Truth's about The Kingdom of Heaven and Heaven Isaiah prophesied:

Isa 9:6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

Isa 9:7 There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore.

We know that Jesus is who Isaiah is prophesying about.

Luke 1:30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

Luke 1:31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

Luke 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

Luke 1:33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

This is clearly talking about King Jesus and the "Kingdom of God". To enter this kingdom there must be genuine repentance bringing forth fruit in keeping with that repentance. John the Baptist told us how to prepare our hearts for Christ coming into our lives:

Luke 3:4 as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE

WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.

Luke 3:5 'EVERY RAVINE WILL BE FILLED, AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL WILL BE BROUGHT LOW; THE CROOKED WILL BECOME STRAIGHT, AND THE ROUGH ROADS SMOOTH;

Luke 3:6 AND ALL FLESH WILL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD.'"

Luke 3:7 So he began saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

Luke 3:8 "Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham.

Luke 3:9 "Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And Jesus, following behind John the Baptist, says:

Mark 1:14 Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, Mark 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; <u>repent</u> and <u>believe</u> in the gospel."

The Kingdom of God (Kingdom of Heaven) is that kingdom which is everlasting; whose King is Jesus Christ; and, whose members are the saints of the Old and New Testaments! Its members are those who repent of their sins and who put their

faith and trust in the person of King Jesus Christ alone for salvation.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

Mat 7:22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'

Mat 7:23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.

Those who practice lawlessness are those who claim to be believers in Christ but never truly repent. They continue to live their lives according to their own sinful desires, plans, goals and wishes. They never stop going their own direction and never truly turn completely to Christ to obey and follow Him as LORD. They still love their own lives and never die to self. Christ is never truly LORD though they confess Him as such.

Luke 9:23 And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

Luke 9:24 "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.

Luke 9:25 "For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?

Heaven is where the Throne of God is with God the Father sitting on His throne.

Psa 11:4 The LORD is in His holy temple; the LORD'S throne is in heaven;

Psa 103:19 The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, And His sovereignty rules over all.

The souls of all those who died in the Old Testament went to a place called Sheol.

Gen 42:36 Their father Jacob said to them, "You have bereaved me of my children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more, and you would take Benjamin; all these things are against me."

Gen 42:37 Then Reuben spoke to his father, saying, "You may put my two sons to death if I do not bring him back to you; put him in my care, and I will return him to you."

Gen 42:38 But Jacob said, "My son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he alone is left. If harm should befall him on the journey you are taking, then you will bring my gray hair down to Sheol in sorrow."

A prayer of David in the Psalms:

Psa 6:2 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am pining away; Heal me, O LORD, for my bones are dismayed.

Psa 6:3 And my soul is greatly dismayed; But You, O LORD--how long?

Psa 6:4 Return, O LORD, rescue my soul; Save me because of Your lovingkindness.

Psa 6:5 For there is no mention of You in death; <u>In Sheol</u> who will give You thanks?

King David prays another prayer:

Psa 55:12 For it is not an enemy who reproaches me, Then I could bear it; Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me, Then I could hide myself from him. Psa 55:13 But it is you, a man my equal, My companion and my familiar friend;

Psa 55:14 We who had sweet fellowship together Walked in the house of God in the throng.

Psa 55:15 Let death come deceitfully upon them; Let them go down alive to Sheol, for evil is in their dwelling, in their midst.

In the Old Testament, believers and unbelievers went to Sheol. More light is shed in the New Testament. Sheol is called Hades in the New Testament:

Luke 16:20 "And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores,

Luke 16:21 and longing to be fed with the *crumbs* which were falling from the rich man's table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores.

Luke 16:22 "Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried.

Luke 16:23 "In <u>Hades</u> he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and *saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom.

Luke 16:24 "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame (hell - lower part of Hades).'

Luke 16:25 "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony.

Luke 16:26 'And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us.'

Hades (New Testament term) is the same as Sheol (Old Testament Term). But Hades (Sheol) is divided into two parts.

Hell is the lower part of Hades (Sheol). It's that portion of Hades where the unbelievers of the Old Testament and New Testament go when they die; and all unbelievers are kept until the day of the great White Throne Judgment at the end of time; at which time they will be cast into the Lake of Fire forever and ever without end (Revelation 20:11-15). It's a place of intense torment and unquenchable fire.

Mat 10:28 "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Mark 9:43 "If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two

hands, to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire,

Paradise is the upper part of Hades (Sheol) where the believers of the Old Testament and the believers of the New Testament went when they died before Christ's ascension. Hell (lower part of Hades) is separated from Paradise (upper part of Hades) by a great chasm which cannot be crossed over (Luke 16:26).

