

What will we see in heaven?

Rev. Kenneth S. VanHaverbeke Homily Notes for Ascension 2010
Luke 24:46-53

First we must establish that what happens to Jesus will happen to us.

Through His sharing in our humanity, we share now in His divinity!

1 Co. 15: 21-22, For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life”

At the Mass the priest says: *“By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the Divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity.”*

Secondly, can we “see” in heaven?

At the resurrection, Jesus’ BODY was GLORIFIED:

Body! Which ate, drank, taught! A body, not a spirit....

Luke 24: 28-30, “As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.”

Glorified! Super natural qualities!

John 20:19, “On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

John’s book of Revelation:

He saw!

Rev. 21: 1 “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.”

So then, What will we see????

The Beatific Vision...GOD!!!!

1028 Because of his transcendence, God cannot be seen as he is, unless he himself opens up his mystery to man's immediate contemplation and gives him the capacity

for it. The Church calls this contemplation of God in his heavenly glory "the beatific vision":

Mary, the Angels, the Blessed:

1024 This perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity - this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed - is called "heaven." Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfillment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness.

Other's experiences of Heaven:

Catherine of Siena , in 1370: "I have seen the hidden things of God and now I am thrust back into the prison of the body."

Don Piper, "Ninety Minutes in Heaven." <http://www.90minutesinheaven.com/>

Far fetched...non scriptural....????...

Compare to...

St. Stephen: Acts 7:54-55

But he, filled with the holy Spirit, looked up intently to heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

Saint Paul: 2 Corinthians 12: 1-4:

I must boast; not that it is profitable, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know someone in Christ who, fourteen years ago (whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows), was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this person (whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows) was caught up into Paradise and heard ineffable things, which no one may utter.

St. Thomas More pointed to the expectation of heaven's joys that await the faithful: "Take all the pleasures of all the spheres, and multiply each through endless years. One minute of heaven is worth them all."

*"Patience and submission are the only way
to gain the blessings of Heaven."
Mother Seton*