



# Where **are** you?

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And raised **us**  
up *together*,  
and made  
**us sit**  
together in the  
*heavenly*  
places **in**  
**Christ**  
**Jesus**

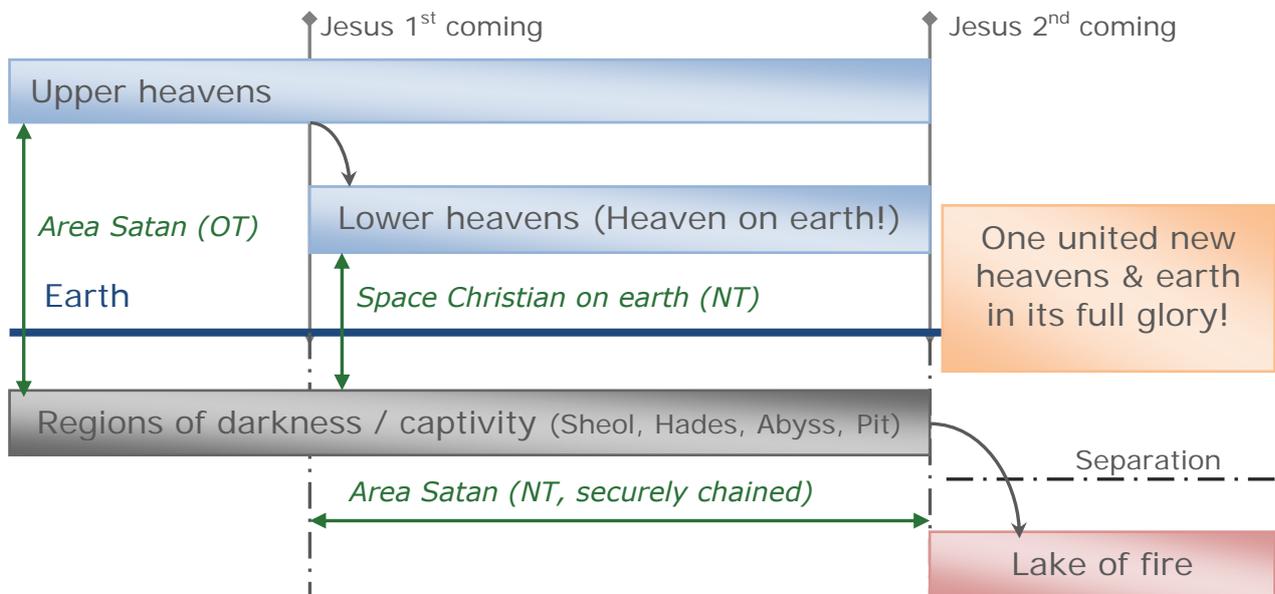


Alive Ministries South Africa

[www.aliveministries-sa.org](http://www.aliveministries-sa.org)

Dear friends,

As a Christian it is essential to know your position, place and abilities in Christ Jesus while living here on earth, and to be aware of the limited abilities of the enemy, again thanks to Jesus the risen Christ. **Know your spiritual places on earth and be at the right ones.** God's desire for you is that you enter the Kingdom life *now* and experience, explore, apply, practice, and enjoy living with the benefits, promises, and privileges of Heaven on earth. It's a pleasure to describe this in a nutshell.



## 1. Heavens through the ages.

### Old Testament:

- *And God said, Let us make people in our image, to be like ourselves. They will be masters over all life - the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the livestock, wild animals and small animals. So God created people in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female he created them (Genesis 1:26-27). **The Garden of Eden, heaven and earth united, heaven on earth.***
- *So the LORD God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made.<sup>24</sup> After sending them out, the LORD God stationed mighty cherubim to the east of the Garden of Eden. And he placed a flaming sword that flashed back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life (Genesis 3:23-24). **After the fall, heaven and earth were separated.***
- *Our Father in **heaven** (Matthew 6:9): οὐρανός,η {oo-ran-os'}<sup>1)</sup> the vaulted expanse of the sky with all things visible in it<sup>1a)</sup> the universe, the world<sup>1b)</sup> the aerial heavens or sky, the region where the clouds and the tempests gather, and where thunder and lightning are produced<sup>1c)</sup> the sidereal or starry heavens<sup>2)</sup> the region above the sidereal heavens, the seat of order of things eternal and consummately perfect where God dwells and other heavenly beings. So, God the Father arts in heaven (**the upper heavens or some call it the third heaven**).*

### New Testament:

- *...having made known to us **the mystery of His will**, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,<sup>10</sup> that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven (Greek = οὐρανός,η {oo-ran-os'}) and which are on earth—in Him)*

(Ephesians 1:9-10). **The mission of our Lord is to unite heaven and earth again, in bringing the Kingdom of God on earth with Jesus first coming!** The goal is to make everything that belongs to the heavenly Kingdom to be established in the natural world. This Greek word {oo-ran-os'} is the same as used for the upper heavens, so its uniting the upper heavens with the earth. And don't forget: this is **the mystery of His will** as also confirmed: *Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me (John 17:24).* **God created with Jesus first coming a safe heaven on earth for His beloved ones** as written: *I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one (John 17:15).*

