

Biblical Answers for Questions About Heaven

By
Vance Kessler
v1

Copyright © Vance Kessler, 2022, All rights reserved.

Contents

i – Preface	i
1 – Where do we go when we die?	1
2 – Will I be judged?.....	3
3 – Will I float around as a bodiless spirit?	4
4 – Will I know everything?.....	5
5 – What will I remember?	6
6 – Will I sing for all eternity?	7
7 – What might life be like in Heaven?.....	9
8 – Will I have free will in Heaven if I cannot sin?.....	10
9 – Will Heaven be boring if we cannot sin?	11
10 – What does having no pain in Heaven mean?	13
11 – Will I still be married in Heaven?.....	14
12 – What about those who aren't in Heaven?	15
Books by Vance Kessler	16

i – Preface

I attempt to give reasonable answers to the most common questions related to Heaven based on what we can find in the Bible. These answers will be incomplete as no one can tell you precisely what awaits us in New Heaven. However, God gave us clues in the Bible to point us in the right direction.

In the ten years I have been studying and writing about Heaven, I have moved from being marginally curious about it to passionately wanting people to be excited about what God is preparing for our eternal home. The hope of Heaven gives you an unshakable foundation for this life.

I hope your imagination is stirred and your excitement increased for what awaits us in Heaven. To discover more about Heaven, here are some excellent books:

[Heaven: Harps Optional](#) by Vance Kessler

An in-depth look at what the Bible reveals about Heaven.

[My First 10,000 Years in Heaven](#) by Vance Kessler

A Fictional look at what Heaven could be. The story guesses at some of the implications of what we know about Heaven. It admits it falls short of what Heaven will be and that some aspects could be incorrect.

[Surprised by Hope](#) by N.T. Wright

Talks about what we can hope for in Heaven and how it ties into how we should live today.

[Heaven](#) by Randy Alcorn

A Comprehensive Guide to Everything the Bible Says About Our Eternal Home.

You can also find my blog about Heaven interesting. It is called **Discovering Heaven** and is at <https://discoveringheaven.blogspot.com>.

More information about other books of mine is at <https://VanceKessler.com>.

1 – Where do we go when we die?

No one on this side of death knows precisely what happens after we die. Some have been declared dead and been brought back to life, but the tales from those individuals vary greatly. God is the only reliable source of information about what will become of us. Thankfully, He has clearly told us what happens in general terms, but the details are vague.

In general, after we die, we will be judged:

... it is appointed for people to die once – and after this, judgment

Hebrews 9:27 (HCSB)

After judgment, we will end up in either Heaven or Hell:

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and One seated on it. Earth and heaven fled from His presence, and no place was found for them. ¹²I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books.

¹³Then the sea gave up its dead, and Death and Hades gave up their dead; all were judged according to their works. ¹⁴Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵And anyone not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:11-15 (HCSB)

The passage tells us *all were judged* at the Great White Throne. Everyone will be judged starting at the same time, which means those who have already died are waiting to be judged. The passage also tells us that *Death and Hades* will give up their dead, indicating two separate places where the dead await judgment. Revelation 6:9-11 also tells us of martyrs awaiting judgment.

Having two holding areas for the dead aligns with Jesus's parable of the rich man and Lazarus:

²²One day the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³And being in torment in Hades, he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off, with Lazarus at his side. ... ²⁶Besides all this, a great chasm has been fixed between us and you, so that those who want to pass over from here to you cannot; neither can those from there cross over to us.'

Luke 16:22-23, 26 (HCSB)

The rich man was in one place, in torment, while Lazarus was in another, being comforted by Abraham. There was also a barrier preventing them from crossing from one area to the other.

When Jesus was on the cross, He told the thief who had faith that he would join Jesus in *paradise*. Jesus was speaking of the same place He had called *Abraham's side* in the parable. There are several names for these two places, but they always refer to the holding places for the righteous and the unrighteous.

So, the dead currently reside in one of two places awaiting judgment. That leads us to ask, where do we go after judgment? We saw how *earth and heaven fled from His presence* at the Great White throne judgment, *and no place was found for them*. It is no coincidence that the passage immediately following this section tells us, *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea no longer existed*.¹ When looking at these passages, we see the eternal Heaven in which we will dwell with God for all eternity does not exist yet. He will create it for us after Judgment.

So, when we die, we go to a holding area for the righteous or unrighteous, and we will all enter our eternal home together.

¹ Revelation 21:1 (HCSB)

2 – Will I be judged?

