

Pastor Brian's
Mid Week Message
April 21, 2021

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Do you ever wonder about what heaven will be like? None of us, at least that I know of, have ever been there, not yet, and the pictures that are painted in our minds when we read the Book of Revelation are not easy to bring into focus. The pictures above however might just give us a bit more insight, along with the Scripture reference from Genesis (the other end of the Bible) chapter 2. Both snapshots were taken yesterday...April 20th, 2021. On the left you have the scene from Decatur, Indiana, while on the right you see what things looked like right here in Gulf Cove, Florida. Now heaven is described as a place where there will be no more suffering. Which one of the above photos would best fit that narrative? Beyond the pictorial evidence let us examine the evidence from the Word of God. *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.* (Genesis 1:1) God went on to mold and shape the earth and skies in order to produce a beautiful world in which to place the crown jewel of His creation, mankind, into to live and tend. After 6 days of work all was finished. *And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.* (Genesis 1:31) At this point in history there was indeed such a thing as "a perfect world". So, if we want a picture of heaven, I believe it's best to look backward at what life in this perfect world was like then, in the wonders of the Garden of Eden, before sin entered into God's creation and ruined it for all of us. The account of that happening is in Genesis chapter 3. THEREFORE, we can draw additional insight and information about heaven from anything that comes before that...say in Genesis chapter 2. Take for example verse 25; *"the man and his wife were both naked."* This would most certainly indicate that the temperatures in the Garden of Eden, and that of heaven to come, are quite mild, they could very likely even be described as warm. Adam and Eve did not need a sweatshirt, sweater, or a winter coat to be comfortable. Even a lightweight bathrobe was superfluous. So then, considering all of this, which one of the above photos would best fit that narrative? I sure see the evidence as overwhelming. We, here in Gulf Cove, Florida, live in a place that can be termed as "a little slice of heaven" or even "heaven on earth"! What a wonderful blessing that God has bestowed on us to be able to live out our latter years here being prepared to best enjoy all that He has for us in His eternal Kingdom. Why would anyone want to leave here? Perhaps at this point you're wondering how I came across the picture from Decatur, Indiana. That was provided by Eileen Zwick, one of our TLC members who returned north...to northern Indiana...for the "summer". I'll offer no additional comment on that.