes and hints in the OT. Dan 12:2; Eccl 12:7; Psa 146:4
- Affirmation of life after death awaits the NT for clarity
  - Jewish teachers developed hope of a life to come. John 11:24
  - Jesus speaks of it in various ways. John 11:25-26; 14:1ff
  - Paul affirms it with passion. Acts 24:15; 1 Cor 15:12-19
  - The Apocalypse pictures post-mortem events. Rev 6:9-11



# CONTEXT OF LUKE 16:19-31

- **Larger:** Luke has obvious interest in parables – *two dozen+*
  - Several focus on money, wealth, stewardship / cf. 12:16-21
  - Luke has 11 parables unique to his Gospel
- **Immediate:** Rebuke to people “who loved money” / Ch.16 (esp. 14)
  - **Shrewd Manager:** Use money to bless (not hoard!) / 16:1-9
    - Application: Cannot serve God and Money / 16:13
    - Reaction: Sneering audience / 16:14
  - **Rejoinder:** Rich Man and Lazarus
    - Application #1: Luke’s “great reversal” (wealth/poverty here are not “signs”)
    - Application #2: Future state is fixed by choices made in life



# VALUE OF LUKE 16:19-31

- It is consistent with other NT texts / Luke 23:43; John 14:2; 2 Cor 5:1-10; Phil 1:23; Rev 6:9-10
- It provides additional “mental furniture” for thinking of the intermediate state of the dead
  - Luke 23 / “paradise” (garden)
  - John 14 / “rooms” (Gk, *monē* = rest stop)
  - 2 Cor 5 / “unclothed” (absent “tent” of flesh)
  - Phil 1 / “with the Lord”
  - Rev 6 / rescued and waiting
  - Luke 16 / “angels” to “Abraham’s side”



# OH, THE COMPANY YOU'LL KEEP!

- ***GOD: Father, Spirit, and (bodily) Son***
- Abraham
- Angels
- Saints of ages past / present (Heb 12:1)
- People you know