Most agree the unfaithful will face Judgment Day, but what about the faithful? Jesus told us, “*everyone who believes in [Me] will not perish but have eternal life.*”² So, we know believers will end up with Him in Heaven, but will we pass through judgment to get there?

Several passages talk about everyone being judged.³ However, the clearest description of judgment is in Revelation:

¹²I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books. ¹³Then the sea gave up its dead, and Death and Hades gave up their dead; all were judged according to their works.

Revelation 20:12-13 (HCSB)

A related passage is 1 Corinthians 3:10-15, which describes our works being judged by fire. Although this passage talks about rewards and not salvation, it does refer to a judgment process for believers.

You may wonder about John 5:24.

Anyone who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.

John 5:24 (HCSB)

That passage says believers “*will not come under judgment.*” Coming under judgment and being judged are different concepts. I believe Christians will be judged. The difference between those in Christ and those outside of Him will be onto whom that judgment will fall. For the faithful, Jesus will accept everything we are found guilty of. Jesus will be *under our judgment* and bear the weight of our transgressions.

You may cringe at the thought of reviewing every one of your bad deeds with Christ. Good. That encourages us to do better. There is a song that says, “*I’ll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.*” I think that song is incorrect. I believe the point of Judgment Day is to help us understand exactly how much Jesus paid for our entrance into Heaven. I believe going through judgment will be hard to endure but will help us appreciate Heaven even more. After Judgement, each one of us will spend eternity attempting to show our appreciation for what Jesus did for us.

² John 3:16 (HCSB)

³ Ecclesiastes 12:14, Hebrews 9:27, Matthew 12:36, and 2 Corinthians 5:10

3 – Will I float around as a bodiless spirit?

Our culture likes to promote the idea that we will float around as spirits in Heaven, possibly while sitting on clouds strumming harps. This idea has gained ground despite the obvious contradiction of someone without a body playing an instrument. The Bible does depict angels flying around God's throne, sometimes with harps, but does that apply to us? It also bears mentioning that angels can have bodies if they desire.⁴

The clearest teaching on this subject is around Jesus's resurrection. Jesus made a point to prove to His disciples that He was not merely a ghost or a spirit after His resurrection. He did this on several occasions.⁵ The most famous of these was when Jesus told Thomas to touch His hands and His side.

The Bible tells us we will have resurrected bodies like Jesus's.⁶ But the most relevant passage is:

He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of His glorious body, by the power that enables Him to subject everything to Himself.

Philippians 3:21 (HCSB)

Jesus will transform our bodies, not get rid of them. We will not float around Heaven without bodies in some state we cannot relate to in this life. Our resurrected bodies will be different from our current ones, but they will have similarities.

You may wonder what these new bodies will look like. People recognized Jesus after His resurrection,⁷ so it seems we will look similar to how we looked in this life, but with all the sickness and weakness removed.

⁴ Genesis 19:1-10

⁵ Luke 24:36-43, John 20:24-29; 21:10-14

⁶ Romans 6:5, 1 Corinthians 15:20, and 1 John 3:2

⁷ John 20:14-16; Luke 24:30-31, 39-40

4 – Will I know everything?

People often say, “*All my questions will be answered in Heaven.*” When they say that, they usually mean that when we get to Heaven, we will immediately know the answers to all the questions we cannot answer in this life. They often get that concept from this verse:

For now we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, as I am fully known.

1 Corinthians 13:12 (HCSB)

The Apostle Paul wrote that passage. In Paul’s day, mirrors were often made of materials like bronze and were not nearly as clear as the mirrors we use today. Looking at anything in one of those mirrors would have given a distorted view of it. This verse is not telling us we will know everything but that we will finally see God as He truly is. We will know Him fully.

If this passage meant we will know everything in Heaven, our knowledge would equal God’s. I imagine our mental abilities will be vastly improved in Heaven but thinking we can understand all God understands is either reducing God or increasing our capacity beyond reason. We will not become God in Heaven.

I fully expect we will learn the answers to many of the questions we have, but the key is that we will *learn* those answers, not have that knowledge suddenly downloaded to us. One of the joys we have as humans is learning new things. Heaven would be boring if there were nothing to learn. I highly doubt God would remove that joy from us.

Closely related to learning is making mistakes. If we are to learn new talents in Heaven, we must be able to make mistakes, or we would do everything perfectly the first time. Where would the joy be in that? Making mistakes is not sinful. It is how we learn. We will be perfect in Heaven, but that is in terms of our righteousness, not our knowledge or abilities.

