

## Apologetics 11.2- What Will We Do in Heaven? Part 2 Transcription

It's good to have you back, and of course, we're talking about heaven. What are we going to be doing in heaven forever? We're going to be studying tonight what we're going to do forever in heaven. And also, we were talking about being like children, so that when we do get to heaven, we're going to enjoy it a whole lot more. Kind of like children enjoy life now. So, if you will look, we're going to continue where we left off last time. Look at the birds of the air, the lilies of the field, the hair on your head. Take a look, it all glorifies God. In other words, what do you notice about children? Simply to exist is wonderful. Wouldn't you say that's pretty content? Simply to exist is wonderful. What will our new bodies look like? It matters how good your heavenly eyes are. Actually, that comes back from an old joke. It's like a 95 year old widower that says to the other 95 year old widower. You know...you're going to send me on a blind date...what does she look like? And he says, how good are your eyes? You know, it comes down to...I think inside the joke there, there's actually a lot of truth. I believe it is in our perceptions, not just physical bodies, that will create the appearances of the bodies of the other saints. Now, I want you to think this through. This has been a complex issue for theologians for years. What does the other person look like? Well, right now, in my mind's eye, I'm imagining heaven this way: I've got a wife who is 31, I've got kids who are 25 and I've got children that...but right now, I look at my family, the way that I see them... that's how I imagine them in heaven. But, we all know that's a problem, why? Because, if I were to pass away in 5 years, but Gideon were to live to be 75 years old, how am I going to see him in heaven? Well, Theologians have debated this for years, and I really think the answer is in the verse that has...it's not a heaven verse, but it actually has to do with tongues and languages in Acts chapter 2. And so, in my mind, at least, I've solved the problem, and I honestly believe, it is our perceptions, not just physical bodies, that will create the appearances of the body of the other saints. And I think that I have an example next. OK, here's a perfect example. A child: Billy. To his mother, they're both in heaven...might appear as a child. He could have died at 90, it doesn't matter. To her, because, don't forget, it's the spirit...our

spirits recognize one another's spirits. We're going to go into those verses later. He may appear as a child, or a young man as she most joyfully remembers him, but Billy's child, now he's 79 years old, he's had a child, he's had grandkids. His child will see his daddy, Billy, as the father figure from earth, that he enjoyed. In other words, it's not just in what our bodies will look like, we have real bodies, but they're real supernatural. And I'll show you some verses where, what the person perceives the person might be, actually conducts and influences what they end up looking like. So, once again, make sure that you grab this concept. It's a wondrous concept. We will have resurrection bodies. But, they have the ability to disappear, and appear. They have supernatural abilities; we're going to see in some Bible verses. And one of the things is, they're almost a reflection of whatever we want them to appear to be, what God wants them to appear to be, or a mirror, listen carefully, into the soul and the thinking pattern of the one looking at us. Let's look at some verses. I think we'll transcend space and time. Just like the angels and Jesus do. I don't think time is going to be a limited barrier. Right now they just discovered that there's this, you know...have you heard about planet X, which is a 10<sup>th</sup> planet which it's believed, OK. Anyway, we look out at the universe, we see these black holes, we see these other planets, and we'll say...that's 70 light years away. You know what that means? If you go at the speed of light, it will take you 70 years to get there. That's a travel dilemma. That's a lot of traveling. And that's a close star. That's a close planet. I genuinely believe, in our new resurrection bodies, we will not be held to the same science that we are held to in our physical bodies. I don't believe that the speed of light will even be considered rapid compared to what our abilities are. I believe that we, because we are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven, and I'll show you, by the way, we had a couple of people say, can you give us the verses on the 3 heavens. Betty and I are actually sending these, we decided this week, that's what we're going to do instead of retyping these notes, we are actually going to type these power points to you. But, I'm fully convinced that because of the way that Jesus transcended time and space after the resurrection in his new body. We'll have the very same ability. And the angels also have this ability. In other words, they can travel the universe in the blink of an eye. Let's take a

