

“If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were precisely those who thought most of the next.

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It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this... Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither.”

—C.S. Lewis

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²⁷And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, ²⁸so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him. —Hebrews 9:27-28 ESV

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Confront Our Earthly Prejudices
About Heaven

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Confront Our Earthly Prejudices About Heaven

Heaven is Bland and Boring

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“I don’t believe in an afterlife, so I don’t have to spend my whole life fearing hell, or fearing heaven even more. For whatever torture of hell, I think the boredom of heaven would be even worse.”

—Isaac Asimov

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“Our belief that Heaven will be boring betrays a heresy—that God is boring. There’s no greater nonsense. Our desire for pleasure and the experience of joy come directly from God’s hand. He made our taste buds, adrenaline, sex drives, and the nerve endings that convey pleasure to our brains.

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Likewise, our imaginations and capacity for joy and exhilaration were made by the very God we accuse of being boring. Are we so arrogant as to imagine that human beings came up with the idea of having fun?” —Randy Alcorn

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Confront Our Earthly Prejudices About Heaven

Heaven is Formal and Stuffy

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¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice,

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“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

—Revelation 5:11-12 ESV

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Confront Our Earthly Prejudices About Heaven

Heaven is Soft and Fluffy

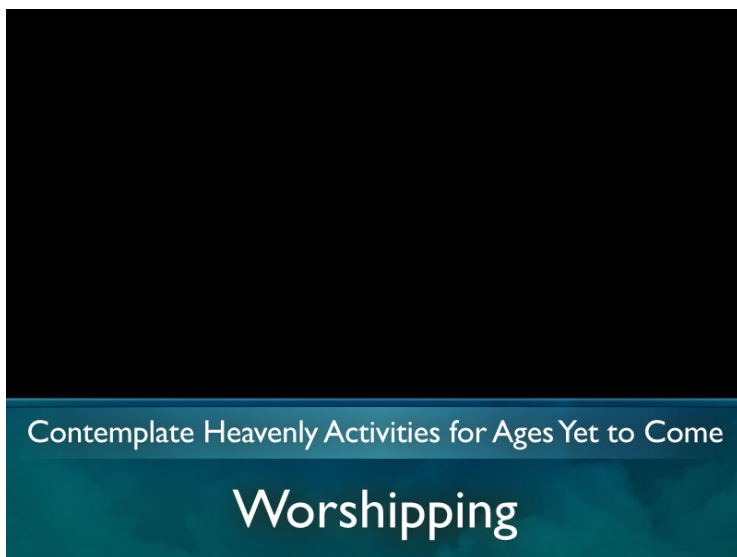
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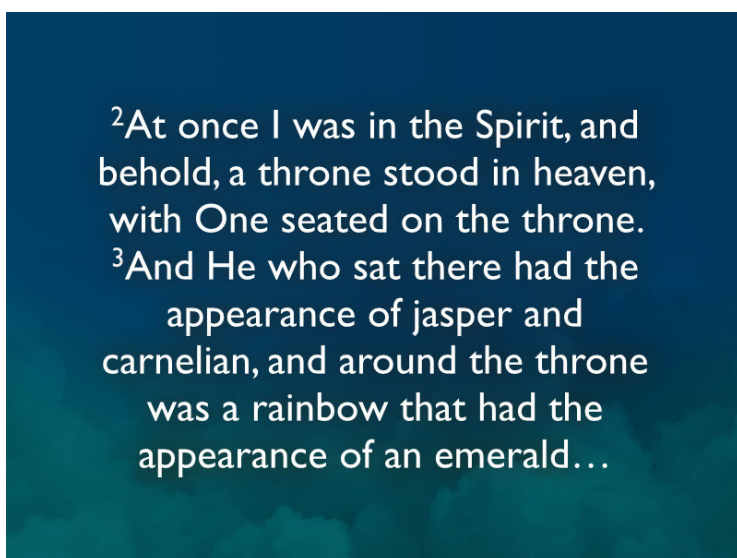
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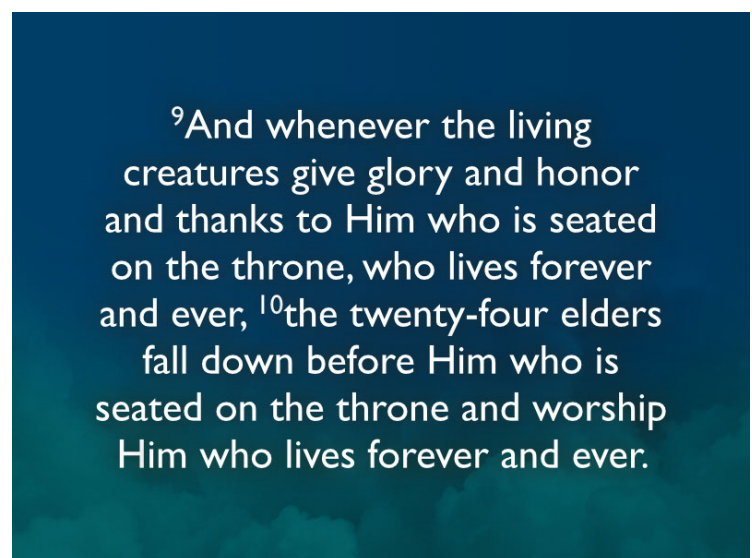
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They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, ¹¹“Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created.”

—Revelation 4:1-3, 9-11 ESV

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Contemplate Heavenly Activities for Ages Yet to Come

Serving

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¹⁵Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will shelter them with His presence...

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³No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will worship Him.

—Revelation 7:15; 22:3 ESV

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Contemplate Heavenly Activities for Ages Yet to Come

Resting

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And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!” —Revelation 14:13 ESV

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Contemplate Heavenly Activities for Ages Yet to Come

Ruling

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⁹And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,

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¹⁰and You have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." ¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

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¹²saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

—Revelation 5:9-12 ESV

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And he said to him, "Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities."

—Luke 19:17 ESV

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Contemplate Heavenly Activities for Ages Yet to Come

Celebrating

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You make known to me the
path of life; in Your presence
there is fullness of joy;
at Your right hand are pleasures
forevermore. —Psalm 16:11 ESV

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“Joy is the serious business of
heaven.” —C.S. Lewis

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