5 – What will I remember?

Some people think we won't remember our lives on Earth once we go to Heaven. If someone has had a difficult time in this life, I can see why they might not want to remember it. Some say Isaiah 65:17 supports this idea, but you must look at the whole context:

*¹⁶Whoever is blessed in the land
will be blessed by the God of truth,
and whoever swears in the land
will swear by the God of truth.
For the former troubles will be forgotten
and hidden from My sight.
¹⁷For I will create a new heaven and a new earth;
the past events will not be remembered or come to mind.*

Isaiah 65:16-17 (HCSB)

This passage is speaking of God's memory, not ours. The wording is like when God says, "*For I will be merciful to their wrongdoing, and I will never again remember their sins.*"⁸ God remembers that the Israelites sinned. He simply chose not to bring it up again. The passage in Isaiah is saying it will be the same in Heaven for the troubles we have here.

There is one event that decisively shows the dead remember their former lives. When King Saul used the medium at Endor to contact a deceased prophet,⁹ Samuel remembered Saul and the predictions made during his lifetime.

There are other references to past events on Earth in Heaven. The largest being the twelve foundations of New Jerusalem, which represent the twelve apostles, and the twelve gates, which represent the twelve tribes of Israel.¹⁰ We also saw how the martyred saints remember they were martyred in a previous answer.¹¹

The memory of how messed up this Earth was will give us a greater appreciation for New Earth. Besides, if we remembered nothing of this life, what would be the point of living it?

Will we be able to remember every detail about our lives here on Earth? I believe we will, but I cannot find anything in scripture about that one way or the other. But that question raises another interesting question. Where are our memories stored?

I can think of two answers: our brains or our spirits. If our memories are entirely in our brains, then God will have to reproduce the neurons, or something equivalent, in our resurrected bodies to copy our memories into. The problem with that is we have already seen that those awaiting resurrection still have their memories. So, what is the source of those memories?

The only thing that makes sense is that our memories are stored in our spirits. There may also be copies of those memories in our brains as well, but I'm not sure what purpose that would serve. If our memories reside in our spirits, our current brains can rot away or be destroyed, and it won't matter. We will still retain memories of our lives in our spirits. That is why I believe we will remember everything about our current lives. Which would mean those with dementia or in an unconscious state will remember those who cared for them.

⁸ Hebrews 8:12 (HCSB)

⁹ 1 Samuel 28:15-19

¹⁰ Revelation 21:12-14

¹¹ Revelation 6:9

6 – Will I sing for all eternity?

When people think about Heaven, they often imagine standing in front of God worshipping Him, typically in the form of singing or telling Him how great He is. There are plenty of passages that show this happening.¹² I once believed this was the only thing we would do in Heaven and was not excited about going there at all.

While I believe everyone will sing to God in perfect, beautiful harmony, I do not think that is all we will do for all eternity. Not everyone connects to God through singing. There are many ways you can worship God. You can sit and meditate on God's goodness. You can marvel at the beauty of His creation. You can be amazed at His creativity and wisdom as you research and explore His creation. You discover new truths about God buried deep in His word. It is hard to imagine God taking away a person's favorite way to connect to Him in Heaven and forcing everyone to worship Him through singing.

There are passages that indicate we will continue to work in Heaven. Jesus told us that He and God never stop working, "*My Father is still working, and I am working also.*"¹³ God is in Heaven, and He is working. There is no reason we won't be either.

Work is not sinful or a punishment; it has simply been tainted by sin like everything else in this creation. Before sin entered God's creation, *The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it.*¹⁴ God meant for work to be a blessing and a joy. We corrupted it with sin. God will redeem work along with the rest of creation.

Working is a central part of our being. God gave us a strong desire to be productive and not be lazy.¹⁵ In one of Jesus's longest parables, more work was given as a reward for hard work, and the one who did not work was punished.¹⁶ The Apostles even commanded, "*If anyone isn't willing to work, he should not eat.*"¹⁷ It is doubtful God would remove our desire to work when we reach Heaven because it is such an important part of who we are.

You may have a hard time seeing work in Heaven as a blessing. That is because sin has stolen the joy from many types of work in this life. If it helps, think of it as being active instead of working. Also, many jobs will no longer be needed: morticians, doctors, lawyers, and the police. Work in Heaven will bring us fulfillment and joy.

