

# *C R E D O*

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Exploring The Christian Faith





# Rev. 21

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

# Rev. 21

<sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> ‘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.”

# Rev. 21

<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

# Rev. 21

<sup>6</sup> He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.



# John 14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.



# I Thes. 4

<sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

# John 14

<sup>2</sup> My Father's house has many \_\_\_\_\_s; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?



# Mansions or Rooms

- μοναὶ - monai
- plural of μονή - mone



# Mansions or Rooms

- μένω - meno
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- Presbyterian parsonage = manse



# John 14

<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”



# Ratzinger

To raise the question of “heaven” is not to float free from the earth on a balloon of enthusiastic fantasy. It is to come to know more deeply that hidden presence by whose gift we truly live, even though we ourselves continually permit it to be camouflaged, and to withdraw from us, displaced by the many objects that occupy the foreground of our lives.



# Ratzinger

Heaven, therefore, must first and foremost be determined christologically. It is not an extra-historical place into which one goes. Heaven's existence depends on the fact that Jesus Christ, as God, is man, and makes space for human existence in the existence of God himself. One is in heaven when, and to the degree, that one is in Christ.



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