

## The Doctrine of Heaven: Part 2

This is the second of a three-part series on The Doctrine of Heaven. For points I, II, and III see a copy of the January 15, 2006 *Connector*.

### IV. Heaven's Fourfold Population (21:24)

So who are the citizens of this wonderful home? The Bible gives 4 answers:

1. **The Saved** – Rev 7:9 says heaven will be populated by a great multitude which no man could number, from every “**kindred**” meaning tribe or genetic line; “**tongue**,” meaning language; “**people**” meaning people group; “**nation**” meaning ethnic or racial group. Rev 21:24 adds the “nations of those who are saved shall walk” in the light of New Jerusalem. All of our saved friends and loved ones will be there and shall know one another (1 Cor 13:12).
2. **The Angels** – Rev 7:11 says, “And all the angels stood about the throne,” so we know that the whole heavenly host will also join the saved of all ages.
3. **The “Elders”** – Rev 4:10 speaks of the “twenty-four elders” who represent all the great spiritual leaders of both the Old and New Testaments such as Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Amos, Paul, John, Matthew, Mark, Luke, who all will be there.
4. **Heroes of Faith** - Dr. W. A. Criswell, Dr. Adrian Rogers, Dr. Billy Graham, Dwight L. Moody, Billy Sunday, Lottie Moon, etc., Rev 21:24; 22:3-4.

### V. Heaven's Sevenfold Security (21:25-27)

1. Heaven has a high wall, with 12 stable foundations, v. 12
2. Heaven's gates never shut because it is never night, v. 25;
3. Heaven has God as light, 22:5 and the security of the city.
4. Nothing that defiles or makes unholy or profane will be there, v. 27.
5. No abomination, *bdelugma*, meaning a detestable thing will be there, 27.
6. Nothing that is a lie, literally *pseudos*, nothing false will be there, v. 27.
7. Everyone not found in the Lamb's book of life is excluded, cf. 20:12-15, so no criminal element will be present (21:8).

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