Worshipping God and working isn't all we might do. Jesus made a point to show His disciples He could eat in His resurrected body¹⁸. Therefore, it seems we will be able to eat in Heaven. That makes sense because the Tree of Life will be there for us to eat from.¹⁹ And we are promised a seat at the Wedding Feast.²⁰

God will be creating a New Earth, so He likely intends for us to explore it. Therefore, traveling and exploring seem to be possibilities in Heaven. It is likely we will be able to explore the entire universe because nothing out there will be able to harm our new bodies.

¹² Revelation 4:1-11, 9:9-17

¹³ John 5:17 (HCSB)

¹⁴ Genesis 2:15 (HCSB)

¹⁵ Proverbs 6:1-11, 12:24, 18:9, 19:15; Ecclesiastes 10:18; Matthew 25:26; 2 Thessalonians 3:10

¹⁶ Luke 19:11-26

¹⁷ 2 Thessalonians 3:10 (HCSB)

¹⁸ Luke 24:40-43

¹⁹ Revelation 22:2

²⁰ Revelation 19:6-9

There are references to our Christian life being a race.²¹ Competition is not sinful. Pride and envy have corrupted it in this life. With those things removed, competition could once again be something that pushes us to see what our new bodies can do. There could be games in Heaven helping us do that without any selfish ambition.

There are an infinite number of things you can do in Heaven besides sing.

²¹ 1 Corinthians 9:24; Galatians 2:22 Tim 4:7; Heb 12:1

7 – What might life be like in Heaven?

Many already know that Revelation tells us there will be no death, grief, crying, or pain in Heaven.²² However, we can discover many other aspects of Heaven from what we see in the Bible. The most significant is that there can be no sin in Heaven. This must be true because if anyone sinned in Heaven, we would be back where we are now: in a sin-tainted creation, separated from God. But God promises He will be with us forever in the New Heaven and New Earth ²³, so sin will be impossible there. Even further, we are told anything that even tempts us will be thrown into the pit with Satan.

⁴⁰Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather from His kingdom everything that causes sin and those guilty of lawlessness. ⁴²They will throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom. Anyone who has ears should listen!

Matthew 13:39-43 (HCSB)

What a glorious thought. Sin will never tempt us in Heaven. Every thought will be holy and pleasing to God. Imagine the relief of not fighting what you know is right and simply doing it. You will never feel guilty about anything you do in Heaven because it will always be the right thing. That will be true of everyone else as well.

Not sinning covers what we won't be doing in Heaven, but another passage covers what we will do and our motivation for those things:

¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

...

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, ²³gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5: 17-18, 22-23 (HCSB)

In our current state, the Spirit urges us to do what is right, but our fleshly nature resists. In Heaven, that battle will not exist. Our fleshly nature will be gone. We will no longer resist the Spirit. That means the fruit of the spirit will naturally blossom in us. There will be no heated arguments, no fights, no envy, and no lust.

In Heaven, you will be surrounded by people who love you and only want what is best for you, and you will feel the same way about them. It will truly be one humungous family who get along better than any family in history.

²² Revelation 21:4

²³ Revelation 22:1-5

8 – Will I have free will in Heaven if I cannot sin?

Some say that if God takes away our ability to sin in Heaven, we will no longer have free will. Having your choices limited does not mean you do not have freedom. There are physical limitations on our choices even now. Several factors prevent me from jumping to the moon, carrying my car on my back, or healing those around me of cancer. Because I am limited in these ways does not mean I do not have free will. It simply means I am not capable of doing some things.

As we saw in the last question, God will change us to make it impossible for us to sin. This change will prevent us from separating ourselves from God again. Because we won't be capable of sinning does not mean our free will has been removed. It means a new restriction has been put in place. This restriction will be welcomed by all who seek God. There will be a place for those who do not always want to do the right thing, but it isn't Heaven.

That is reason enough to show we will still have free will in Heaven, but there is an even better argument. I doubt any who believe in God would say He doesn't have free will. God cannot sin,²⁴ but He is completely free to do any good thing He wants. It will be the same for us, but we will be more limited in our options because we will not have all of God's abilities.

So, not being able to sin in Heaven doesn't mean we won't have free will. We will be free to choose from an infinite array of good choices.

²⁴ James 1:13

9 – Will Heaven be boring if we cannot sin?

Many think sin is fun and being good is boring. That is why some say Heaven will be dull and Hell will be where all the fun is. They envision an eternity of walking around resisting things that give us pleasure. This vision of Heaven is based on two incorrect ideas.

