

LIVING in HEAVEN

Part 2



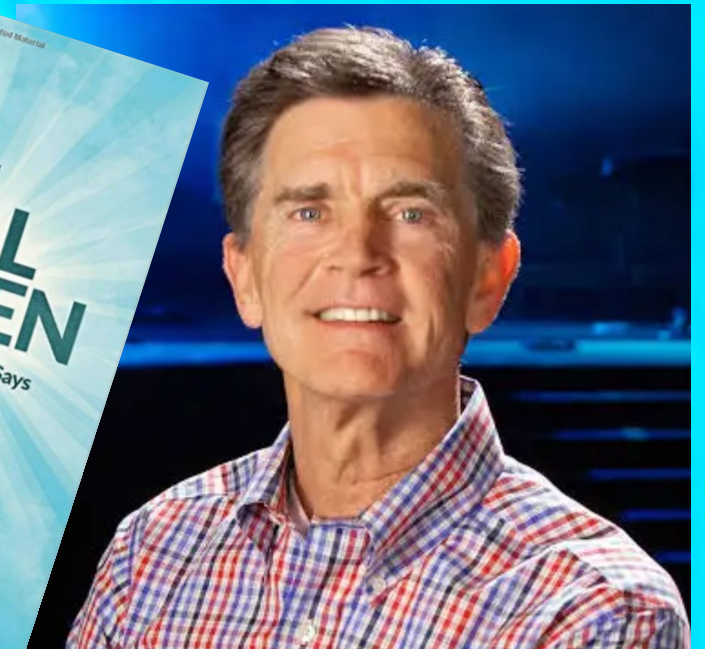
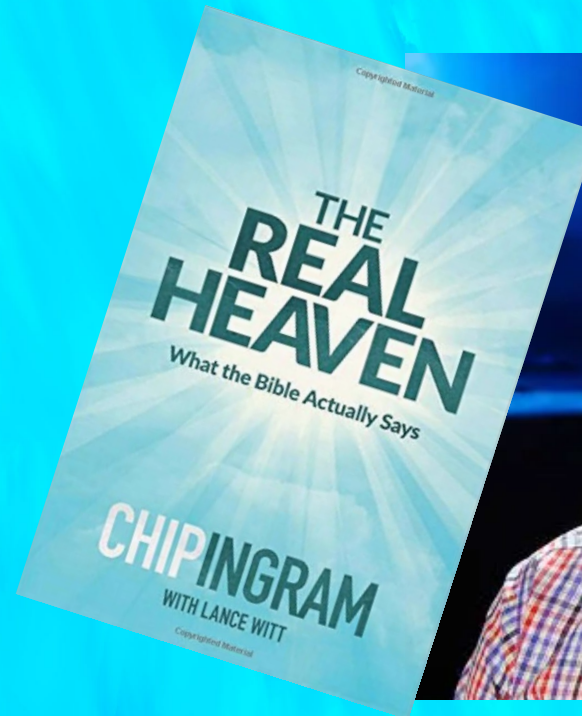
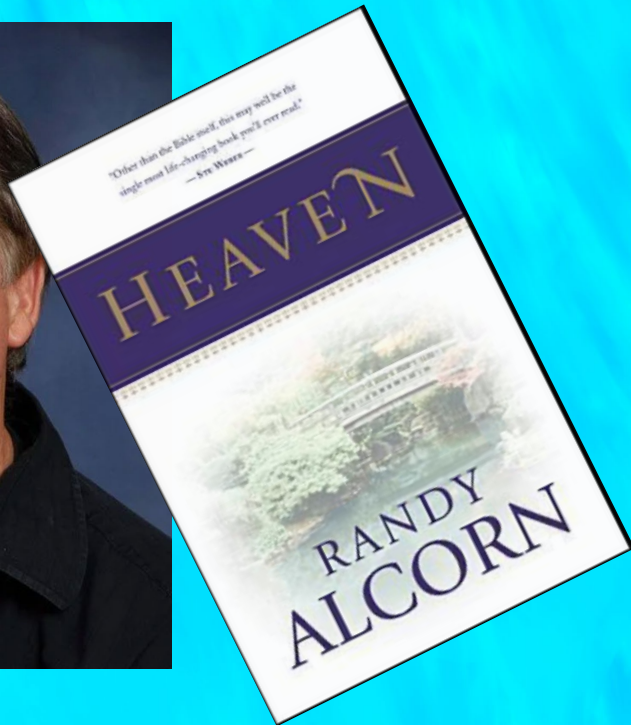
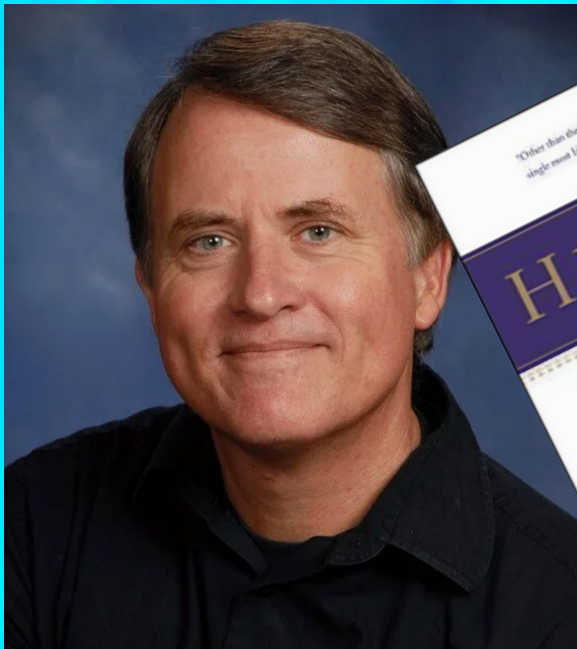
- 1. Ruling in Heaven (reprise)**
- 2. Will New Earth be a Global Edenic Paradise?**
- 3. What is the New Jerusalem? What will the Great City be like?**
- 4. Will there be Space & Time?**
- 5. Will there be the sun, moon, oceans? Weather?**

