

What *Really* Happens When You Die?

- **Dead... But Alive!**
- **From Here to Eternity**
- **Up From the Grave**
- **Forever and Ever
(Hallelujah!)**
- **Judgment Day?**

What *Really* Happens When You Die?

From Here to Eternity

- Heaven really is a place
- Eternity really is forever and ever
- A New Earth really is our eternal home

Rev. 21:1-4; 9b-11; 22-27; 22:1-5

Heaven: Where God Dwells

1. The atmospheric heavens

- The sky above (e.g. Gen 7:11)

Heaven: Where God Dwells

1. **The atmospheric heavens**

2. **The celestial heavens**

- The expanse/firmament above the sky: sun, moon, planets, stars (e.g. Gen 1:14)

Heaven: Where God Dwells

1. The atmospheric heavens

2. The celestial heavens

3. The abode of God

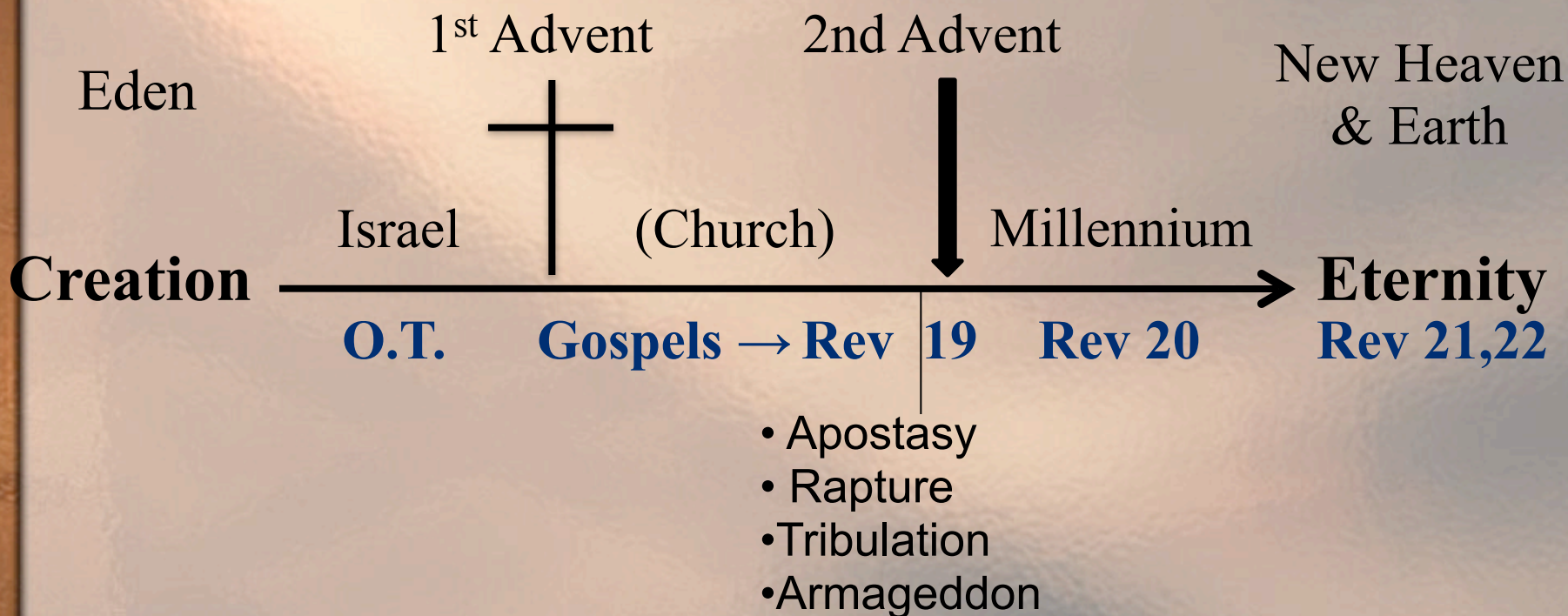
- The place where God dwells; where Jesus came from and went back to; where Jesus promised to take us; where the repentant thief would be with Him ‘today’; where the tree of life now is...
- While heaven may be *more* than a physical place, it is *not less* than a physical place.
- What grace: the abode of God will be with man!
(Rev 21:3-4)

From Here to Eternity

Heaven: Where God Dwells

In the meanwhile, here on Earth...

From Creation to the Eternal State



From Here to Eternity

Heaven: Where God Dwells

In the meanwhile, here on Earth...

So now, when the believer dies...

1. *Intermediate State* vs. *Eternal State*
Present Heaven vs. *Eternal Heaven*
2. When the believer dies he enters the intermediate state, awaiting the resurrection of his body *and* awaiting the eternal state with God forever in the New Heaven and Earth.

Heaven: Where God Dwells

In the meanwhile, here on Earth...

So now, when the believer dies...

1. Consider the clues from passages like these:
II Cor. 12:1-3; Rev. 6:9-11; Phil. 1:21-23;
II Cor. 5:1-5; Luke 23:43; Rev 2:7;
Acts 7:55-59; Luke 16:19-31
2. See Randy Alcorn *Heaven* p. 41-73
3. Better... yet still awaiting the full revelation and experience of God in our midst forever:
joy inexpressible and full of glory!

From Here to Eternity

Heaven: Where God Dwells

In the meanwhile, here on Earth...

So now, when the believer dies...

Living now in light of then...

1. We do not seek to escape life by dreaming of heaven, we find instead that the pull of heaven draws us through this 'shadowland' sustained by the certainty of dawn to come.

Lord, Let Me Get Home Before Dark