The first false idea is based on a lie from Satan that sin is fun. He wants us to desire sin and steer clear of doing what God wants us to do. It is not hard to understand where this idea comes from. People find pleasure in sin, or no one would ever do it. There is pleasure in sin because Satan took something good given to us by God and twisted it.

Resisting sin requires self-denial which is often difficult. Many times, it is easier to give in to temptation. At least, it seems easier in the moment. The problem with sin is the price you pay for the short-lived delight you may get from it.²⁵ Sometimes you regret your decision immediately. Other times, it takes longer to see the fallout from your choice, or we may never see it in this life. Whether or not we understand the price of sin in this life, it seems Judgment Day might identify the cost of each of our sins as Jesus reviews each one.²⁶

The other incorrect idea behind this question is that we will be kept from doing what we desire in Heaven because we won't be able to sin. As other answers revealed, we will have no desire to sin in Heaven. Even the thought of sinning will likely disgust us. Our deepest desires in Heaven will center around doing good.

Refer to the question "Will I be singing for all eternity?" to see some of the infinite options we might have to choose from. Life in Heaven will be the farthest from boring you can get.

²⁵ Romans 6:23, John 8:34

²⁶ Revelation 20:12-13

10 – What does having no pain in Heaven mean?

Most have heard how the Bible promises there will be no more pain in Heaven. Physical pain is what most think of when they hear this, but it covers more than that. We need to look at the verse to get the context:

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death will not exist any more - or mourning, or crying, or pain, for the former things have ceased to exist.

Revelation 21:4 (NET)

The pain and fear of death will be taken away, both for ourselves and others. There will be nothing to cause tears in Heaven. Not worrying about sickness or death in anyone will be a relief almost beyond comprehension, but we can relate to it. So, the promise of no pain in Heaven goes further than the physical to include emotional pain as well. Being able to relate to this aspect of Heaven is why so many focus on it.

Yet, the implications of these things go deeper. In this life, fear protects us from danger. If there is no pain or death in Heaven, there will be no reason for fear. We will never be afraid of anything in Heaven. Fear is threaded through the entire fabric of our lives so deeply that it is almost impossible to relate to not having it. Fear of death is always in the back of our minds. It drives our choices and causes anxiety when we see others, especially those we love, making choices that endanger their lives. Having that fear removed will be an incredible relief.

The fear of pain constantly directs our choices. Even choices related to simple tasks such as cooking and driving are made to avoid pain. Having the threat of pain removed opens an infinite number of possibilities. Think about how fun it would be to hang-glide or rock climb without any fear of being hurt, no matter how high you went. I have no idea if we will do those things in Heaven, but they could be options. Think of something you would love to do in this life but are afraid to do it. You will never be limited in that way in Heaven.

Going further, if we cannot die, we won't need to breathe or eat to survive. There is no reason we won't be able to sit at the bottom of a lake and watch fish for hours or months if there are lakes. We also might be able to travel the universe without fear.

When you meditate on not having pain in Heaven, there are many exciting implications. Pain is such a part of how we think and what we deal with every day in this life, it is impossible to comprehend a life where pain and fear have been removed.

11 – Will I still be married in Heaven?

A wonderful spouse is a tremendous blessing from God. Many enjoy that relationship so much they wonder if it will continue into eternity. Jesus answers this question for the Sadducees who were asking him whose wife a woman would be in Heaven if she were married to seven brothers:

For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels in heaven.

Matthew 22:30 (HCSB)

This verse makes it clear that our marriages do not continue into Heaven. Besides, once a spouse dies, the marriage is ended:

¹Since I am speaking to those who understand law, brothers, are you unaware that the law has authority over someone as long as he lives? ²For example, a married woman is legally bound to her husband while he lives. But if her husband dies, she is released from the law regarding the husband.

Romans 7:1-2 (HCSB)

It saddens some of us to think we won't be married to our current spouse for all eternity. Some see this as a relief (those couples may want to seek counseling). While this may bring us some sadness now, it won't in Heaven. I believe we will not be sad because the love for every person we meet in Heaven will be deeper than for anyone in this life. This includes your spouse and children. We will completely trust every person we meet. Everyone will desire to serve and honor each other without any selfish desires. Imagining an environment like that is difficult, making it hard for it to comfort us about not being married to our spouses in Heaven. Yet, it does encourage us.

There is another reason our marriages in this life will not carry into Heaven. We are told Jesus is our bridegroom, and we will be married to Him.²⁷ Since God only wants us to have a single spouse, Jesus will be that spouse. This marriage will not be physical but spiritual, making it hard to comprehend. There are no details given in the Bible about how that will work, so we can only excitedly await discovering how that marriage will deepen our relationship with Jesus.