A little more about RULING with CHRIST...

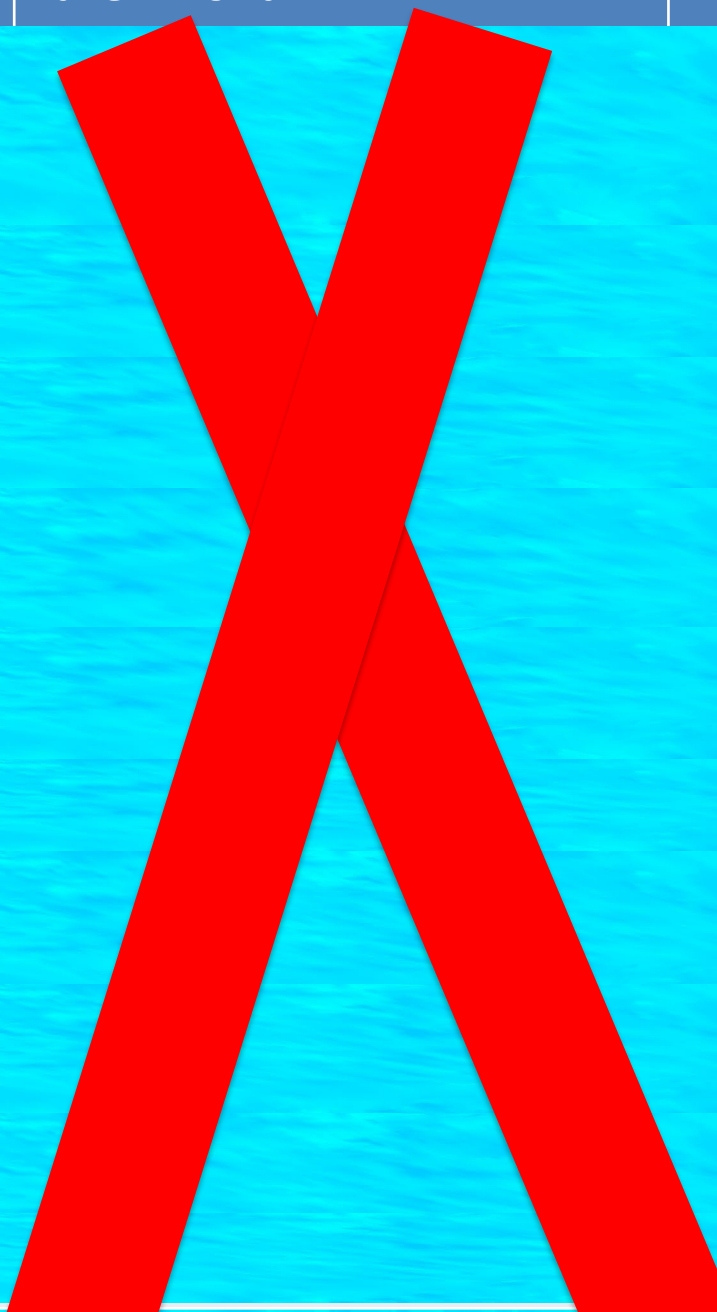
- Ruling—that is, hierarchy.
- Some “below” us; some “above” us.
- How does this relationship often work in a FALLEN world?

Leadership and Servanthood — Now vs. Heaven

Based on Randy Alcorn's "Heaven" and
Chip Ingram's "The Real Heaven"



Motivations in Leadership and Service			
Motivation / Dynamic	Fallen World	Heaven (New Earth)	Scriptural / Source Basis

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Summary: Ruling with Christ in Heaven

- **Ruling with Christ means sharing His loving dominion, not wielding control.**
- **Hierarchy remains, but reflects harmony — like instruments in an orchestra.**
- **Rewards and authority will expand joy, not status.**
- **All sin's distortions of power — pride, fear, manipulation — will be gone.**
- **Leadership will finally resemble what God intended in Eden.**

Will the New Earth be a global Edenic paradise?

