Summer Series in Apologetics

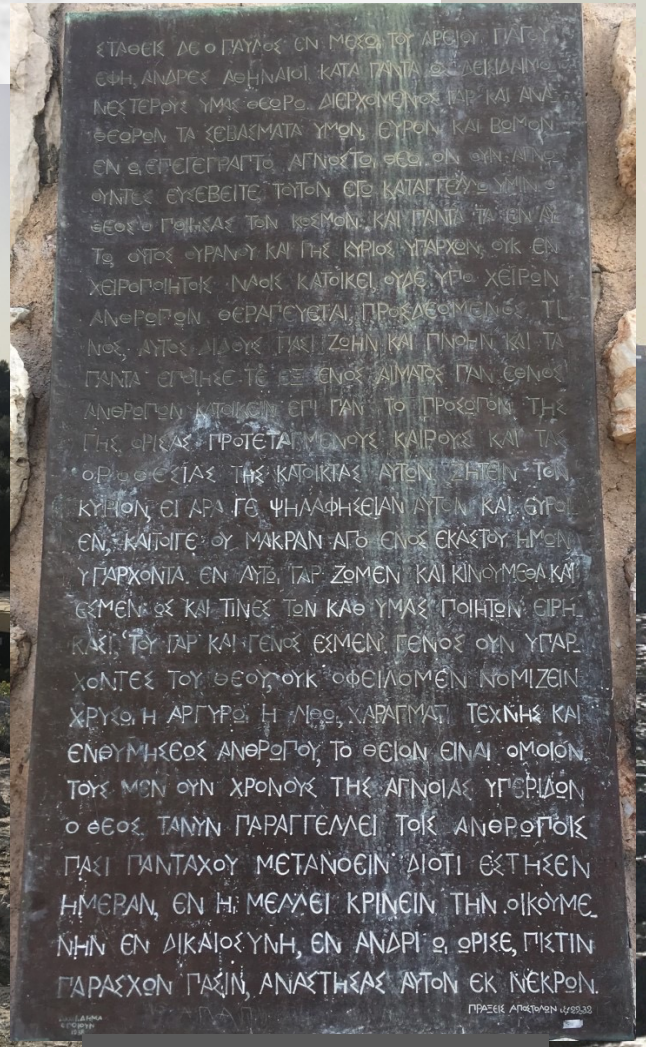
with Dr. Dave Newton

Monday August 21st

WELCOME

ἀπολογία

Saul of Tarsus had Dialogue with Skeptics



Acts 17:22-34

What is Apologetics?

ἀπολογία = *verbal* ***defense*** ***reasoned argument*** *for the*

λόγος περί ἐλπίς = logos peri elpis

word regarding expectation within you

1st Peter 3:15

ἀπολογία

Logical Segue Session-10 to Session-11

Is there a *Supernatural? things such as*:

Heaven? Hell? Satan? Angels? Demons?

Next BIG Questions for this Evening:

Is there really *life after death?*

Do *people actually go to heaven or hell*?

Is there a *new body* for believers in Jesus?

Skeptic: *"You've gotta be kidding me . . . When you die, that's it"*

"There's no such thing as heaven and hell."

Life After Death?

Scientific American **[May 2011, Sean Carroll, PhD from Harvard, faculty at Caltech]**

No controlled, experimental, verifiable information regarding life after death
Same for Moon made of green cheese? [physical evidence? – covered in few meters of dust]
Need to examine every cubic inch of Moon to have ***100% verified experimental data***

Direct evidence *of life after death also hard to come by - few legends, sketchy claims from unreliable witnesses NDEs, plus a bucketload of wishful thinking*

Indirect evidence *some form of consciousness persists after bodies die and decay into constituent atoms face one huge obstacle:* **Laws of Physics of everyday life**

No way within those laws to allow for information stored in brains to persist after death
What particles is that soul made of? What forces hold it together? How does it interact with ordinary matter? If nothing but atoms and known forces, there is clearly no way for the soul to survive death. Believing in life after death, to put it mildly, requires physics beyond the Standard Model. Need "new physics" to interact with atoms we do have.