look at the road to Emmaus, first of all. Luke 23:13. Would you like to say this out loud with me? Because, that way, I won't drone on and sound boring. Let's say Luke 23:13 together. "The 2 men talked together, and it came to pass, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But, their eyes were holden that they should not know him. And he expounded unto them, and all the scriptures, the things concerning Himself. And it came to pass as He sat at meet with them, He took bread and blessed it, and break, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him, and He vanished out of their sight." Now, take a look at some of the verbs that are in this sentence. First of all, "Jesus drew near to them." So, he wasn't like, 45 yards away talking to them on the road. He drew NEAR them. Second of all, it says, "their eyes were holden", their eyes were actually held back from seeing Him clearly, so that they wouldn't know Him. That was done on purpose by God. Jesus goes on and expounds the scriptures, talks about the prophecies, they're so excited listening to this man talk, they say, "Come and have dinner with us". Now, so we know this is close, because these guys are going to be sitting on the floor just right across from each other. I don't know if you see how Arabs sit, but, I mean, in all likelihood, they weren't really sitting at these big mahogany tables like in the movies, they were probably sitting on the floor at this inn. And it says, "HE expounded to them, then it came to pass as he broke...." He finally did this act of communion...what we call it...that their eyes were, what? Say it with me...opened. The veil was released from their eyes. Their eyes were opened, and they knew him. They recognized him, and then He literally disappeared from their sight. Now, you just got a good feel for what the new body is going to be like. It has a tremendous ability, I believe, to cloak itself. Now, I'm going to be using terminology that's a little more modern, but I genuinely believe that this is what it's like. I believe it will have the ability to cloak itself. We're going to be ruling in the heavenlies. We're going to talk about some of the things we're going to be doing, and I think some of these things will be helpful, perhaps, but we can literally cloak ourselves. I think the person who looks at us will see either what we desire for them to see for God's glory alone, or they will recognize within our spirit, having known us on earth, the same spirit. My

wife...how many of you think that I can probably listen to her on the phone without seeing her and know it's Maria. Actually, I can get a letter, and if it was typed. If you gave me 10 letters, I could spot her letters over all the other letters. There's something about the way I sense Maria, that I can do that. I can spot her even in a letter. I can spot her quotes, I can spot her phrasing. She doesn't really need to be physically visible for me to know it's her, are y'all with me? And so, here we see that finally, their eyes were opened, they recognize him, and then he disappears. Well, he obviously has the word vanished here...it's very clearly proving that it does not mean that he got up and walked away and they couldn't chase him down. It literally means the word, "vanished". He's gone. Now, this is the resurrection body. Jesus alone has an immortal body, He alone has this resurrection body, and these are the kind of bodies we will one day have, which the scriptures are very clear about. Next, Luke 24:36. Read this with me, "And as they thus spoke, Jesus himself stood, or appeared, in the midst of them, and said unto them, Peace unto You. But, they were terrified and frightened, and supposed that they had seen a spirit." Do y'all recognize where this passage is from? You don't have to say..."well, the verse is there..." So, where was this event? They're in the upper room, OK? As they spoke, Jesus himself stood, appeared...it shows this verb active coming in here...he walked straight through the wall. Very simply appears. Either way, He's there by a non common means. Everybody agrees? He's in the midst of them, and he says, "Peace, shalom. Shalom Alachem." They're freaked out. What's funny is they react exactly the opposite of what He said to do. Which is...it's Ok, it's typical of them right now, but, of course, we see these men turn from terrified little kids, almost, into warriors for Christ. But, do you see what kind of body He has? Was he limited by the molecular structure that was around Him where He couldn't walk through the wall? No. Totally uninhibited by it. So, I believe that we will have bodies that have these same characteristics. John 20:14. This is a really neat passage. We covered it in reference to what I believe is his, at this point, he is still acting as Priest for the work that He has done on the cross. But, would you read these out loud? Now, I want you to notice how this conversation actually happens. Most of the movies made on this subject are done incorrectly,

because they're not reading the verbs how they are constructed. John 20:14, let's read it out loud. And when she had said this to the angels, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus." First of all, she saw Jesus standing there, is the way you would put it in English. She turned around and she saw Him standing right there. And yet, she didn't know that it was Jesus. And Jesus, let's continue, "and Jesus said, 'Woman, why do you weep? Whom do you seek?' She, supposing him to be the gardener, said to Him, 'Sir, if you have borne Him hence...tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary', she turned and said to him, 'Rabboni.' Recognizing him." Rabboni, of course...Rabbi means Master. Now, I want you just to stand back for a second. What do you visually see. If this was a script, and you were a director, how would you direct these characters? First of all, Mary is looking IN the tomb, OK, you all with me? She sees 2 angels. OK? Everybody knows what "angel" means? Messenger. OK, Angelos is the Greek word. There are 2 messengers, and these 2 angeloi, they speak to her, and they're saying, 'Hey, He's not here, He's gone,' OK? Well, she has just seen something pretty extraordinary...a couple of angels in the tomb. She now turns. She's not really believing their testimony. Did you notice this? She's not believing their testimony fully. She's not like, taking off from there and going to tell the world. She turns and looks Jesus right in the eye, and still doesn't recognize Him. Why? Because, she doesn't believe fully, yet. I believe that in her mind's eye, she's not expecting to see Christ, and she doesn't. Now, let me just tell you about an interesting spiritual analogy here. You live your life not expecting to see God and see God's hand...you probably won't. You could walk through a field of flowers, and if you don't expect to see flowers. You will never see them. And life is that way. If you expect nothing of God, that's probably exactly what you will experience. Not what He'll do, but what you'll experience, because you're not looking for it. You're not recognizing it. And, have you ever heard the phrase, 'stop and smell the roses'? It's because there are roses, we just don't stop and smell them. We forget to celebrate and have an attitude of gratitude. Well, this woman turns...I don't believe that she's expecting to see Jesus, because she's weeping. She supposes it's the gardener. And, maybe that's what