The thief asked Jesus to remember him! Jesus and the thief went to Paradise (upper part of Hades) when they died on the cross. Turn to Luke 23:39.

Luke 23:39 One of the criminals who were hanged there was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

Luke 23:40 But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?

Luke 23:41 "And we indeed are suffering justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

Luke 23:42 And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!"

Luke 23:43 And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise (Upper part of Hades)." (Jesus had not yet ascended to heaven.)

Also,

Act 2:25 "For David says of Him (Jesus), 'I SAW THE LORD ALWAYS IN MY PRESENCE; FOR HE IS AT MY

RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN.

Act 2:26 'THEREFORE MY HEART WAS GLAD AND MY

TONGUE EXULTED; MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL

LIVE IN HOPE:

Act 2:27 BECAUSE YOU <u>WILL NOT ABANDON MY SOUL</u>
<u>TO HADES</u> (Greek word used in Greek text), NOR ALLOW
YOUR HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY.

Act 2:30 "And so, because he (David) was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE, Act 2:31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES (Greek word used in Greek text), NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

When Christ ascended to heaven, He brought to heaven, with Him, <u>all</u> the believers who were in Paradise and emptied Paradise. After Christ's ascension into heaven, there was only unbelievers left in Hades (in hell the lower part of Hades).

Eph 4:8 Therefore it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES (all believers in Paradise), AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN (Believers still alive on earth)." (Psalm 68:18)

Since Christ went to Heaven, all believers go to heaven immediately to be face to face with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at their last breath here on earth.

Joh 14:1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

Joh 14:2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

Joh 14:3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.

2Co 5:6 Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord--

2Co 5:7 for we walk by faith, not by sight-2Co 5:8 we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to
be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

Heaven:

There will no longer be any suffering, pain, crying, death, mourning, sickness, disease, etc.

There will no longer be any sin: temptation, corruption, lying, cheating, stealing, killing, etc. We will no longer have a sin nature but a glorified body like Christ's.

The greatest thing we will experience when we take our last breath here on earth is we will see Jesus Christ face to face and God the Father sitting on His Throne with Jesus Christ sitting at His right hand. We will worship God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit (God) for ever and ever. But, we will not yet have our glorified bodies.

Rev 6:9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls (with no bodies) of those who

had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;

Rev 6:10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

Rev 6:11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

We will not get our new glorified bodies until Christ returns to earth at His second coming. At that moment of His return the Apostle Paul says:

1Th 4:13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

1Th 4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

1Th 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up

together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

At that very moment we will receive our glorified bodies! This is what the Apostle Paul is talking about in I Corinthians:

1Co 15:42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body;

1Co 15:43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;

1Co 15:44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 1Co 15:45 So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL." The last Adam became a lifegiving spirit.

1Co 15:46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

1Co 15:47 The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven.

1Co 15:48 As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly.

1Co 15:49 Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

1Co 15:50 Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

1Co 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

1Co 15:52 <u>in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye</u>, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and <u>we will be changed</u>.

1Co 15:53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

1Co 15:54 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.

1Co 15:55 "O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?"

1Co 15:56 the sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law;

1Co 15:57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

And the apostle Peter says about that day of His return:

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

2Pe 3:11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

2Pe 3:12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

2Pe 3:13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

Immediately following the destruction of the earth and all the ungodly (Christ second coming), there will be the Great White Throne Judgement.

Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened [Unbelievers (non-elect) names were written in the "books"]; and another book was opened, which is the book of life [Believers (Elect) names were written in the Lamb's book of life]; and the dead (All unbelievers who ever lived) were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

Rev 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead (Unbelievers still alive at Christ's return) which were in it, and death and Hades [Unbelievers who had died before Christ's return - only unbelievers in Hades (Hell) at this time] gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.

Rev 20:14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Rev 20:15 And <u>if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life</u>, <u>he was thrown into the lake of fire</u>.

Following the great white throne judgement Revelation 21 will happen (Read)! This is the Kingdom of God fully Glorified!! At that time all of creation will be <u>restored</u> as it was at creation before sin entered the world (New heavens and New earth). We will live, in our glorified-sinless bodies, on the restored earth and heaven forever and forever while in the very presence of our Triune God for eternity! GLORY! Revelation 21:27 says, "... and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but <u>only those whose names are written in the Lambs book of life</u>. [Those chosen by God the Father, before the foundation of the earth (Ephesians 1:3-12) - the Father wrote their names in the Lambs book of life at the time He chose them, from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8; 17:8) - before creation.]