Scientific American [continued]

> *What form does that spirit energy take? How does it interact with our ordinary atoms? Not only is "new physics" required, but dramatically new physics!*

Ockham's razor not on your side – must posit completely new realm of reality obeying very different rules than ones we know - No reason to be agnostic of ideas ***dramatically incompatible*** *with everything we know of modern science. Once we get over reluctance to face reality on this, we get to the interesting questions of* ***how human beings and consciousness really work***

What Are The Options?

1. There's ***nothing*** after Earthly physical death

2. There's ***something*** after Earthly physical death

   a] But there's *NO* ***way to know*** **we construct *our own descriptions:***

   "I think it goes something like this . . ."

   "Well, my God would do it this way . . ."

   b] **BIBLE** IS a ***reliable resource***

Life After Death?

Tremendous UNCERTAINTY about Life and FEAR about Death

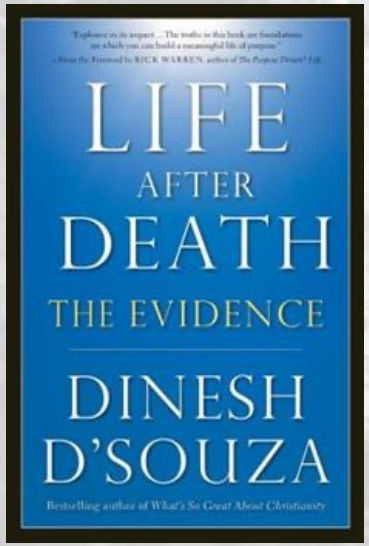
Right Back to ***World View***

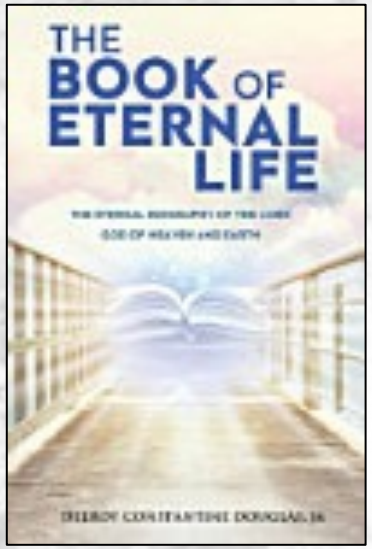
Naturalist *"there's nothing beyond physical universe"*
Nihilism *"life is completely without any meaning"*
Sadducees *"no bodily resurrection after death"*
Bill Nye the Science Guy *"overwhelming evidence **proves** no afterlife"*
Annihilationism *"alive in Earthly life, then gone for good"*
Stephen Hawking *"fairy story for people afraid of the dark"*

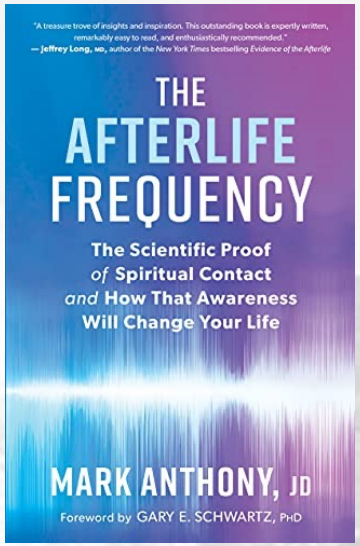
Biblical World View

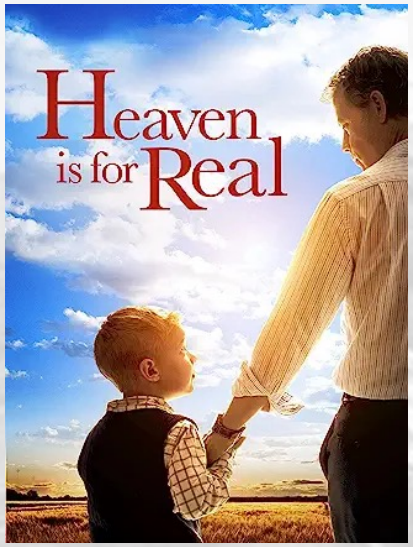
John 17:2-3 *to all whom You have given Him He may give **eternal life** and **this is eternal life**, that they may know You, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom You have sent*

