



Grieving in Heaven

Is there sorrow in the Divine Realm?

Grieving in Heaven

- Sorrow in Heaven exists prior to the Judgment
 - Gen. 6:6 - “And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.”
- Sorrow will not exist in heaven after the Judgment
 - Rev. 21:4 - “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Grieving in Heaven

- What is written in the scriptures trumps what we think we know about what is written in the scriptures
 - 1Cor. 4:6 - “Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written...”
- What is written?

God Experiences Emotions

- We are created in His image, not the other way around
 - All of the noblest emotions, all of the feelings in appropriate times and proportions experienced by humankind are reflections of the image of God.
 - The scriptures teach that God experiences many emotions, including grief
 - God experiences these emotions in the realm where He dwells, heaven

God Experiences Grief And Sorrow

- God feels things in heaven
 - Gen. 6:6 - “And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart”

God Experiences Grief And Sorrow

- Isa. 63:7-9, 15 - “I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD And the praises of the LORD, According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, And the great goodness toward the house of Israel, Which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies, According to the multitude of His lovingkindnesses. 8 For He said, Surely they are My people, Children who will not lie. So He became their Savior. 9 In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; And He bore them and carried them All the days of old... 15 Look down from heaven, And see from Your habitation, holy and glorious. Where are Your zeal and Your strength, The yearning of Your heart and Your mercies toward me? Are they restrained?”

God Experiences Grief And Sorrow

- Psalm 78:38-40 - “But He, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, And did not destroy them. Yes, many a time He turned His anger away, And did not stir up all His wrath; 39 For He remembered that they were but flesh, A breath that passes away and does not come again. 40 How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, And grieved Him in the desert!”
- Psalm 95:9-11 - “When your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work. 10 For forty years I was grieved with that generation, And said, 'It is a people who go astray in their hearts, And they do not know My ways.' 11 So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.’”

God Experiences Grief And Sorrow

- Heb. 3:10, 17 - “Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, 'They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways... 17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness?’”

God Experiences Grief And Sorrow

- Isa. 7:13 - “Then he said, Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?”
- Ez. 16:42-43 - “So I will lay to rest My fury toward you, and My jealousy shall depart from you. I will be quiet, and be angry no more. 43 Because you did not remember the days of your youth, but agitated Me with all these things, surely I will also recompense your deeds on your own head, says the Lord GOD.”

How Does God Experience Grief In Heaven?

- While God knows the end from the beginning, He is also an emotive God who responds to His beloved children
- God became flesh and wept over Jerusalem's sin
 - Matt. 23:37 - "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"
- The Spirit is grieved by our sins as Christians
 - Eph. 4:30 - "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

How Does God Experience Grief In Heaven?

- Grieve - lupeite, means “to afflict with sorrow; to make sad or sorrowful, to make sorry” (*JFB Commentary*)
- Grieve - lupeo, means “to distress; reflexively or passively, to be sad, cause grief, grieve, be in heaviness, be sorrowful, to make sorry” (*Strong's*)

How Does God Experience Grief In Heaven?

- What makes God grieve in heaven?
 - Sin in this world; as long as this world exists and men commit sin in it, God will have cause to sorrow over the loss of His children
 - When this world, and the sin and death that fills it, is gone, the source of God's sorrow will be gone.

God Will Forget Our Sins

- It is a Divine choice to forget sins that are forgiven.
 - Isa. 43:25 - “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.”
 - Jer. 31:34 - “No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”
 - Jer. 50:20 - “In those days and in that time, says the LORD, The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve.”

God Will Forget Our Sins

- It is a Divine choice to forget sins that are forgiven.
 - Micah 7:18-19 - “Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy. 19 He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea.”
 - Isa. 57:15-16 - “For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones. 16 For I will not contend forever, Nor will I always be angry; For the spirit would fail before Me, And the souls which I have made.”

God Will Forget Our Sins

- Remove sin and the realm in which it exists, and the source of God's sorrow is removed
 - 2Peter 3:9-14 - "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 14 Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless"

God Will Forget Our Sins

- The earth and the sin within it will be gone
- The Adversary and all of the sinners will be in Perdition where God's presence does not go
- God will forget our sins, He will not visit hell, there will be nothing evil in heaven; what cause will anyone in heaven have to be sorry after the Judgment?
- Why would God need to remember sorrow and sin?
- Why would we want to?

God Will Forget Our Sins

- Heaven will be peace because we will behold all of the knowledge and wisdom of God; everything will make sense, the intellectual component of harmony and contentment.
- Heaven will be rest because we will behold the love God in His very presence. We will look on His Majesty without being blinded by it.
- Heaven will be comfort because we will know that nothing will ever take that away

God Will Forget Our Sins

- We will experience restful joy like that of a mother holding a child as it drifts off to sleep.
- Like coming home at the end of a long, hard day, sitting down in your favorite chair, and looking up to see your beloved affectionately smiling at you
- Like a man learning for the first time that he is going to be a father
- Like a child overhearing his parents talk of taking him to Disneyworld
- Like parents seeing their firstborn child confess the name of Christ and be baptized
- Like every special moment in this life rolled up into one burst of bliss and experienced forever

God Will Forget Our Sins

- We cannot truly know and appreciate the glory and joy of heaven until we experience the sorrow and pain of sin in this world. It will be sweeter for having to live with them here
 - Rom. 8:18 - “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”