

The Life of Prayer: Who Art in Heaven?

*ATLAS' DAUGHTER IT IS WHO HOLDS ODYSSEUS CAPTIVE,
LUCKLESS MAN – DESPITE HIS TEARS, FOREVER TRYING
TO SPELLBIND HIS HEART WITH SUAVE, SEDUCTIVE WORDS
AND WIPE ALL THOUGHT OF ITHACA FROM HIS MIND.*

-HOMER "THE ODYSSEY"

The Christian faith is sustained
by experiencing heaven on
earth.

The more we live on earth with
a heavenly mindset,
the more earth becomes
heaven.

Philippians 3: 18 Many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. 20 **But our citizenship is in heaven.** And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...

Colossians 3: 1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 **Set your minds on things above,** not on earthly things.

Victims focus on what they're
going through.

Christians focus on what they're
going to.

Matthew 6: 9 After this manner therefore
pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven...

“Heaven” – ouranos

“Ouranois” (6:9) – Heavens

Matthew 6: 9 After this manner therefore
pray ye: Our Father which art in the
heavens...

The “heavens” of earth.

Gen. 1; Ps. 78; Deut. 17

The “heavens” of the spiritual realm.

Ephesians 2, 6

The “heavens” of earth.

Gen. 1; Ps. 78; Deut. 17

The “heavens” of God’s domain.

John 14

The “heavens” of the spiritual realm.

Ephesians 2, 6

The “heavens” of earth.

Gen. 1; Ps. 78; Deut. 17

2 Corinthians 12: 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the **third heaven**. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. 3 And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—

2 Corinthians 12: 4 was caught up to
paradise and heard inexpressible things,
things that no one is permitted to tell.

Satan's Anti-Prayer Strategy:

Convince us God is nowhere close.

LORD (Jehovah—proper name of God)
GOD (Elohim—Generic name for “god”)

Genesis 2:4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22

God is close.

God is personal.

Genesis 3: 1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God (**Elohim**) really say...”

cf. 3:5

God is distant.

God is impersonal.

Genesis 3: 2 The woman said to the serpent,
“We may eat fruit from the trees in the
garden, 3 but God (**Elohim**) did say, ‘You
must not eat...”

Acts 17: 27 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, **though he is not far from any one of us.**

Praying to God in the “heavens” reclaims Eden

The authority to rule on earth
No shame in nakedness
Sustenance of God
Death will not reign

How will
Jesus return?

John 20: 19 Suddenly, Jesus appeared in the middle of the group.

2 Thessalonians 1: This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven...

1 Peter 1: 13 Set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

If Jesus “appears” to us rather
than “comes” to us,
then Jesus is intimately present
in the world around us.

We are not human beings having
a spiritual experience.

We are spiritual beings having a
human experience.

*NEVERTHELESS I LONG -
I PINE, ALL MY DAYS -
TO TRAVEL HOME AND
SEE THE DAWN OF MY RETURN.
AND IF A GOD WILL WRECK ME
YET AGAIN ON THE WINE-DARK SEA,
I CAN BEAR THAT TOO,
WITH A SPIRIT TEMPERED TO ENDURE.*

*MUCH HAVE I SUFFERED,
LABORED LONG AND HARD BY NOW
IN THE WAVES AND WARS.
ADD THIS TO THE TOTAL -
BRING THE TRIAL ON!*

-HOMER "THE ODYSSEY"

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