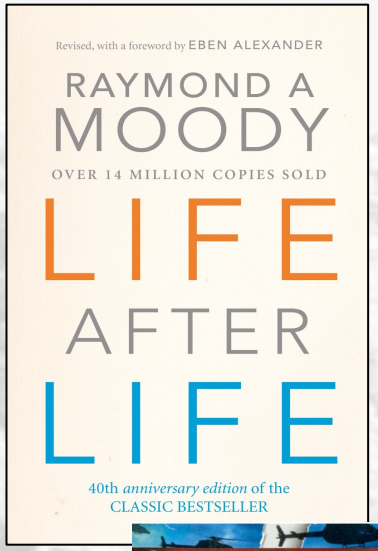
Life After Death?

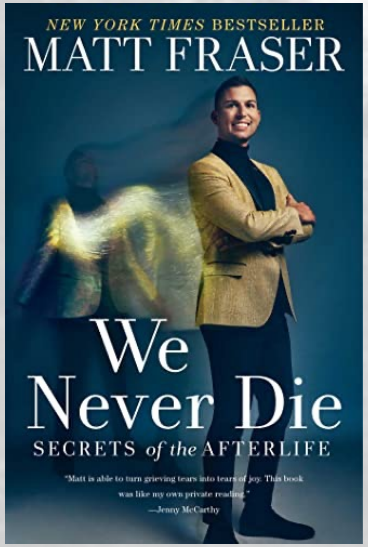


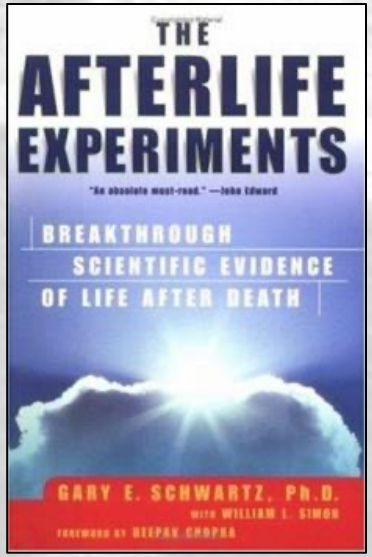












Life After Death?

1. **Self-proclaimed prophets/apostles** *Allegedly travel to heaven regularly*

Hebrews 9:27 *once to die then the judgment*

2. **Near-death Experience**

Allegedly travel to heaven then sent back

Galatians 1:8 *if we or even an angel shall descend and preach a different gospel than the one you received from me, he shall be condemned to hades*

Life After Death

Buddhism *on-going cycle of birth, life, death, rebirth . . . . All toward Nirvana*
[Buddha in NY City]

Hinduism *reincarnation to always higher life forms from prior*

Islam *soul leaves body and returns to the creator to await judgment*

Mormon *3 levels of heaven: Celestial kingdom, Terrestrial kingdom, Telestial kingdom*
Pre-mortal eternal existence with "veil of forgetfulness"

Zoroastrianism *soul judged by Ahura Mazda immediately after death*

New Age *physical death doorway to continuation of spirit being freed into the universe*
higher plains of cosmic energy and awareness

Jehovah's Witnesses *nothing after death of physical body - but 144,000 will be raised!*

Christian Science *illness pain death ALL state of mind - there is no soul*

The Pneuma

Naturalist Worldview denies the spirit - *confused with* ***consciousness***

Biblical Worldview clearly recognizes unique creation of mankind in 3 facets:

Physical Body	***soma***	
Consciousness	***psuche***	[psychology = study of conscious-mind]
Spirit	***pneuma***	[literally 'breath']

Hebrews 4:12 *ONLY Word of God can separate* ***"distinguish"*** *psuche from pneuma*

Romans 8 *interaction of the physical body/flesh, the prior mind and new mind of Christ, and* ***the spirit within mankind*** ["let Us make man in Our image"]