- *And raised us up together, and made us sit together in the **heavenly places** in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6): ἐπουράνιος, a {ep-oo-ran'-ee-os} <sup>1)</sup> existing in heaven <sup>1a)</sup> things that take place in heaven <sup>1b)</sup> the heavenly regions <sup>1b1)</sup> heaven itself, the abode of God and angels <sup>1b2)</sup> the lower heavens, of the stars <sup>1b3)</sup> the heavens, of the clouds <sup>1c)</sup> the heavenly temple or sanctuary <sup>2)</sup> of heavenly origin or nature.* These are the consequences of Eastern for us! We, who are still in our earthly body, are able with our spiritual part (soul) to sit together with Christ in the lower heavens (first Heaven). The Lord's desire to be (or stay) with us (John 17:24) when He went to His Father has been realized here by bringing the heavens on earth. **A foretaste of the new heaven and earth in its full glory! Right now!**
- *But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the **kingdom** of God has come upon you (Matthew 12:28): βασιλεία, n {bas-il-i'-ah} <sup>1)</sup> royal power, kingship, dominion, rule <sup>1a)</sup> not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom <sup>1b)</sup> of the royal power of Jesus as the triumphant Messiah <sup>1c)</sup> of the royal power and dignity conferred on Christians in the Messiah's kingdom <sup>2)</sup> a kingdom, the territory subject to the rule of a king <sup>3)</sup> used in the N.T. to refer to the reign of the Messiah. **The Kingdom of God, the royal power to reign with the Messiah, the risen Christ, with Jesus first coming!***

#### **Eternity, after Jesus second coming:**

*But we are looking forward to **the new heavens and new earth** he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness (2 Peter 3:10, 13).* The new heavens and new earth without evil as written: *Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death (Revelation 20:14).*

#### **Chronology:**

1. **Garden of Eden:** Heaven and earth united, heaven on earth. Humans with a free will and the presence of the serpent (evil). **Protection in the Garden of Eden for the humans, if they continue to choose for unity with God and separation with the serpent.**
2. **Rest of the Old Testament:** Heaven and earth separated, God arts in the upper heavens. A step by step improving of this situation (Ark, Tabernacle, Temple in Jerusalem).
3. **New Testament:** Heaven and earth united again with Jesus first coming. Only the **Christians are able, depending on their own choices with their own free will**, during their life in their earthly body, **to receive a situation like the Garden of Eden:** Blessings of all that available in the Kingdom (heaven on earth) as written: *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every (Greek = πᾶς, a {pas}, all things, everything) **spiritual blessing in the heavenly places** in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).* And protected from the enemy (serpent). *Blessed are those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. <sup>15</sup> Outside the city are the dogs—the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshipers, and all who love to live a lie (Revelation 22:14-*

15). If you was your robe, in the blood of Christ (born again), you have access to the tree of life (Garden of Eden) again, which is logical for Jesus is the Tree in the Greek translation. Cool he! This "*outside the city are the sinners*" is of course for now, they are outside the (spiritual) Kingdom, for on the new heaven and earth all sin and everything that belongs to it, will be banned out.

4. **New heavens and earth:** The Kingdom in its full glory, heaven and earth still united as during the whole New Testament, however without evil, *a world filled with God's righteousness.*

## 2. Satan's area through the ages.

### Old Testament:

*And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and from on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it (Job 1:7). Satan travelling between the earth and heaven in the OT.* In the Old Testament Satan was able to enter the Heavens, God's area and that of His children! (see figure).

### New Testament:

*How you are **fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!** How you are **cut down to the ground, ... (Isaiah 14:12).** See also Ezekiel 28:15, Revelation 12:4, 7-9. To be more specific: **and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. (Revelation 20:3).** Satan fallen from heaven, into the bottomless pit after Jesus took the victory in the first century. And he will be there during the whole period of the spiritual Kingdom here on earth (thousand years). This is also confirmed with next verse: **And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment (Jude 1:6).** Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, **for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down (Revelation 12:10).** With Jesus first coming the Kingdom has come and Satan has been cast down!*

### Eternity, after Jesus second coming:

*The devil, who deceived them, was **cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever (Revelation 20:10).** A final and total separation between evil and the new heavens and earth.*

## 3. Christian's possibilities on earth.

While living in our earthly body here on earth our choices (free will) are never free from the conflict between the heavenly powers and the powers of darkness as written: *These two forces are constantly fighting each other, and your choices are never free from this conflict (Galatians 5:17).* **We** (as Christians on this side of life) **can freely move between those light and dark heavenly places**, but never beyond our salvation. **So, it is us (we) who are moving into the direction of Satan.** Jesus is on His throne in the "light" spiritual realm, and Satan is master (chained) in his dominion, the dark spiritual realm. **But don't forget: Satan is chained in his dominion and we are free to move into Satan's direction** or to be as close to Jesus, in the "light" spiritual realm, the Kingdom of God. **Satan in the NT period is not able to enter the "light" spiritual places, the Kingdom of God anymore, he is chained in his dominion, together with his own followers!** After Jesus took the victory, Satan is only able to torment his own 666 people, those who didn't bow down for Jesus the Christ! *We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one (1 John 5:19)!*

*No, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless thousands of angels in a joyful gathering.<sup>23</sup> You have come to the assembly of God's firstborn children, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God himself, who is the judge over all things. You have come to the spirits of the righteous ones in heaven who have now been made perfect.<sup>24</sup> You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel (Hebrews 12:22-24). I have no words. What a spiritual explosion! We, right now, on the Mount Zion where God lives! We, right now, in the heavenly Jerusalem, together with the angels and the saints and Jesus in a joyful gathering! **Who may climb the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?**<sup>4</sup> **Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies.**<sup>5</sup> **They will receive the LORD's blessing and have a right relationship with God their savior.**<sup>6</sup> **Such people may seek you and worship in your presence, O God of Jacob.**<sup>7</sup> **Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter (Psalm 24:3-7).***

**Where are you?**

**Enter into the maturity of Gods Kingdom, already here on earth! There is a chair reserved for you in heavenly places. Run to it and take up your seat in Christ!**

Yours in His service,

Kees

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