

A floating island with a castle and a town, set against a cosmic background. The island is illuminated from below, and the background features a vibrant nebula and stars. The text is overlaid on a dark, semi-transparent rectangular area.

Heaven, Hell
and the
Christian Hope



Q & A
on
heaven & hell



**Will we know
one another
in heaven?**



related question:

**Will we retain
our identity,
memories of
this life?**



yes

implications

*(if there is no future
recognition...)*



*death is the final parting
even from loved ones who
die right with God*



*we will be judged for
things for which we
have no memory*



luke

19:
19-31

the **rich man** and
Lazarus



luke

19:
19-31

the rich man recognized
Lazarus

the rich man recognized
Abraham!

luke

19:25

But Abraham said, Child, **remember** that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.



luke

19:28

...for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.



rev

6:10

They cried out with a loud voice,
O Sovereign Lord, holy and true,
how long before you will judge
and avenge our blood on those
who dwell on the earth?

biblical evidence
of future recognition



*Paul's anticipation of
reunion with beloved
brothers in Christ*





phil

4:1

Therefore, my brothers, whom I love
and long for, **my joy and crown,**
stand firm thus in the Lord,
my beloved.



2cor 1:14

that on the day of our Lord Jesus
you will boast of us as we will boast
of you.

1thes 2:19

For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?

*David's hope of seeing
his child*





2sam

12:23

But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again?
I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.

*the thrill of knowing
great men and women
of Scripture*





luke

9:33

And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for **Moses** and one for **Elijah...**



mat

8:11

I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with **Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob** in the kingdom of heaven...

thus:

we will retain our memories

thus:

*we will retain our
identities, personalities*

consider:

*we will become **even more ourselves**—what we were made to be—than ever before!*

C.S. Lewis

objections
to future recognition



*we won't have our
physical bodies, hence
no recognizable
characteristics*



not so!

*Scripture affirms the **bodily resurrection** of Christ,
and of all the saved*

not so!

There will be ***discontinuity***
(transformation), but still
continuity with our bodies

*we won't be married
in heaven*





mat

22:30

For in the resurrection they
neither marry nor are given in
marriage, but are like angels in
heaven.

note:

*This affirms the resurrection,
which involves continuity*

note:

*marriage does not continue,
but memory does*

*how can we be happy in
heaven if we know that
loved ones are not
there?*



but:

*if there is no recognition,
we still won't know if they,
or **anyone we knew,**
is there!*

note:

*in that day, we will be fully
accepting of and content in
the will of God*

note:

*no one cares more about my
loved ones than the Lord*

note:

*but he will not be miserable
in the age to come*

note:

*we will accept that those
who are not in heaven did
not want to be there*



think of the
joy
of that
great reunion!



what about
you
?