Galatians 5 *physical flesh and sinful mindset in conflict with* ***things of the spirit***

1st Thess. 5:23 *may God sanctify you entirely - may* ***spirit, soul, body*** *be preserved complete*

Genesis 2:7 ***God breathed*** *into Adam and he became a living being*

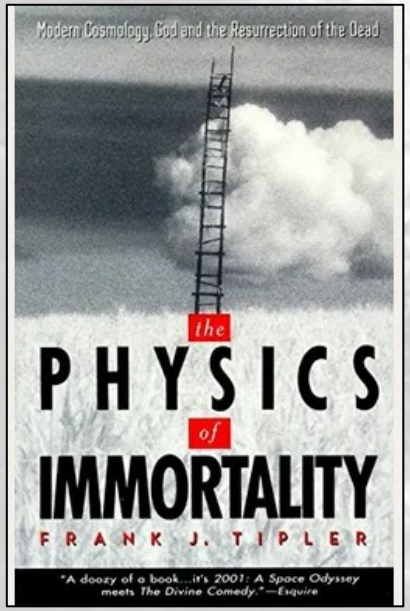
John 20:22 ***Jesus breathed*** *on disciples - they received the Holy Spirit* [after resurrection]

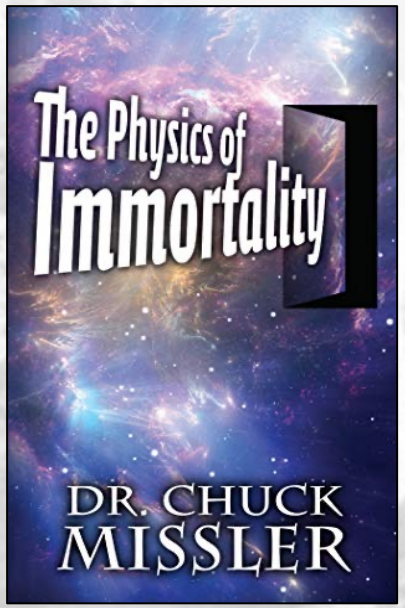
2nd Tim. 3:16-17 *all scripture is* ***God-breathed*** *for teaching, reproof, correction, training*

Acts 2:2 *sound "like wind"* [but it was not windy-blowing hard]

Life After Death

The Physics of Immortality

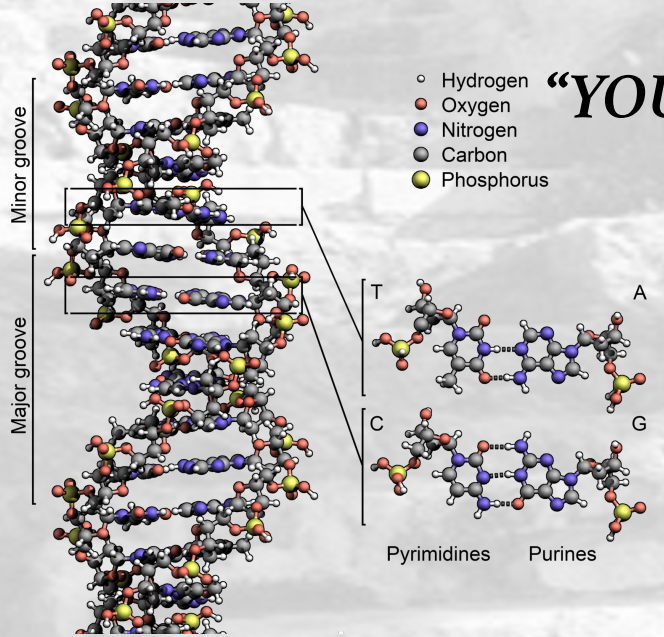




Physics Prof. Tulane Univ.
"all whoever lived will be resurrected"
***However** "Quantum Immortality" not*
*same as **Biblical Immortality***

Empty = .28 oz
ADD 75,000 photos
90 full-length movies
100 hours HD video

Full = .28 oz



"YOU" are <u>both</u> hardware
and software

Physical body comprised
of same elements in dirt

Genesis 2:7
Genesis 3:19

Life After Death

Physics of Immortality [*as explained by first-Century AD Pharisee*]