she saw in her mind's eye, was the gardener, in this new resurrected body. But, I think Jesus also cloaked who He was. And then, He finally says to her, after she says all this. She's still showing her love, "Sir, if you've borne Him away. Tell me where you've taken him, I'll take him away." And Jesus says to her, "Mary". Now, at that moment, she turns back to him. So, what has happened? She's looked right at him. She turns her back, embarrassed. She's crying, she's weeping. She doesn't want to confront a male in this garden. And she states clearly, look if you've taken him, just tell me where He is. And then He calls her again, "Mary", she turns back around, and she recognizes him. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind, Jesus has transformed His appearance, and there's no doubt in my mind, when he finally says the word, "Mary" so that she understands it, that her knowing it's Him, she turns, and she sees Him differently than she did the time before. So, I think it's both in His ability to alter His appearance, as well as her faith believing it is Him. We see Christ when we actively live our lives desiring to seek Him. That's how we see Him. So, this is a wonderful moment in time. Now, there's another verse that I'll go over with you real quickly. But, it's Acts chapter 2:5-12. Now, this, you all are going to want to ask me 70 questions, and tonight, we won't do them, but I want you to email me, and ask these questions. Write them to me, because, we're sending these emails out, so this is one of those things where whole congregations disagree with each other, but we all live by grace, because it's not the salvation issue. But, let's read Acts 2:5-12 together. "And there were dwelling in Jerusalem, Jews, devout men out of every nation under heaven. Now, when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were dumbfounded, because every man heard them speak in his own language. They were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, 'behold, are not all these which speak, Galileans? And how hear we, every man, in our own language wherein we were born? We do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.'" Now, there were no interpreters at this point. Now, what's going on here. In the construction, this is a huge debate, in the construction of this. But, in this point in time, you either see because of the plural of these men who are from Galilee, and by the way, when they say "from Galilee", they are basically saying..."aren't these a

bunch of country bumpkins? I mean, these are just a bunch of country boys, how are they so smart?” But what do we notice, it says, “How do we, every one of us in our own language, hear wherein we were born?” That means these guys were born from all over the world. There could be 25 languages that are being spoken here supernaturally by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. But, one of the things about the construction of this passage which has often been debated is, they don’t actually have interpreters interpreting to them. They actually hear these men glorifying God in their own language. I genuinely believe, and I’ve seen...experienced this a couple of times in Africa and South America, that not only were their tongues spoken...which, for example, in church meetings in the new testament where no one could understand it except for one person, and that one person was an interpreter, but I have a heavy leaning toward that that person was hearing a language from their native tongue that they would translate to people. And I hear here in the Acts, chapter 2 that you may have had literally, a thousand, 2 thousand people surrounding this temple area in Jerusalem, which was possible at that time. Kidron valley is right to the east of it, and you’ve got all this area of Jerusalem, and they’re literally standing up and they’re looking into this court area. You could easily have had 500 people visibly watching into this court area, and they’re hearing these men shouting these things, and they’re actually hearing everything in their own language, which means if I spoke French, and Bob next to me spoke English, that would be pretty extraordinary for the first century, but anyway, if Bob spoke Sumerian, I am convinced that as Peter’s lips moved, we would hear him in our own language. I believe that that is actually what was happening here as well. I believe because of the volume of people that God was reaching at that time to show His supernatural power, was, when this people were listening, there is a very good chance that literally, they were hearing the same man speak, but to their ears, they heard it interpreted by the Spirit of God. That’s a supernatural act as well, and I believe that that has happened, and that even still happens in very unique rare instances today, and so, and they always have to follow biblical protocol. So, here we have an instance, not just where they are looking at a man who is speaking Samaritan, whom they can understand in Samaritan, which could have been

