

Will We Recognize Each Other in Heaven?

Will we recognize each other in Heaven? I'm sure we will. While there isn't a crystal clear statement in Scripture, it is implied.

Listen to Jesus

Jesus said,

In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

John 14:2-3 English Standard Version.

Jesus was speaking to his 12 disciples and they wanted to be together. Sure they would know each other. But there is no reason to think they were getting special treatment.

In another place, Jesus promised his followers a great feast called heaven and told about some of the guests:

I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven . . .

Matthew 8:11, ESV.

Guests came from other countries and other times. How would they know or care about these three strangers sitting at the table? There will be some way to recognize people even

though we have never met them in this life.

Some smart theologians who didn't believe in life after death put a question to Jesus:

Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.'

Matthew 22:24 ESV

They continued loading the trap by telling of a woman married seven times and then asking whose wife she will be in the resurrection (which they didn't believe would happen).

Jesus set them straight with his knowledge of the future:

For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

Matthew 22:30 ESV

There is no marriage in heaven. This was a temporary plan for earth since the time of Adam and Eve. Instead we will be like the angels. Certainly they must know each other. I've never heard of angels who were unacquainted. So this power of recognition spans thousands of angels.

We recognise our friends now on earth. It is unthinkable that we will know less in heaven than we do on earth. Sure we will recognize others.

After his death, Jesus was recognizable in his resurrected body, and it will be no different for us.

Look At Our Music

While songs don't speak for God, yet they show us how the authors understood the Scriptures. Plus the people singing their songs found them meaningful. Read these words:

If We Never Meet Again

Soon we'll come to the end of life's journey
And perhaps we'll never meet any more
Till we gather in Heaven's bright city
Far away on that beautiful shore.

Where the charming roses bloom forever
And where separations come no more
If we never meet again this side of Heaven
I will meet you on that beautiful shore.

—Albert E. Brumley

I Will Meet You In The Morning

I'll meet you in the morning by the bright
riverside
When all sorrow has drifted away
I'll be standing at the portals when the gates
open wide
At the close of life's long dreary day
Chorus: I'll meet you in the morning with a
'How do you do?'
And we'll sit down by the river and with
rapture "auld" acquaintance renew.
You'll know me in the morning by the smiles
that I wear
When I meet you in the morning, in the city
that is built four square

—SR Brunley

No Tears in Heaven

No tears in heaven, no sorrows given,
All will be glory in that land
There'll be no sadness, all will be gladness
When we shall join that happy band.
Some morning yonder, we'll cease to ponder
O'er things this life has brought to view
All will be clearer, loved ones be dearer
In heaven where all will be made new

Look at Revelation

These words accord with Revelation
21:4:

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. (ESV)

Some tears are caused by the absence of loved ones. Death will not happen in heaven. This points to our knowing our loved one in heaven.

Heaven will be the biggest reunion ever. Those infants who were conceived but never emerged to see life, children who died before living their full years, loved ones who died in accidents or of body malfunctions. Grandparents who died of old age.

Those with limited eyesight will be able to see perfectly and those with defective hearing will not miss a word ever again. There will be no crutches, braces or wheelchairs.

No more need for pain control drugs because there will be no more pain.

There will be no political differences because the King is eternal and will not be replaced.

The weather will be under the control of the King. He calmed the raging storm on Galilee, showing that he has the power. He can easily control the thermostat in heaven because that is his domain.

Heaven is not a one-way solitary trip into the unknown. It's a great gathering of the saints throughout the ages.

Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people. Preparation begins with believing in Christ and being immersed (baptized) in his name (Acts 2:38). Then living and worshiping each day to be pleasing to the Lord who died to provide our passage to heaven.

I want to live each day in God's grace so my place is guaranteed.

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