1st Corinth. 15:35 *"**How are the dead raised**? and **what kind of body** back to life?" What you sow does not come to life **unless it dies** - you don't sow the body which comes later, but rather at first a bare grain goes into the ground, then God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each type of seed a body of its own*

*So also, all **flesh is not the same flesh - one flesh of men - another of beasts** and **of birds** and **fish** so also there are **heavenly bodies** and **earthly bodies** - the **glory of the heavenly is one** and the **glory of the earthly is another** - one glory of the sun, another of the moon, another of the stars - for star differs from star in their glory*

John 12:24 *Jesus: "unless a **grain of wheat goes into dirt and dies** it can then bear much fruit"*

- **Earthly Body** **Genesis 2:7** *created from dirt* **Genesis 3:19** *returns to dirt*

  99% = oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, carbon, calcium, phosphorus

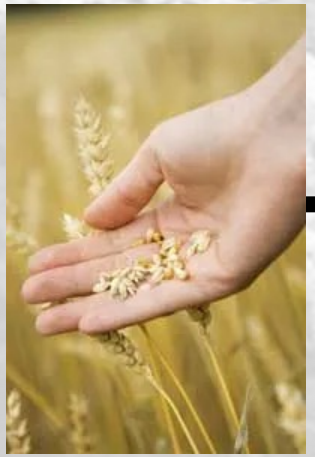
- **Resurrection Version?**

Life After Death

Physics of Immortality [*as explained by first-Century AD Pharisee*]

1st Corinth. 15:35 *you don't sow that which comes later, but rather at first a bare grain goes into the ground, then God gives it a body just as He wished*

John 12:24 *Jesus: "unless a* ***grain of wheat goes into dirt and dies*** *it can then bear much fruit"*



Same ***but Different***

Same ***but Different***

Life After Death

New Body *modeled in the resurrection body of Jesus*

1st Corinth. 15:20-23 *Christ has been raised from the dead - the **first fruits** of all who have died*
*resurrection order: Jesus, then all who have died, then those at **harpazo***

James 1:18 *He brought us Words of Truth so we would be **first fruits** among His creation*

Luke 24:1-3 *at dawn on first day of new week they came to the tomb, the stone was rolled away*
when they entered the tomb the body of the Lord Jesus was not there

Wed. sunset	start of Passover	last supper matzah and wine
Thurs. 9am	Jesus crucified on late Passover	Nisan 14
Thurs. sunset	start 'special high day" **John 19:31**	Nisan 15
Fri. sunset	start regular weekly shabbat	Nisan 16
Sat. sunset	start *Feast of First Fruits*	Nisan 17 [ark anniversary]

Colossians 1:19-21 *spiritual dimension of what took place while Jesus on the cross from 9am-3pm*

Hebrews 2:14-15 *further commentary on this*

Life After Death

New Body *modeled in the resurrection body of Jesus*

Mark 6:1-11 Luke 24:13-43 *on First Fruits Sunday, April 13th - Nisan 17*

1st Corinth. 15:6-8 *Jesus appeared to:* *2 women at tomb* *Mary Magdalene* *2 to Emmaus*
Cephas [Peter] *10 in upper room* *over 500 at once*
James *Saul to Damascus*
John 7:5 [1/2 year prior]

Philippians 3:20-21 *Lord Jesus Christ will transform the body of our humble state*
μετασχηματίζω *meta-skematitzo = completely transform*
into conformity with the body of His glory
σύμμορφος *symmorphos = prefect-exact same form*

1st John 3:2 *now we are children of God – but it has not appeared yet what we will be*
when He appears we will be like Him for we will see Him as He is

1st Corinth. 15:50-55 *corruptible must put on incorruptible* *mortal-immortal* *perishable-imperishable*
flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God

Hardware Upgrade

2nd Corinth. 4:7 *we have the treasure of His glorious light in our* ***Earthen Vessels*** [fragile pots]
mortal, corruptible, perishable [made from DIRT]