occurring, but they are actually, possibly, because of the number of various countries that are represented, and the limited number of men, remember, that are here at that time...followers of Christ, I believe that they actually also are hearing, from the same person, maybe 10 different languages in 10 different sets of ears. Now, the reason I bring that in, is because it's kind of fascinating, because I think that is the thesis, the potential thesis of how will our bodies appear? Is my son, Gideon going to look like a 90 year old man to me if I died at 60 and he lives until he's 90? I don't think so. Because I won't know him on earth. See, what we have to draw back from is this recognition system that we use here. We will have resurrection bodies, but we will have supernaturally spiritual, pure resurrection bodies that have alteration ability, and I believe that when I look at Gideon, I'll remember my boy just as I knew him. And when he turns around, and he talks to his son, and his grandson whom I never may know, they'll recognize him as their dad. I'm recognizing him as my son. But, he is both a son and a dad, right? So, I think that the sweetness about God in heaven, is that there are things that are going to happen there that we have not even experienced. I think that's what's great about this whole thing. Let's not limit ourselves to all this. Use the imagination that a child would use, because I honestly believe that imagination in heaven, because we're not going to have our sin nature is going to be ignited. Now, I'm a creative personality type. I mean, I will sit down and sketch with my boys, I could sketch for 2 hours. I could draw and draw and draw. Just create things out of our heads, and write stories, and tell stories, and I could just do this all day long. I love doing this. It's the biggest kick in the world. God loves that imagination. He's given it to us as His creation. And so, that is where we are looking here. I believe that God is going to give us this blessing of not being stuck in the limitations of what our bodies are now, but I think it will take us far beyond that. Which is going to be precious. I will see my family whom I love, and there will be saints I will recognize, and I'm not even going to know how I'm going to recognize them, like Peter and Paul. I'll say, yo, Paul, got a minute? Yeah, I've got, like, 5 billion years...Spencer, come over here, let's talk. I mean, what will be great, though, I'll recognize Paul, but I don't think I'll know why at first, I'll recognize Paul, except that his

spirit and my spirit will recognize one another because of God's Spirit. And we're going to talk about that, how the verses in scripture talk about our spirits knowing the spirits of others, because of the Spirit of God in us.

Maria and I stood in an elevator years ago. There was a diminutive woman...do you remember this, Maria? Just standing there. And we literally, this happens to all 3 of us simultaneously. I don't nudge Maria or anything else. We turn to her, she turns to us, a word has not been spoken as we're going down 10 floors, and we say to each other...you're a believer, aren't you? We said it just like that. This woman, there was something about her and about her spirit, that in that elevator, it was the most appropriate thing in the world to say. She said it to us as we said it to her, and we all kind of laughed and embraced each other. We did not know this woman from Adam. I'm not kidding you...do you remember this? She was a beautiful African American woman. Very diminutive, must have been 70 years old, very just gentle, very gracious woman just standing there, and we just turned out of the blue and just said that. Now, I mean, in the flesh, that sounds like it could have been an embarrassing moment if it was wrong. But, I've got to tell you the truth, I remember walking out of there just saying...was that the weirdest thing? She says, that was such a neat "God moment". I mean, I will never forget...and things like that happen. When we're no longer encumbered with this flesh, our ability to know the spirit of another, because they know God's spirit, is going to be so exciting. And, we won't look at each other and remember the painful things. We're not going to remember the negative moments. We're going to remember the wondrous things. And so, that is what happens, because we actually have the ability to perceive a person, as I said...if Maria wrote a letter...and, you know, we even have on the extreme ends, perception...I believe that what my perception of what Paul will be like...I don't know if that's what he'll look like, and that's why I'll know him...or if God will put into my mind who he is, but, you know, look at Hitler. To some people he was Satan, to some people he was savior. In other words, perceptions in this world are corrupt perceptions, but there are still such a thing as perceptions why people...2 people can look at the same guy and see a totally different person, right? Emotionally. But, in heaven, we will all have the emotion of

