



## 2020 4Q Education: Lesson 13

### Heaven, Education, and Eternal Learning

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

#### SABBATH

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Don't you love the title?

Read memory text: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." NKJV

What does this text mean to you?

The lesson points out in the second paragraph that, "education—regardless of the field of study—should be preparing us for the 'hereafter.'"

How do we prepare for the hereafter?

What is the most important thing to learn to prepare for the hereafter?

The third paragraph states, "After all, any school can pass on a lot of good information, a lot of good practical and helpful knowledge. But what good does it do if a person were to gain all that knowledge and yet lose eternal life?"

What is the most important thing to learn to prepare for the hereafter?

Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3 NIV84

What is the most important knowledge to have? The knowledge of God—but what kind of knowledge is this?

Some think the devil's know God—I would counter that they recognize God when He or Jesus are around, but they don't know Him. They have corrupted their minds; they have corrupted their knowledge of God with their own distortions, their own selfishness, their own fears, and thus what they think they know about God is not true.

You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! James 2:19 NKJV



Why do they tremble? Is God against them? Many Christians think of course God is against Satan and his demons, they might even read this Bible account:

When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. He shouted at the top of his voice, **“What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won’t torture me!”** Mark 5:1-7 NIV84

Did this demon need to fear Jesus? Is Jesus the source of pain, suffering and death? Is Jesus the kind of person who will torture His enemies, or did Jesus say to love our enemies and pray for those who would spitefully use us?

Then why is this demon afraid of Jesus? He recognizes who Jesus is, but does this demon know Jesus?

No, this demon, like all those who reject truth, damage their own minds, they lose the ability to know reality and in this case they no longer know God. They see God through their own false ideas. The demons are the ones who teach that God is a punisher, God is an inflictor of pain and torment, that God makes up laws that are like human laws and then punishes rule breakers.

They deny and distort the true cause of their suffering, which is sin in them and project it out blaming it on God. We see this in all sinners who are not responding to the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of truth. When one is responding to the Spirit of truth, one is convicted of sin, and one humbles themselves and acknowledges their sin and asks God for healing. But when one rejects the Spirit of truth, one denies they were wrong and blames others.

I see this all the time in addicts who have been arrested, not just for using their drugs, but for the crimes to pay for their drugs like check fraud, shoplifting, auto theft, breaking and entering etc. And they will complain about how they were mistreated. They will focus on some point of contention—it isn’t fair, I couldn’t afford a lawyer and they state appointed one and they weren’t very good. And when I asked if they did it or not, because I am not interested in their historic legal difficulties, I am interested in healing their minds/hearts and that cannot happen if they won’t be truthful with themselves, so when I ask if they did it or not they acknowledge the crime, yes, but blame the system for the negative outcome. Their going to jail wasn’t because they committed some crime, it was because the system is rigged.

As people commit more sin and refuse to repent they damage the faculties of the mind that respond to the Holy Spirit—they sear the conscience as the Bible says. Healing cannot occur outside the laws of health, outside the truth, so people get worse and worse and in order to avoid the guilt that comes from the truth, what will such people attempt to do to others? Convince others that they are the victims, that the system is unfair, that it isn’t their fault.



The demons are even more damaged in mind and filled with more hatred and take less responsibility and thus distort and blame things on God. They know about God, recognize it is Him, but they don't know Him. And if we don't know God, we are afraid of God.

Let's read God's encounter with the people at Sinai from Exodus 20:18-20:

When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, **they trembled with fear**. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die." **Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid.** God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

Why was Moses not afraid but the people were? Moses knew God, personally, intimately, as a friend. Moses knew God's character, God's heart, God's methods and knew God was not their enemy. Moses knew God's love and that God wanted to heal and protect the people from the damage they would do to themselves if they chose to violate His design laws for life.

But the people didn't know God, they knew *about* God. They knew God was real. They knew God was powerful. But they didn't know God's heart, God's character, God's love thus they had all kinds of misconceptions about God, including their misunderstanding of God's law.

Satan is the originator of the lies about God, which are centered in God's law. Satan is the one who made up the lie that God's law functions like human law and God, therefore, in order to be just, must punish sin.

