

Schedule of Events

VBS will be August 1–5, from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM. Ask Joe how you can help. The topic will be the Beatitudes. Classes for all ages, including an adult class. A door knocking will be conducted prior to the VBS.

Gospel Meeting at Rose Street: Terry Starling will be speaking on Godly Families and Raising Godly Children. This will be held over two weekends June 18–19 and June 25–26. Check with Joe or Bill for times.

Our Family News

Pray for / Cody Riley, Mike Couch's sister, Josiah, Helen Spicer, and Peggy. Pray for each other daily.

Traveling/Working / George and Joy (last week of June), Ben, Carla and Bella Gillespie; Tom Betti

Radio Programs / Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture / Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. **Matthew 7:13-14 (KJV)**

Wisdom for Today / Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein. **Psalms 69:34 (KJV)**

PM Sermon / George Jensen

Attendance last Sunday: 72

For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Evangelist

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June 19, 2022 Bulletin for the



church of Christ

— AT WASILLA —

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Romans 10:17

Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6

Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10

Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matt 10:32-33

Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16

Remain Faithful Matt 24:13, Rev 2:10, James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

Contact Information

Meeting Times

Sunday

Bible Classes **10AM**

AM Worship **11AM**

PM Worship **5PM**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7PM**

Office Hours

Call or Ck Web

Come join us!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle
Wasilla, Ak 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors always welcome; Members expected

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

Heaven

By Bill Beebe

According to a survey conducted by the Pew Research Center and published on November 23, 2021, the following believe in Heaven

- almost 75% of all Americans
- 92% of people who claim to be Christians
- 3% of Atheists
- 26% of Agnostics and
- 50% of those who claim to be "nothing in particular"

I find it interesting that some Atheists, Agnostics and those who really do not know what they believe, believe in heaven. I also find it interesting that 8% of those claiming to be Christians do not believe in heaven. But what was even more interesting from this survey was what those who believed in heaven thought it would be like. At least 60% thought that there would be no suffering, that they would have a perfectly healthy body, that they would meet loved ones who had died before them, and that they would meet God there. These are things we would expect, but 48% thought that they would be reunited with their pets, 43% thought they could become angels and 15% thought that they could choose to cease to exist.

While these are interesting to consider, the Bible does not really tell us much about heaven or what we will do there. It is important to understand that not all the verses (there are 550 in the King James Version) that mention heaven are talking about the heaven where saved souls will reside after judgement. There are four places that the King James Version calls heaven. The first is what we call the sky, it is the air above the ground. The second is what we would call space and is the place where the stars and planets are. The third is actually the eternal home of saved souls and the place where God is. The fourth is the "Kingdom of Heaven" which is the church. So, when trying to understand what the Bible teaches about heaven, you first have to determine which heaven is being discussed. The heaven that we are interested in is the third heaven. Paul was given a glimpse into the third heaven. Here is what he had to say about it [2 Corinthians 12:1-5 \(KJV\)](#) "It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities." While Paul writes this in the third person, most scholars believe that he is talking about himself. So, while Paul was blessed with this view of heaven, we don't learn much about it from his writings. While Paul said that it was not lawful for a man to talk about what he heard, John in his vision some years later was given direct instructions to write about what he saw. He did so in what became the book of Revelation in the New Testament. Here are some of the things he said about it:

- There is a great white throne with a rainbow around it which looked like an emerald ([Rev 20:11](#)) ([Rev 4:2-3](#))
- The being sitting on the throne looked like jasper and sardine stone ([Rev 4:3](#))
- Around the throne were 24 seats on which sit elders dressed in white with gold crowns ([Rev 4:4](#))
- Seven lamps of fire burned in front of the throne ([Rev 4:5](#))
- In front of the throne was a sea of glass like crystal ([Rev 4:6](#))
- On the right-hand side of the throne was a book with writing on the inside and on the back side and sealed with seven seals ([Rev 5:1](#))
- A golden altar with four horns with a golden censer was in front of the throne ([Rev 8:3](#), [Rev 9:13](#))
- There is a temple there ([Rev 15:5](#))

Throughout Revelation, John discusses beasts, angels and saints that he saw there. The description of the city, New Jerusalem, that John gives in Revelation 21 is not a description of heaven because the city came "down from God out of heaven" ([Rev 21:2](#))

It is the throne of God [Matthew 5:34 \(KJV\)](#) "But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:" We will have a spiritual body [1 Corinthians 15:42-44 \(KJV\)](#) "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body." Our bodies will be changed: [Philippians 3:20-21 \(KJV\)](#) For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."

We shouldn't be too concerned about what heaven will look like, or what we will be like. Our goal should be to go there, and to do that we need to hear the gospel, believe it, confess our belief that Jesus is God's son, repent of our sins, be baptized by immersion in water for the remission of our sins, and live a life acceptable to God.