²⁷ Matthew 8:11, 9:15; Mark 2:19-20; Luke 5:34-35; Ephesians 5:21-33; Revelation 19:7-9

12 – What about those who aren't in Heaven?

We are only given two options for our eternal destination: Heaven or Hell.²⁸ The Bible doesn't provide many details about Hell, but Isaiah tells us:

*But your iniquities have separated you from your God;
your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.*

Isaiah 59:2 (NIV)

Sin creates a barrier between God and us, separating you from God. Thankfully, in this life, through Jesus, He can overcome that distance and reconcile your relationship. Unfortunately, there will be no chance to turn back to God in Hell. The separation will be complete and final. God even separated Himself from Jesus on the cross after Jesus took on our sins. That is why Jesus cried out, “*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.*”²⁹ Thank God that Jesus was able to overcome that separation and defeat death for us.

Hell is complete separation from God: who is the source of all good gifts.³⁰ Because God is the source of all light, there will be no light in Hell, which is why it is often described as darkness.³¹ It is horrifying to imagine being without light, love, and compassion.³² That is why we need to diligently work to keep people from that fate.

It is hard to understand how we will view those not with us in Heaven. We are promised there will be no mourning in Heaven,³³ so we must trust that God will comfort us somehow. Even so, many dread this aspect of Heaven.

Some feel we won't remember those in Hell. However, this would leave huge gaps in our memories and be quite confusing. God would have to remove all our memories if this were the case. We covered why that isn't likely in the question “What will I remember?”

It is more likely that God will somehow allow us to remember them without guilt or pain. I don't know how He will manage that, but I trust He can.

My theory is that Jesus took not only the guilt of our sin upon Himself but took all our pain as well. Jesus may feel all the sorrow we would have felt for those we know who are not with us in Heaven. That is not too hard to believe because He already loves them more than we ever could.

²⁸ Revelation 20:15

²⁹ Mark 15:34

³⁰ James 1:17

³¹ Matthew 8:12, 22:13, 25:30; 2 Peter 2:17; Jude 1:13

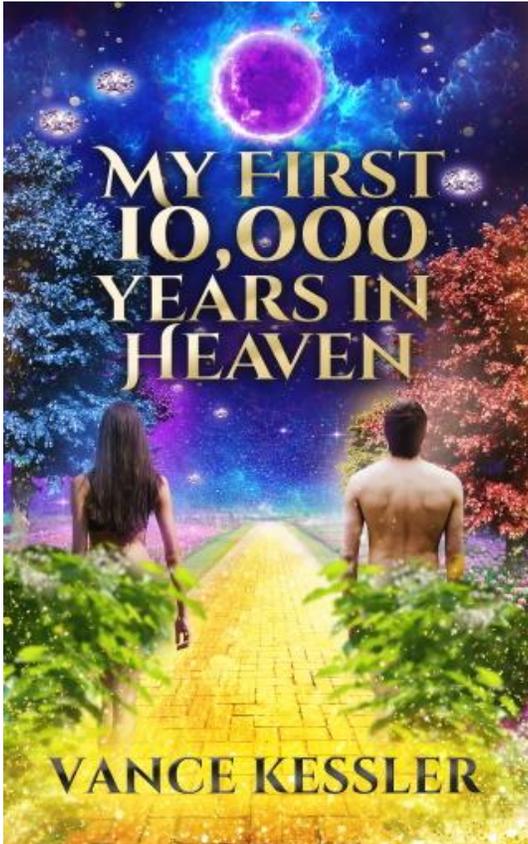
³² James 1:17; 1 John 1:5

³³ Revelation 21:4

Books by Vance Kessler

[Author page on Amazon](#)

[My First 10,000 Years in Heaven](#)



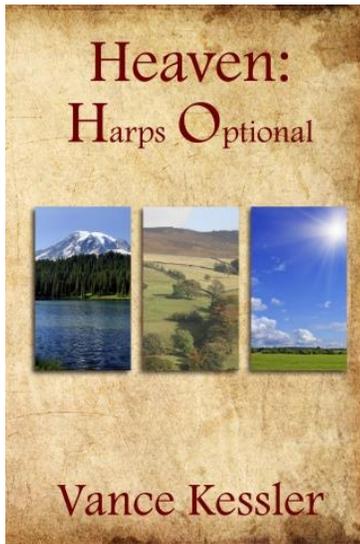
My First 10,000 Years in Heaven is an astonishing tale of one man's first years in Heaven, exploring the wonders our eternal home might hold.