1. The Biblical Foundation

Scripture presents the New Earth as Eden restored and magnified.

- **Revelation 21–22:** The Bible's final chapters intentionally mirror Genesis 1–2. The Tree of Life reappears (Rev. 22:2), a river flows from God's throne (Rev. 22:1), and "there shall be no more curse" (Rev. 22:3). Creation's story begins and ends with a paradise where God dwells with His people.
- **Isaiah 11:6–9; 65:17–25:** The prophets describe harmony between nature and mankind—predator and prey at peace, long life, joy, and the absence of harm.
- **Romans 8:19–21:** Creation "waits in eager expectation" to be "liberated from its bondage to decay." This implies the same earth, renewed—not scrapped and replaced.

"Behold, I am making all things new." — *Revelation 21:5*

(Note: He says "new," not "all new things.")

2. Randy Alcorn — *Heaven*

Alcorn argues forcefully that the New Earth will be a **literal, physical world**, recognizable yet perfected—the **entire planet transformed into what Eden was meant to become**.

“Eden wasn’t lost—it was postponed. What God starts, He finishes.”

— *Heaven*, Randy Alcorn

“God’s plan has never been to abandon the earth He made, but to restore it. The New Earth will be as familiar and tangible as this one—only free from corruption, death, and pain.”

— *Heaven*, Randy Alcorn

He describes Eden as the **prototype**—a sacred garden meant to be extended across the globe by righteous stewards (Genesis 1:28). Humanity’s sin halted that expansion, but redemption restarts the plan. Thus, the New Earth will be **the entire world as Eden was intended to be**: lush, fruitful, and filled with God’s glory.

3. Chip Ingram — *The Real Heaven*

Ingram emphasizes that Heaven is **not “up there forever”** but **“down here, made right.”** He paints the New Earth as a tangible home—beautiful, abundant, and perfectly organized under God’s righteous rule.

“Heaven will not be boring or abstract—it will be everything you love about earth without sin, injustice, or decay.”

— *The Real Heaven*, Chip Ingram

“When Jesus returns, He will renew this planet and restore all that’s broken. We’ll live in perfect community with God, each other, and creation itself.”

— *The Real Heaven*, Chip Ingram

He calls it **“a global paradise with purpose”**—a place of meaningful work, exploration, and creativity, not static leisure.

4. Theological Summary

Aspect	The First Earth (Fallen World)	The New Earth (Global Edenic Paradise) 
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What is the New Jerusalem?

What will the Great City be like?

Summary

Theme

Description

Supporting Voices

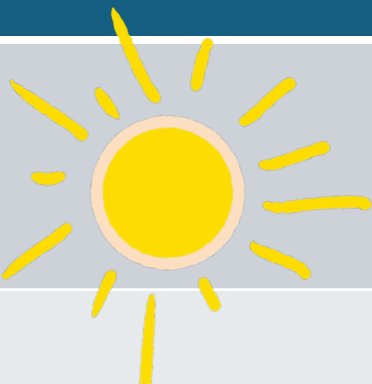
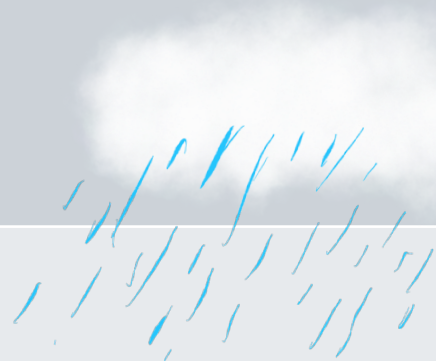


Will there be Space and Time?

- A spatial dimension is necessary for
 - Physical, resurrected bodies
 - Physical New Earth, New Jerusalem
 - New universe, stars, planets, galaxies
- A time dimension will be necessary for a sequence of events
 - Relationships
 - Actions, work
 - Worship
 - A chain of thoughts



Will the New Earth have Sun, Moon, Oceans, and weather?

Item	Status in New Earth New Heaven	Explanation
Sun 	Likely, yes 	In New Jerusalem there is no need for the sun.....but this doesn't mean that the sun is gone. The rest of the New Earth may still see sunrise and sunset.
Moon	Likely, yes	Same explanation.
Oceans	Yes. 	The sea usually symbolic of chaos and change and danger. When the Bible says there is "no more sea" it is likely referring to the absence of danger and chaos.
Weather Plate tectonics	Yes	Fruits are produced in due season. Weather exists as part of the natural cycle but without danger or harmful wind, floods, tornadoes, earthquakes.

Summary

- Heaven will be a place to live our eternal lives
- It will be physical, perfect, free from defects
- We will experience the passage of time, but it will be endless time
- We will be without sin and relate to one another in perfect harmony
- The celestial bodies will likely still exist in the new creation and the New Earth will go through its cycles harmoniously and safely