2nd Corinth. 5:1-6 *this Earthly* ***TENT***

σκῆνος ***skenos*** *= temporary fabric tent*

is our [present tense] ***HOME***

οἰκία ***oikia*** *= a place to dwell/live now*

but we move to a ***BUILDING*** *from God not made with human hands*

οἰκοδομή ***oikodome*** *= building edifice*

in this TENT we groan longing to put on our ***Heavenly Dwelling***

skenos οἰκητήριον ***oiketerion*** *= permanent home*

in this ***skenos*** *we are burdened because we wanted to be permanently clothed*
the 'Realtor' who made us this way is God, His down payment on us is His Holy Spirit

ἀρραβών *arrabon = "earnest money"* [KJV]

but SAME Software

Hardware Upgrade

The sequence of: ***skenos*** → ***oikia*** → ***oikadome*** → ***oiketerion*** these perfectly align with

Romans 8:30 *God's* 1] *justification is when we are saved*

then comes life-long process of 2] *sanctification*

that will culminate with 3] *glorification*

Colossians 3:1-4 *if raised with Christ, seek things above, set understanding on things above*

φρονέω *phroneo*

not on Earthly things, for your have died to this Earthly world, but when Christ who is our life is visible right in front of you

φανερόω *phanero-o*

you also will be visible also with Him in glory

φανερόω *phanero-o*

but SAME Software

Hardware Upgrade

Jesus's Body Provides Insights:

Acts 1:1-3 *infallible proofs for 40 days seen by/shown to many!*

1st Peter 1:3-5 *we're born again to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus, to obtain undefiled imperishable inheritance when* ***we will be revealed in that End Time***

ἀποκαλύπτω *apokalupto = revealed*

Time-Space Travel	**Luke 24** *road to Emmaus - Cleopas + one other*
	John 20 *appear in locked room*
Physical Mass	**John 20** *"see and touch - I have flesh and bones"*
Ate Food	**Luke 24** *broiled fish*
	broke bread with Cleopas + other at roadside inn
	John 21 *breakfast fish-fry at Sea of Tiberius after 153 fish caught*
	[charcoal fire with fish + bread]

but SAME Software

Life After Death

Death = *mankind's final nemesis*

Job 19:25-26 *I know my Redeemer lives and at the last He will take His stand on the Earth – even after my skin is destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God*

Gospel = *mankind released from death*

1st Corinth. 15:3-4 *Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, he was buried, he was raised on the 3rd day according to the Scriptures*

v 54-55 *death swallowed in victory, death where is your victory? where is your sting?*

Saul understood eternal facet of the cross - ***Jesus crucified*** was **April 10, 32 AD** in Earthly one-dimensional time - Eternity interrupted normal flow of Earth-history and changed everything forever - Causing a ripple-effect BOTH backwards and forwards in Earth-time

"Jesus in eternity" also **Revelation 5** *Lamb slain before the foundation of the world*

also **1st Peter 1:18-20** *You were ransomed not with perishable silver or gold, but with precious blood of Christ, like a Lamb without blemish - He was planned for this before the foundation of the world, but was manifest [it actually happened]* ***in your time***

OUTSIDE Time?

Consider the completed work of Christ on the cross in ***Eternal Time Frame*** that will come t pass in human history at God's appointed time on our linear Earthly calendar

Time ***does not move at same rate*** - Time ***does not have same content*** in Heaven vs. Earth

Mind-numbing Paradox: Heaven's 'Eternity' vs. Earth-Time — **TIME TRAVEL**

What IF: Heaven for marriage of Jesus and Church — ***no believers there 'now'***

Abode of the Dead Sheol-Hell [*Geo-spatial*] — ***unbelievers there 'now'***

harpazo of Lord's Church — ***believers here 'now'***

ALL believers [physical death and harpazo] *arrive for Marriage* — ***at same "instance"***

- at **Physical Death** *absent from body present with Lord* — ***instantaneous experience***

persons in 67 AD, 354, 1280, 1776, 1942, 2001, 2023

- at **harpazo** *dead in Christ already raised then those alive* — ***blink of an eye [same]***