What will he feel when he encounters our holy God and Jesus? How will his mistreatment of his family on Earth affect his life in Heaven? What will he find as he explores God's vast new creation? How will he interact with the members of his enormous, diverse, new family? What capabilities of his resurrected body will he discover? Which animal friends will he make?

What you won't see him doing is sitting on clouds or strumming on harps.

My First 10,000 Years in Heaven is a Biblically-based tale that will increase your desire for what God is preparing for our eternal home.

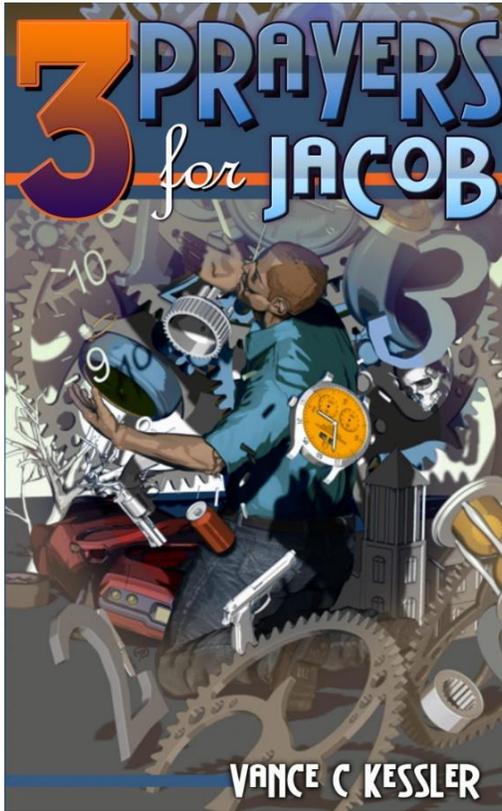
Heaven: Harps Optional



Most Christians rarely think about Heaven, and those who do often have a distorted image of it. In *Heaven: Harps Optional*, Vance Kessler helps you develop a better understanding of what the Bible says about your eternal home. He builds on that understanding to open our minds to exciting possibilities. There is a lot more to Heaven than simply floating around, strumming harps, and singing for all eternity.

He also focuses on helping us develop an eternal perspective, helping all Christians deal with trials here on earth. Vance helps us look forward to what God is preparing for our eternal home, so we can more fully appreciate the sacrifice Jesus made to get us there.

Three Prayers for Jacob



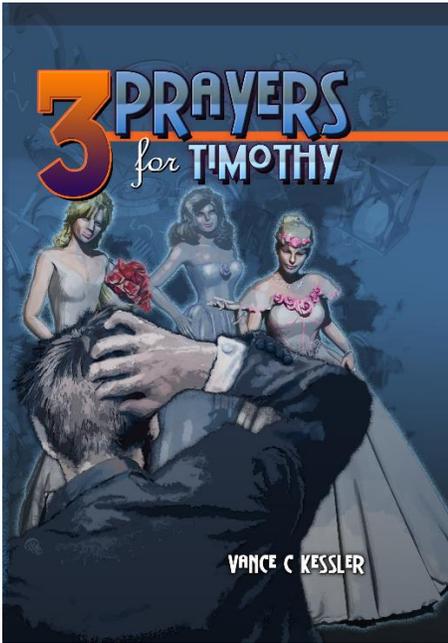
Have you ever wondered if God was really in control, if He was aware of what's happening in your life, or if He even cared? *Three Prayers for Jacob* answers those deep theological questions with gunshots and car chases.

Have you ever been mad enough at God to call Him an idiot? Detective Jacob Burton does exactly that. He's angry at God because he is suffering through what he feels is a senseless family tragedy. Most people would hold back and not be completely honest with God about such feelings. How will God react to such raw honesty?

Jacob thinks God got something very wrong in his life. What would Jacob have done differently? What would life be like if things had gone his way? It's too bad Jacob can never know. Or can he?

Follow Jacob in his gripping journey to discover things about himself and God as he learns a little of how God guides our lives while tracking down an elusive criminal. He does all this as he deals with life and death issues at home.

Three Prayers for Timothy



Timothy is frustrated with his marriage, causing his thoughts to travel dark paths. Anger at his wife is spilling over into all aspects of his life. He is even starting to think his employer is connected to the Russian Mafia. That's crazy, right?

God steps in and gives Tim three prayers to change anything about his life. How will Tim use that power? What path will he choose?