This is from the book, *The Desire of Ages*:

**In the opening of the great controversy, Satan had declared that the law of God could not be obeyed, that justice was inconsistent with mercy, and that, should the law be broken, it would be impossible for the sinner to be pardoned. Every sin must meet its punishment, urged Satan; and if God should remit the punishment of sin, He would not be a God of truth and justice.** DA 761.4

Satan's view is the common view taught around the world in essentially every system of government and religion, including Christianity—and **IT IS A LIE!**

God, at this time in human history, is calling for His friends, those who know Him, to give Him glory by revealing the truth about His character. We are called to enlighten the world with the glorious truth of God's character of love, that there is no need to be afraid of God—He is our Creator and Savior and source of life. We need to fear sin which damages us, distorts our thinking, obstructs our ability to know God, and severs our connection with God.



It is time in human history to make a right judgment about God and trust Him, and ask Him to examine us and diagnose us and heal our hearts and minds.

But until we reject the penal/legal lies we will never truly know God—we may believe in God, but our knowledge of Him is warped, our intimacy is obstructed, our effectiveness for Him is undermined.

Understand that the knowledge we want is experiential knowledge, not mere fact knowledge. The facts of history that God has revealed through Christ are sufficient to dispel the lies about God so that we can reach out in trust and open our hearts to Him. When we do His Spirit indwells our hearts and minds and we begin an intimate personal experience with Him. We know Him personally; we spend time with Him, sharing, talking, rejoicing, admiring, consulting, with Him and by beholding the beauty of His character as revealed in Jesus, in Scripture, in nature we become more and more like Him as we choose to align ourselves with Him saying yes to Him and His methods and no to the lies and the methods of this world.

Understanding the difference between recognizing the person of God and knowing Him, we can understand how Jesus said to Nicodemus ““I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again” (John 3:3 NIV84) and how Jesus also said to those who crucified Him, ““you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,’ and ‘coming with the clouds of heaven.”” (Mark 14:61-62 NRSV) And the Bible teaches, “Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him...” (Revelation 1:7 NIV84)

These people see with their eyes the power, the person of Jesus coming in glory, but they do not see the kingdom of God, because the kingdom of God is not a kingdom of power that causes fear and intimidates others to cower or causes people to be coerced. The kingdom of God is the kingdom of love where the king left all power behind to sacrifice Himself to lift up and save His creatures.

The kingdom of heaven is NOT the kingdoms of this world which operate upon Satan’s methods of power over others, with a few ruling elites dominating and exploiting the masses.

The most important knowledge to have to prepare for heaven is the knowledge of God, His character and methods of love, which requires we reject the imposed law lie, with its false penal substitution theology that makes God out to be the dispenser of pain, the inflictor of punishment, the source of death.

## SUNDAY

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The lesson points us to the question about the fate of the dead—what would you say to someone who asks what happens when people die?

“Now may the God of peace himself make you completely holy and may your **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be kept entirely blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Thessalonians 5:23



Humans are tripartite: **body, soul, and spirit**—just like a computer.

- **Body** > *Soma* > Hardware
- **Soul** > *Psyche* > Software/Mind/Individuality
- **Spirit** > *Pneuma* > Energy/Breath of Life

To be operational requires all three components.

When Our Computers Run Out of Power, Into What State Do They Go?

They “sleep.” And How does the Bible describe those who “die”?

They “sleep,” but as Jesus said, those who believe in Him will never die.

Martin Luther wrote:

“It is enough for us to know that souls do not leave their bodies to be threatened by the torments and punishments of hell, but enter a prepared bedchamber in which they sleep in peace.” (Weimarer Ausgabe, 43, 360, 21–23 (to Genesis 25:7–10); also Exegetica opera latina, Vol 5, 6 1833 p. 120 and the English translation: Luther’s Works, American Edition, 55 vols. (St. Louis: CPH), 4:313.)

When a computer runs out of power into what state does it go?

- When your computer “sleeps,” it is not destroyed.
- What happens if your computer is backed up on the “cloud” and then someone destroys your machine?
- Don’t be afraid of those who can kill the body (hardware) but cannot kill the soul (Psyche/Software). Matthew 10:28

So what happens when we die?