God as we look at one another. It matters who's looking. And it will be the righteous looking at each other. By the way, these verses we'll send you, if you want to write them down now, you can. But, the 3 heavens, there are 3 heavens. You've heard the phrase, "7<sup>th</sup> heaven" which is not in the scriptures, but, there is a first, second, and third heaven. The first heaven, do you remember what that is? It's the atmosphere around this world. The second heaven is what? The Universe, the cosmos that we see. And the third heaven is what? The heaven where God dwells. Now, it is a place. You're going to have all kinds of existentialists and all kinds of strange occultists and new-agers and they say, "Well, heaven's not a place, it's a state of mind." Well, I guess so. If that's for you, your state of mind is not going to last very long, because when you die, you're going to meet Jesus, and you're going to wish it was more than a state of mind, it was a place where you could stay, but you're probably not going to, so you need to by faith believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, but it is literally a place where we will go, as the scripture says. Now, I stuck this in here for my own relish, and my own enjoyment. You all have probably heard about the string theory. You know, I get Scientific America. I enjoy science. The String Theory is a concept where in where we are sitting right now, and we're going to be out of time here, again, but, I want you to understand too. Quit thinking about heaven just as a place 'way out there', you know...and way beyond the stars. Literally, the presence of God is with us right now. And I believe that even physically the presence of God is with us, and I believe that even supernaturally, because did you know that there are angels in this room right now? Now, we're going to be doing a study on angels. But, there are probably angels here right now. And we know that they dwell in the heavenlies as well. And Jesus said, "The Kingdom of heaven is in your midst." What did He mean by that? I genuinely believe...what's neat about the String Theory...it's a theory, it's a scientific theory, that states in some of its basic components that...I see you 3-dimensionally. You're 3-D, right? If I saw a photo of you, that would be 2-D. But, if I see you physically, that means that I can walk around you, and I can see all your aspects, and what's happening is, is that light is bouncing off of you, and I see your shape. You're a mass that is here, and so we know

physically, that's why I see you. It's because of the way that light, you know, coordinates and reflects off of your body, and I see your shapes and colors. The String Theory is... Scientists believe that they can prove that there are actually 21 dimensions simultaneously all here together, but the other dimensions would be, if there was any kind of life in them, they would be able to look into this like a one-way mirror, but we wouldn't be able to see them back. And when I read that, I will never forget, I'm reading Scientific American, and here this magazine says, "And so, if you were in this other 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> dimension, you could look into this dimension, the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension, but they wouldn't be able to look back and see you. I thought, this is so cool..this is angels. I mean, this is a...in other words, there is a possibility, even within beginning to understand the dimensions that exist around us. It even explains...the more that I learn about Science, Archaeology, and History, I've got to tell you the truth, the more convinced I am about God, Amen? I've just got to tell you the truth, the more they dig up the Middle East, the more it keeps telling me my God's the one to follow. Hey, everybody else, start following Him, because history proves him, archaeology proves him, but I think it's kind of fascinating that there's actually a science now which believes within this theory that there are multi-dimensions. Which, of course, the Word of God teaches. Ephesians 3:10 says that we are basically a classroom for angels. Would you read Ephesians 3:10 with me? "The mystery which from the beginning of the world has been hidden to the intent that now, unto the principalities and powers (angels) in heavenly places might be known by the church, the manifold wisdom of God." Now, that 10 goes a couple of verses, and that ...shows where I'm continuing the verse, because I cut some out, but I'm not rewriting scripture. I edited it so that we can get to the key words on a single page. But, this is what the Word of God talks about in Ephesians. The angels didn't even know what Jesus was up to as He headed to the cross. The mystery of the Jews and Gentiles, of literally Israel, of God blessing His people through redemption. Even the angels were intent, they were watching what was going on, and to this day, as the verses show, they are still learning what God is doing, and they're still amazed at it. Corinthians 4:9 says, "For I think that God has displayed us...the apostles last...as men condemned to death,

for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels and to men.” Paul says, the angels are watching what’s going on. Did you know that when they watch what’s going on, they’re going, “Can you believe God just did that? Can you believe what just happened? He just raised from the dead! This is the most...” Angels are still fascinated after eons. I think that gives us a hint about us. We’re not going to be bored either. I think that every single day of eternity we’re going to go...” Can you believe He just did that? Can you believe...you’ve got to be kidding me. What else is He going to come up with?” And then the next day, He’s going to blow our mind. This is interesting, the angels are watching. Corinthians 11:10 says, “for this cause should the woman to have authority on her head because of the angels.” Has anybody ever stopped at that verse and said, “huh”? In the new testament, this is what Paul taught...because of the angels. We’re out of time, and the next week we’re going to talk about what in the world does covering your head have to do with the angels who are watching what’s going on down here. For those of you who are watching from Russia, we love you dearly, and we want you to come back next week, and I know the time went by really quickly, but, we want you to come back next week, because we’re going to talk about what the angels do in heaven, and how that actually gives us some hints of what we’re going to do, because, don’t forget...we will be ruling over the angels, and if we’re ruling over the angels, and we know that they have levels of power, and now we have another level of power as human beings who are saved over them, and we know what their jobs are now, it actually is going to tell us about how we are going to rule the universe, and what we’re going to do under the leadership of God, His son Jesus Christ, as we oversee the angels and oversee the universe, so make sure you come back next week...God bless you.