What if you were unhappy with your wife but were given the chance to be married to someone else by erasing your previous marriage from history? Well, erased for everyone but you.

Galactic God Series

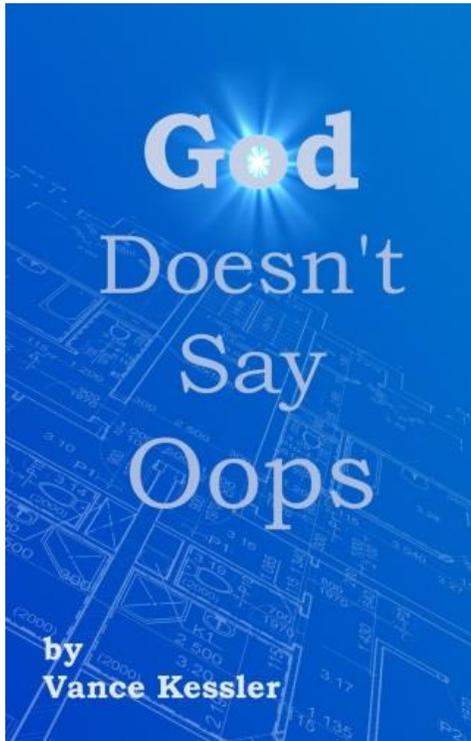


Join the Landon family in their history altering galactic adventures in which they discover more about how powerful and complex God really is. The initial three books in this series are Fire Starter, Rekindled, and Bonfire.

Fire Starter was given the Christian Redemptive Fiction award by Reality Calling.

Christian Science Fiction that beautifully intertwines theology, aliens, and action.

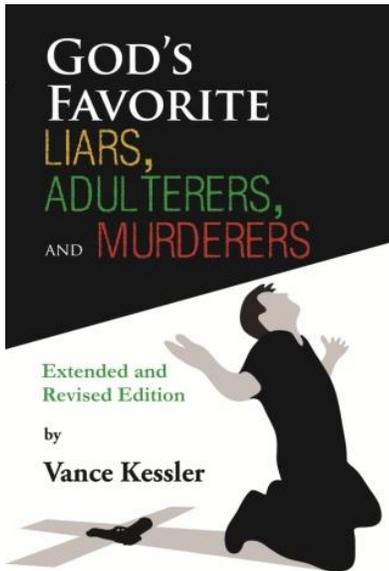
God Doesn't Say Oops



God is the ultimate planner. In *God Doesn't Say Oops*, Vance Kessler shows that God's plans are far beyond our ability to comprehend. He also gives insight into God's motivation for those plans. This fascinating book explores God's eternal plan for mankind. It analyzes the amazing level of planning and forethought required by God to make His plan become reality. The ultimate in God's planning is investigated in detail: the birth and death of Jesus. Examples of God's plans for the Heroes of the Bible are also examined.

Looking at God as the ultimate planner is merely the foundation for what is the most important aspect of *God Doesn't Say Oops*. The goal is for you to build your trust in God and allow Him to be the architect of your entire life. You will gain a better understanding of how vast and powerful God is and more importantly why He does what He does. You are encouraged to give up more of the control you are still holding onto, so He can guide every aspect of your life. This is a never-ending journey and we will never completely reach that goal, but *God Doesn't Say Oops* will help us further down that path.

God's Favorite Liars, Adulterers, and Murderers



God's Favorite Liars, Adulterers, and Murderers looks at how God's grace worked in the lives of several Biblical heroes and how it works the same way in our lives today. This book encourages us to move past our failures and turn back to God to allow Him to use us in powerful ways.

God's Favorite Liars, Adulterers, and Murderers shows us that no matter how badly we screw up our lives, God can still use us in powerful ways if we just turn to Him. It answers the following questions and many more. How can an adulterer and a murderer be a man after God's own heart? How can a man with serious doubts about God be called the father of the faithful? It does this by looking in depth at the lives of several biblical heroes. It focuses on major mistakes in the lives of these people to show how God's grace worked powerfully in their lives. Despite these mistakes and because of God's grace, these people were still able to become heroes and heroines of the Bible. While examining

these things the book also shows that what these biblical heroes and heroines went through is not very different from what we encounter today. God's grace can cover us today when we make these same mistakes or even mistakes which are far worse.

This book is very encouraging to those having difficulty dealing with the guilt of the sins in their lives. It is of particular help to jail ministries and various recovery groups. Actually, the book can encourage anyone who has ever sinned.