- The **Body** (*soma*)—hardware—disintegrates to dust. Genesis 3:19; Psalm 44:25; Ecclesiastes 3:20
- The **Spirit** (*pneuma*)—life energy—returns to God. Ecclesiastes 12:7
- The **Soul** (*psyche*)—software/individuality—is safe with Christ in heaven, stored in the Lamb’s book of life; the heavenly “servers.” 2 Corinthians 5:6–8; Revelation 3:5, 21:7
- The person “sleeps,” waiting to be “downloaded” into new hardware, a new body.

This is so much better than the Eastern Philosophies which have merged life energy and individuality, (energy and software) and teach that because energy is neither created nor destroyed but conserved, reused, that when a person dies, the energy returns in some other form, so the person who used that energy returns and they teach reincarnation.

However, the Bible is much more accurate to reality, because it was inspired by the God who built reality. And the Bible teaches that life energy (spirit—breath of life) and individuality (soul—



software) are separate and distinct. Thus, when a person dies the energy may be reused, but the individuality, the software, is stored on the heavenly servers, the Lamb's book of life.

Note Paul's description of the resurrection:

Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who **fall asleep**, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that **God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him**. The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the **dead in Christ will rise first**. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

What is the difference between first death and second death?

The Bible uses the actual term "second death" only in the book of Revelation in 2:11, 20:6, 20:14 and 21:8. The first two times the term is used the Bible tells us that the second death has no power over the righteous, the victorious in Christ, those who arise in the first resurrection. It is in the last two uses that the Bible gives us some definition of what the second death actually is:

Rev 20:14 "The lake of fire is the second death"

Rev 21:8 "their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

According to Revelation the second death occurs in the lake of fire or dying in the lake of fire is the second death

Many commentators note that another difference between the first and second death is the first death is the death from which a resurrection occurs but the second death is the death from which there is no resurrection. There is sound Biblical evidence for this conclusion (1Cor 15:12-21, 42-49, 1Thes 4:16, Rev 2:11, 20:5,6,14, 21:8).

Christ makes a distinction between two types of death in Matthew 10:28 where He notes that the first death can destroy the body, but not the soul. It is the death that destroys the soul that is the one the righteous avoid.

And, as we have seen, the Greek word translated "soul" is "psyche" which means "mind, identity, individuality."

So, the second death is the death where a person's individuality is destroyed, not just the body, it is a death from which there is no resurrection.

Has anyone yet died this second, eternal death, in which their individuality was destroyed and from which there is no resurrection?



Jesus Christ “destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light” 2 Timothy 1:9,10. Jesus was not destroyed by death; His death was the means of actually destroying death!

So, what is the fate of the dead?

Every person, righteous or wicked, that has died throughout history thus far, died the first death—the death of sleep and all will rise again, either to the resurrection of life or the resurrection of damnation.

But why raise the wicked? If they are lost, why not just leave them dead?

- Because God is love and every person is given true freedom to determine their own eternal destiny.
- They are raised to finish their lives.
- And in so doing, they reveal that God’s actions in putting people in sleep mode in no way determined their destiny.

At the beginning of the 1000 years Jesus returns as described by Paul in 1Thes above and the righteous dead are raised, the righteous living are transformed and join Jesus in the air. The wicked dead stay asleep and the wicked living are put into sleep-mode.

At the end of the 1000 years

- Jesus, the saints, the New Jerusalem, and the holy angels come to earth.
- The unrepentant are raised to life (souls downloaded from heavenly servers into imperfect bodies) with the same characters and train of thoughts as when they were put into sleep mode—just as a computer is turned on after years in sleep mode. Revelation 20:5
- An unspecified period of time goes by while the unrepentant prepare for war and march on the New Jerusalem. Revelation 20:7–9
- The New Jerusalem is on earth, with Christ and the saints inside, **and the city gates are open** the entire time! Revelation 21:25
- Yet no one comes in! Why? And what does it reveal?
- All the unrepentant stay out because they are so settled into Satan’s lies about God that they don’t want to go in.
- They all stay out by their own choices. Thus, it is shown that God’s action to power-down people into sleep mode in no way determined their destinies.
- Even with the evidence of the New Jerusalem on earth, they won’t be convinced.
- Each person finishes their own life by their own choice—consistent with the laws of love and liberty; i.e., no coercion ever!

