

Statements from Perry Stone's Book, "Secrets of the Third Heaven"

There have actually been two different locations for paradise (heaven). After Adam's sin, the souls of all men and women (both righteous and unrighteous) at death, descended under the crust of the earth to a place called Abraham's bosom, a massive under-world chamber where righteous souls remained until the resurrection of Christ. Then at death all future righteous souls are carried by angels to the third heaven, paradise.

Each person that has ever lived will, in the future, stand before God in His heavenly temple and be judged for their words spoken and deeds performed while they lived on earth including both good and bad.

At times, major earthly decisions that affect nations or impact the kingdom of God are first strategized in the courts of heaven before they are enacted on the earth. Information and plans known to God and Christ can be passed on to angelic messengers whose assignment is to see that the decisions are set in motion on earth.

The five senses and emotions do not cease at death but are linked with the human soul and emotions. The key knowledge known in heaven would be the knowledge the individual soul had while living on earth. Earthly activities connected to words and deeds are recorded in heavenly books to be opened at the time of judgement. The only way to cancel bad deeds is by truly repenting of any while living on earth, turning, and forsaking any type of evil. In the third heaven, people still live with their former earthly abilities.

Can a soul return to earth that has departed? There are stories where people have seen their loved one but it is believed that these experiences were actually visions.

The third heaven can only be seen by three methods: in a spiritual dream, in a vision, or in an actual experience similar to what Paul alluded to when he spoke about the human spirit being transported at the speed of thought to the third heaven.

In heaven we will cease from our labors and rest.

Time is an earthly feature that began when Adam was created in the garden. God dwells in three ages: ages past, this present age, and the ages to come. From a biblical view, time can be counted by three different methods: sabbatical cycles (every 7 days) and every seven years, jubilee (every 49 years) and God ordained covenants. The first covenant was a blood covenant with Abraham and the next was with David regarding promising his male descendants a throne in Jerusalem. The last covenant was with Christ for redemption. Perry states that he believes that the souls that dwell in heaven are unaware of the earth's timeclock.

Our natural bodies are restricted by earthly limitations. Human infirmities and all forms of disease are part of living in a natural body. Our new resurrected bodies will be exempt from any and all sickness or infirmities. Any type of physical handicaps will end at death.

In heaven, it is believed that we will be clothed in white robes or garments. Some who have experienced heaven claim that people appear to be younger than when they died but were still able to be recognized. Communication in heaven is by transfer of thoughts.

Earthly information is stored in heavenly books. One day it will be made public in one of two places. Either at the Judgement seat of Christ, a heavenly judgement and reward ceremony for believers or the Great White Throne for the lost souls of eons past. There are five distinct books for recording specific, detailed information about each person who was born and lived on earth.

A Book of the Living – earthly details of a person's life

The Book of Life – roll call of the redeemed

Book of Tears – our tears are recorded

Book of Remembrance – records those who are givers, tithers, and fear the name of the Lord.

Books that catalog the works and deeds that were performed by all people living on earth.

Rewards will be presented or withheld at the heavenly tribunal upon what a person did or did not do on earth.

Children who have not reached the age of accountability will go to heaven and remain the age they were when they passed so loved ones who lost them can enjoy them when they come to heaven.

All prayers in the Old Testament were directed to God. In the New Testament, Christ becomes our mediator. We are not to pray to anyone who has died to have our prayers answered. Christ is our only intercessor.