2nd Peter 3:8-9 *God not slow as some consider - but patient, not willing ANY should perish, from His perspective* ***a day like 1,000 years and 1,000 years like a day***

Heaven

God's domain - His realm - "**Awesome**" throne-room", majesty, power
NO 'time' NOT on Earth's *linear timeline* **OUTSIDE TIME!**

Nowhere in scripture does it say mankind will spend eternity in heaven
*we **WILL** be with the Lord forever* **John 14:2-6** *where I AM you will be also*

Mankind: **2nd Corin. 5:8** *absent from body and present with the Lord*
1st Thess. 4:17 *verb* ἁρπαγησόμεθα harpa-gēsometha
noun *harpazo is "the quick, sudden, snatching away, catching up"*
Rev. 19:1-14 *marriage of Groom with His bride the Church*
return WITH Jesus at His 2nd Coming to Earth [ten centuries]
Rev. 21:1-4 *live on NEW Earth under NEW **ouranos***
v3 *tabernacle of God is now with mankind*
John 1:14 *foreshadowed 29-32 AD "Word became flesh, tabernacled among us"*
Rev. 21:23 *no need for sun, moon - its lamp is the Lamb*

Heaven

Described **Revelation 4** **Isaiah 6** **Ezekiel 1** *lightning, rainbows, emeralds, glassy-sea, thunders, voice like many waters* ***Zoa*** ***Cherubim/Seraphim*** *elders on thrones, crowns, wheels within wheels*

Wrong Descriptions Pearly gates? Streets of gold? River of Life? Foundation stones of 12 Apostles?

Revelation 21 *is describing the New Jerusalem* **NOT Heaven!**

Films: *Heaven Can Wait* ***Music:*** *Just Like Heaven* ***Vernacular:*** *"Must've died and gone to heaven"*

Heaven

Mankind in heaven for just ONE event: *"marriage of the Lamb . . . Jesus + Church"*
John saw everyone there **Rev. 5:9 and 7:9**

Mankind Transport

- physical death **2nd Corinth. 5:8** *absent physical body then present with Lord*
- *harpazo* **1st Corinth. 15:51-52** *metamorphoou in the blink of any eye*
- **NO 'time' OUTSIDE 'time'**
- ***Same realization-experience:*** *"I just got here"*
- then ***return to Earth with Jesus*** at His 2nd Coming

FASCINATING to exit/transcend Time and Natural Law

Take-Aways

- **Life After Death** *The Skeptic's World View vs. Biblical World View*
- **Books/Authors/Movies** *Man's Ideas vs. Bible's Clear Teachings*
- **Unique Mankind** *Soma Psuche PNEUMA "created in Our image"*
- **Physics of Immortality** *Extra-Temporal Realm vs. Physical Natural Law*
- **Eternal New Body** *Makes Perfect Sense for Post-Physical Life*
- **Eternity** *Life Within TIME transitions to Life Outside TIME*
- **Heaven and Earth** *God's Eternal Realm and Man's Created World*

Life After Death / Eternity

J. Todd Billings — *The End of the Christian Life* [2020]
Dinesh D'Souza — *Life After Death: The Evidence* [2009]
Dave Hunt — *Life and Death* [TheBereanCall.org **August 2004**]
Robert A. Cook — *Walk With The King Today* [1978]
John McArthur — *The Glory of Heaven* [2013]

APOLOGETICS

Robert A. Cook — *Now That I Believe* [1986]
Charles Swindoll — *Eternity* [1988]
Chuck Missler — *The Physics of Immortality* [2018]
Henry A. Ironside — *Not Wrath But Rapture* [1988]
Chuck Missler and Mark Eastman — *The Agony of Love: Six Hours in Eternity* [2018]

απολογία

Summer Series in Apologetics

NEXT STUDY - Monday August 28th *with Dr. Dave Newton*

6:00pm Tri-Tip + Chicken dinner

6:30pm Final Topic in Apologetics

Logical Segue Session-11 to Final Session-12

How can Jesus be the only way to God?

What about all the other religions?

Would a loving God send someone to hell?

What if someone never heard of Jesus?

ἀπολογία