One of the founders of the SDA church described the events at the end of the 1000 years this way:

“At last the order to advance is given, and the countless host moves on,—an army such as was never summoned by earthly conquerors, such as the combined forces of all ages since war



began on earth could never equal. Satan, the mightiest of warriors, leads the van, and his angels unite their forces for this final struggle. Kings and warriors are in his train, and the multitudes follow in vast companies, each under its appointed leader. With military precision, the serried ranks advance over the earth's broken and uneven surface to the city of God. **By command of Jesus, the gates of the New Jerusalem are closed,** and the armies of Satan surround the city, and make ready for the onset. Now Christ again appears to the view of his enemies. Far above the city, upon a foundation of burnished gold, is a throne, high and lifted up. Upon this throne sits the Son of God, and around him are the subjects of his kingdom. The power and majesty of Christ no language can describe, no pen portray. The glory of the Eternal Father is enshrouding his Son. **The brightness of his presence fills the city of God, and flows out beyond the gates, flooding the whole earth with its radiance.”** GC 664

What is being described? What is the brightness of his presence? Heb 12:29, our God is a consuming fire. Daniel 7 tells us that rivers of fire come out from the throne of God and billions stand in this fire. This is the fire of infinite love and infinite truth coming out of an infinite God. And what happens in the hearts and minds of people who have hardened themselves in fear and selfishness when they are exposed to infinite love and truth?

Consider this quote from the book *The Great Controversy*:

Could those whose lives have been spent in rebellion against God be suddenly transported to Heaven, and witness the high, the holy state of perfection that ever exists there,—every soul filled with love; every countenance beaming with joy; enrapturing music in melodious strains rising in honor of God and the Lamb; and ceaseless streams of light flowing upon the redeemed from the face of Him who sitteth upon the throne,—**could those whose hearts are filled with hatred of God, of truth and holiness, mingle with the heavenly throng and join their songs of praise? Could they endure the glory of God and the Lamb?—No, no;** years of probation were granted them, that they might form characters for Heaven; but **they have never trained the mind to love purity; they have never learned the language of Heaven, and now it is too late. A life of rebellion against God has unfitted them for Heaven. Its purity, holiness, and peace would be torture to them; the glory of God would be a consuming fire. They would long to flee from that holy place. They would welcome destruction, that they might be hidden from the face of Him who died to redeem them. **The destiny of the wicked is fixed by their own choice. Their exclusion from Heaven is voluntary with themselves, and just and merciful on the part of God.** GC88 542.3**

Do you see how this is all reality, design law, God granting each person complete freedom to choose their own destiny. No one is kept out of heaven by God, they are kept out by themselves. God doesn't determine the fate of the wicked, they determine their own fate.

Assume that you are saved and in heaven and you have a loved one that is lost. Does it make a difference to you, your ability to love and trust God, the joy and peace you will experience if your loved ones are lost because God keeps them out because they didn't claim the proper legal payment to pay for their sins and therefore God then uses His power to torture and kill them, OR God wants them





in but they hate everything about God and God's kingdom of love and choose to die eternally rather than be with God and the saved?

Would it make a difference to see this with your own eyes rather than have God say, "Trust me, they just didn't want to be here"?

After all see with their own eyes, that every lost person chose to die rather than to be with God and the saved, will there be any doubt as to why they are lost? Will this close the door to any intelligent being doubting God again? But what if God didn't raise them, and instead just told us the truth and asked us to trust Him, will that erase all doubt as effectively?

The lesson states in the fourth paragraph, "A million years, even a billion years, might not possess enough good moments to make up for the bad. Eternity alone can balance all things out, and then some."

What do you think about this? Something about it just doesn't sound right to me. The part I like is that no matter what we suffer here it will fade into insignificance when we are finally in heaven.

EGW wrote:

When sinful man can discern the inexpressible love of God in giving His Son to die upon the cross, we shall better understand that it is infinite gain to overcome as Christ overcame. And we shall understand that it is eternal loss if we gain the whole world, with all its pleasure and glory, and yet lose the soul. **Heaven is cheap enough at any cost.** Confrontation 78

Do you agree? Well it is truly hard for us to fully know this reality until we are there, but can we have faith that this will be our attitude, no matter what we have suffered, in heaven we will rejoice and say that heaven and life as God designed it, is worth it?

