**Introduction: Why Study Heaven?**

1. Our ___________________________ are crippling us.

   - Common misconceptions
   - Predictable results

2. We’re ___________________________ to do so.  

   Colossians 3:1-4

3. A faulty view of heaven destines us to a ____________ life on earth.

   John 14:1-11
A Theology of Heaven

Definition – 3 uses of the word:
1. 
2. 
3. 

The promise of heaven:
- It’s a real, tangible, place  
  John 14
- The Father is there  
  Matthew 6:9
- Jesus is at His right hand  
  Hebrews 9:24
- Believing loved ones are there  
  Hebrews 12:23
- Our names are recorded there  
  Luke 10:20
- We have an inheritance there  
  1 Peter 1:4
- Our citizenship is there  
  Philippians 3:20
- Specific, eternal rewards given  
  Matthew 6:9-21
- It’s the best of earth…better  
  Revelation 22
- Sin, death, and sorrow are absent  
  Revelation 22
- Adventure, work, discovery and rulership await us  
  Revelation 22

Heaven in historical context:
1. Past: Eden  
   Genesis 1-2

2. Present: Intermediate Heaven  
   Genesis 3- Revelation 20
   Philippians 1:20-21
   2 Corinthians 5:6

3. Future: New Heaven on New Earth  
   Revelation 22
Understanding heaven requires a macroscopic view of ________________
and a microscopic view of God’s ________________ for His people.

**Macro view of scripture:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genesis 1-2</th>
<th>Genesis 3 - Revelation 20</th>
<th>1000 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jesus’ death and resurrection</td>
<td>The Rapture of the Church</td>
<td>Christ’s return and Final Judgment</td>
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**Micro view of God’s responses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With man on perfect earth Genesis 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Separated from man and a cursed earth Genesis 3 – Rev 20</td>
<td>With man on a temporary earth Revelation 20</td>
<td>With man on a perfect earth forever Revelation 21 &amp; 22</td>
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</tbody>
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<th>JESUS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Theophany visits earth</td>
<td>The incarnate Savior and Redeemer</td>
<td>King of Kings</td>
<td>The Emmanuel forever</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary:** God __________________ to be with His people!
An Accurate View of Heaven Provides...

• __________________________ in times of trouble 2 Corinthians 4

• __________________________ in times of temptation John 14

• __________________________ when under pressure Matthew 6

Application / Discussion Questions:

1. Prior to today’s message, how would you rank your knowledge about heaven?

   Minimal   Expert

   1 ————————————————————10

2. What did you learn today that shifted your view of heaven? It’s importance? It’s attractiveness?

3. What relationship do you see between overcoming challenges/temptations and one’s view of heaven?

4. What are you facing today that requires perspective? Perseverance? Priorities?