

WHERE WILL THE SAVED SPEND ETERNITY?

© By Dave Weeks 8-3-2018

Before that question is answered, let's get an understanding of the "Berean Principle." This may be an unfamiliar term to you. The Berean principle is a term that describes how one might rightly divide the Word of Truth. It is given prominence in this Scripture:

Acts 17:10-11

10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

The Berean principle is the sourcing method (like a bibliography list in the back of most books) that supports the authority of the author's publication. The only source the Bereans used was God. They had other options of course, like we do, but they chose only the Scripture.

If one uses this method to answer the above question, it will agree with both the context and harmony rules of interpretation. Also known as the rules of hermeneutics, the science of Bible interpretation. There are many voices in the church today that do not follow these rules and as a result many people in the pews do not know where they will spend eternity. Most saved people know that when they die they will go to heaven (the third heaven where Christ is at the right hand of the Father). Beyond that it's a guessing game based on one's favorite commentary. From the commentaries many have accepted the false notion that the Bride of Christ is only the church and their eternal home will be the heavenly city, the New Jerusalem. I called four Universities or Bible Colleges that are used by Baptist and Bible churches and not one of their professors of eschatology agreed with this present trend of thought — Crown College, just to mention one of them.

Where to start is agreeing to the two simplest rules of interpretation — the harmony and context rules. The harmony rule states that any truth in Scripture will never contradict itself. The context rule states the applicable meaning of a word, phrase, sentence, paragraph, chapter, or book of the Bible is taken from the circumstances and condition that surround it. If the context rule is ignored, this is what can happen, i.e., Judas went out and hung himself. Do thou likewise. And what thou doest, do quickly.

Let's apply the Berean principle and allow it to control our sourcing process. Here are some of the Scriptures that answer the question, "Where will the saved spend eternity?" Psalm 37 answers this question more frequently than any other chapter in the Bible. Take a look!

Ps 37:3

Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land [earth — Strong's # 0776], and verily thou shalt be fed.

Ps 37:9

For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth [Strong's # 0776].

Ps 37:11

But the meek shall inherit the earth [Strong's # 0776]; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Ps 37:22

For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth [Strong's # 0776]; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off.

Ps 37:29 The righteous shall inherit the land [earth — Strong's # 0776], **and dwell therein for ever.**

Ps 37:34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: [earth — Strong's # 0776] when the wicked are cut off,[Rev 20 lake of fire] thou shalt see it.

Matt 5:5 Blessed are the meek [a metaphor used for the saved]: for they shall inherit the earth.

All of these prophecies and some others that I will be listing next, point to the Revelation 21 climax when the wicked are cutoff and Christ's kingdom of righteousness begins.

Isa 65:17

For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

Isa 66:22

For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

John 18:36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

2Pe 3:10-13

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Rev 21:1-5;9-10

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. Note: 70% of the earth's surface is now water.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride [as a bride is a simile that is describing the new Jerusalem, not the church] adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, **Behold, I make all things new.** And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife [a metaphor describing the great city, the holy Jerusalem not the church or bride of Christ].

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

These last verses in Revelation tell us that God's present dwelling place is in the temple. This temple is in the third heaven where Jesus is now along with those who are absent from the body and present with Him. This temple of God's dwelling place will be moved to the New Jerusalem and be there forever. The New Jerusalem comes down from heaven to the newly created earth. The Holy City is prepared for God's eternal glory not for the church as many have been told. Their commentaries, books, and songs hold no place with those who rightly divide the Word of Truth. Take a look!

Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple therein[in the Heavenly City]: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

24 **And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.**

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

26 **And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.**

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the **Lamb's book of life.**

In conclusion, there is no mention of the church, wife, bride of Christ, inheriting the city of gold for their eternal home, with is commonly referred to as heaven and the home of the church. This false teaching robs Christ of His glory and place in the Heavenly City for all to adore and worship and it robs the true bride of Christ, all the children of the kingdom of their new earth where all things will be made new. Think of it — new bodies, like Jesus' glorified body, new skies above, new land with beauty unimaginable, new animals and creatures that won't be eating one another.

My prayer is that you, like the more noble Bereans will take God's Word as your final authority for faith and life and use the Berean principle to source your research for truth rather than the other options.

God bless each of you and I hope that my new publication, which is scheduled to be released in December of this year will make your journey here more rewarding as we occupy till He comes.