But, what of this idea of balancing things out, making up for the bad?

Is there "making up" for the bad?

Does this imply that God needs to make it up to us? Does it imply that some wrong has been done to us and that it will take God all of eternity to make it up to us?

This is the kind of thinking one gets with imposed law. A child who gets molested didn't do anything wrong to deserve such horrible treatment—they are innocent, it isn't their fault, so God will make it up to them...hmmm...

Or, Christ's followers, go about doing good, blessing others, helping the needy and get imprisoned, persecuted, tortured, martyred—they didn't do anything to deserve what happened, and God will spend eternity making it up to them...



What do you think about this? Does this sound right or wrong to you?

What is a more accurate understanding of all this in light of reality, in light of God's design laws?

Does God have any debt He owes us that He needs to clear, any balance sheet He needs to settle with any human being? Why not?

But what about the innocent child who is exploited and abused—it isn't their fault, why doesn't God have a debt to settle with that child?

Let me ask the question this way: Are you and I individually worse off because Adam sinned, than WE would have been had Adam and Eve never sinned?

Let us be clear—Adam and Eve's sin was sin, it was wrong, there is no justification for it. Humanity the species would be infinitely better off had Adam and Eve not sinned—all suffer and death on earth would have been avoided had they stayed loyal. Yet, would you and I be better off had they never sinned?

We must not allow the fact that Adam and Eve's sin was evil to cause us to accept a new lie—that we, as their descendants, are worse off because of their sin than WE would have been. Why not? Because WE would not exist had Adam and Eve not sinned—other sinless humans would have been born, but we can say that not one of us would have been born, because we were all born in sin conceived in iniquity. While Adam and Eve's sin is inexcusable, we are here today because our individual family trees formed as a result of all kinds of sins and conflicts.

Consider the following: Was King David, better off or worse off because of the slaughter of Jericho and the rescue of Rahab? If Jericho had not been conquered, which included killing men, women, and children, Rahab would not have joined with Israel and would not have become the wife of Salmon, the mother of Boaz and the great-great-grandmother of King David. In other words, if these events hadn't happened David would not have been born. Was David better or worse off because of what happened to Jericho?

So, how does this apply to the question of God clearing some balance sheet to people who have suffered on this Earth?

Once Adam and Eve sinned what would have happened to them had God NOT intervened? They would have died—and what would then have been the result for the human race? No human would exist.

Once they changed themselves from loyal beings to sinners, what is the only kind of beings that they could produce from themselves? Sinners, thus every human is born in sin, conceived in iniquity—but this is not a legal status, it is a condition of being out of harmony with God. We are born with a terminal condition that God has been working through Jesus to cure.



What is the only way God can cure the hearts and minds of people? By winning them to love and trust. God cannot use power to save sinners by force because to do so would be to make them robots; it would destroy their individuality and thus God works via the power of truth, love, freedom to bring us to choose to align ourselves with Him.

So, the entire history of sin on Earth is occurring because of God's grace, because of Jesus the Lamb who committed Himself to be slain from the foundation of the world. God doesn't owe us anything or have any balance sheets to settle, we owe Him everything!

## MONDAY

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The lesson quotes Revelation 21:3,4: "God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

What does this text mean to you?

What does this text say about the idea that the sins get erased from the records and the memories of people so that we won't know what sins have been committed?

Will we know? And will we have wounds that need healing?

Will we have losses that need grieving? But once we have healed, once we have grieved, then there will never again be any sorrow, injury, pain, because all the old sinful things are eternally gone from the universe.

What of the idea there will be no more death—is that just human death or also animal death? Animals also, so will there be slaughterhouses? Will we eat animals in an Earth made new?

What about plants will they die?

Here is one Bible commentary sharing insights into Adam and Eve's perspective after sin, is this just metaphor, analogy, rhetoric to communicate the pain of loss or is there literal things being described?

As they witnessed in **drooping flower and falling leaf the first signs of decay**, Adam and his companion mourned more deeply than men now mourn over their dead. When the **goodly trees cast off their leaves**, the scene brought to mind the stern fact that death is the portion of every living thing. *From Eternity Past 30*

Does this imply that prior to sin plants didn't die?



