

## Looking Toward Heaven, Part 2

*John MacArthur*

I. Introduction. Hope is joyous because of the prospect of heaven. (Romans 12:12, Ecclesiastes 7:1)

II. What heaven is.

A. Heaven is the abode of God where angels dwell and dead saints reside. (Isaiah 6, Matthew 22:30, Luke 15:10)

B. When saints died, they immediately went to heaven not a place of limbo. (Psalm 16:11; 23; Matthew 17; Luke 16; 23; II Corinthians 12)

III. Where heaven is.

A. It is a place but it cannot be charted in terms of geography.

B. Heaven is "up." (II Corinthians 12:2; Ephesians 4:8-10; Acts 1:11; I Thessalonians 4:17; Psalm 53:2; 121:1; Revelation 4; 21:4)

C. Heaven is far, but it is near.

D. Heaven is infinitely big. (Jeremiah 23:24)

IV. Heaven described.

A. The major city of heaven is called the New Jerusalem. (Revelation 21)

B. Heaven is inconceivable. (Ezekiel 1)

C. The throne of God is the center of heaven where He dwells. (Revelation 4:11, Exodus 28, Isaiah 11:2-3, Exodus 24)

D. There is a temple in heaven, which is God himself. Believers will serve in the presence of God. (Revelation 3:12, 7:15, 11:19, 15:5, 21:22)

### **Application questions:**

1. How would you describe heaven to a non-Christian?

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2. What does it mean that heaven is “up?”

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3. What does it mean that God himself is the temple of heaven? Explain.

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