Consider this description of what a new earth may be like, from one of the founders of the SDA church, is this to be taken literally, or verbal imagery to inspire us to consider things beyond our imagination?

And I saw another field **full of all kinds of flowers, and as I plucked them, I cried out, well they will never fade.** Next I saw a field of tall grass, most glorious to behold; it was living green, and had a reflection of silver and gold, as it waved proudly to the glory of King Jesus. Then we entered a field full of all kinds of beasts—the lion, the lamb, the leopard and the wolf, altogether in perfect union; [Isaiah 11:6-9.] we passed through the midst of them, and they followed on peaceably after. Then we entered a wood, not like the dark woods we have here, no, no; but light, and all over glorious; the branches of the trees waved to and fro, and we all cried out, “we will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in this woods.” [Ezekiel 34:25.] We passed through the woods, for we were on our way to Mount Zion. As we were travelling along, we met a company who were also gazing at the glories of the place. I noticed red as a border on their garments; their crowns were brilliant; their robes were pure white. As we greeted them, I asked Jesus who they were? He said they were martyrs that had been slain for him. With them was an innumerable company of little ones; they had a hem of red on their garments also. [Jeremiah 31:15-17. Matthew 2:18.] Mount Zion was just before us, and on the Mount sat a glorious temple, and about it were seven other mountains, on **which grew roses and lilies, [2 Esdras 2:19.] and I saw the little ones climb, or if they chose, use their little wings and fly to the top of the mountains, and pluck the never fading flowers.** There were all kinds of trees around the temple to beautify the place; the box, the pine, the fir, the oil, the myrtle, the pomegranate, and the fig tree bowed down with the weight of its timely figs, that made the place look all over glorious... [Isaiah 60:13. Isaiah 41:19.] *A Word to the Little Flock* 17.

Is this literal or just beautiful word image to inspire us to imagine the wonders of an Earth made new?

Read first paragraph, “A Christian was talking...” What would you say to someone who had this attitude about eternal life?

On the one hand, it is exactly the mindset of the lost—they actually don’t want to continue living, that is why they are lost. They voluntarily give up their lives to God because they would rather not exist than live in a universe as God designed and built it, a universe of love and truth.

## TUESDAY

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“Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.” (1Corinthians 13:12 NIV84)

What does this text mean to you?

Why do you think so much is hidden to us?



When we get to heaven what are the first three things you want to discover the answers to?

What do you think of this description?

All the treasures of the universe will be open to the study of God's redeemed. Unfettered by mortality, **they wing their tireless flight to worlds afar,—worlds that thrilled with sorrow at the spectacle of human woe, and rang with songs of gladness at the tidings of a ransomed soul. With unutterable delight the children of earth enter into the joy and the wisdom of unfallen beings.** They share the treasures of knowledge and understanding gained through ages upon ages in contemplation of God's handiwork. With undimmed vision they gaze upon the glory of creation,—suns and stars and systems, all in their appointed order circling the throne of Deity. Upon all things, from the least to the greatest, the Creator's name is written, and in all are the riches of his power displayed. GC88 677.3

## WEDNESDAY

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In the hereafter, will we learn? Will our learning include making mistakes? Or do we have the idea that no mistakes will ever be made in the hereafter?

What brings you more joy—the joy of discovering something for yourself, of study, research, hypothesis, and the epiphany, of someone telling you all the answers?

If Albert Einstein is in heaven do you think he might continue studying astrophysics and how God built the universe to operate? Might he work complex math equations to describe these operations? Will he know all the answers instantly, or might he struggle to advance in his understanding? And could we see him asking Jesus about his latest equation and Jesus comes over and makes one little adjustment in the math and says, “Try it now.”

Do we allow for this type of mistake making or do we have some idea that mistake making is sin?

## THURSDAY

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Jesus the Great Teacher—what kind of teacher to you understand Jesus to be?

What teaching methods does He use?

- Parables
- Object lessons
- Examples from nature
- Evidence
- Reason



- Logic
- Intrigue—drawing in the student to be curious
- Making complex things simple, but still with depths of complexity

In heaven, what are the first three questions you want to ask Jesus?

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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