**Because He Reigns – Rev. 3:12**

When slaves were freed from slavery among the Romans

1. They were given new clothes
2. They were given citizen – style Roman names
3. Their new names were written down certifying their Roman citizenship
4. Roman names recognized them as belonging to Rome

**Believers in heaven having been freed from world, flesh & the devil on earth will forever belong to God & be citizens of heaven**

**Focal Truth: Believers in heaven will eternally belong to God**

1. **Believers in heaven will belong to God 3:15**

*I will write on him the name of My God*

1. Believers will see the glory of God – Rev. 22:4 – *they will see His face*

Matt. 5:8 – *blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God*

1. Believers will belong to God forever – Rev. 22:4 – *His name will be on their foreheads*
2. Believers are sealed as belonging to God the Father when described as having God’s name written on their forehead

Rev. 7:3 – The name of God on the forehead mark of being sealed – protected, counted as belonging to God

Ezek. 9:4 – *go through the midst of the city, even through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations which are being committed in the midst*

1. Believers are honored by God because they have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ

John 12:26 – *if anyone serves Me, he must follow Me, and where I am, there My servant will be also, if anyone served Me, the Father will honor him*

**Consider**

1. Believers will be recognized as children of God the Father
2. Believers will see the eternal, unimaginable glory of God the Father

Moses prayed – **show me your glory!**

**Believers will see Him just as He is! God the Father, Almighty, eternal, glorious in His eternal perfections!**

1. **Believers in heaven will be citizens of the New Jerusalem 3:15**

*I will write on him the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God*

1. Believers will enjoy eternal citizenship in the New Jerusalem forever

Heb. 12:22 – *you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel*

1. Believers will live in the New Jerusalem forever – What will it be like?

Rev. 21:10 – 27 *– describes the glory of the eternal – glorious New Jerusalem*

1. Believers on earth are seeking their heavenly country & city

Heb. 11:14 -16 – *for those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. And indeed, if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them*

*Is.65:17 – I create new heavens & a new earth, and the former things will not be remembered or come to mind*

1. **Believers in heaven will belong to Jesus Christ their Lord 3:12**

*I will write on him my new name*

1. Believers will know the Lord Jesus name beyond our earthly understanding of His name.
2. Believers will see the Lord Jesus as the *glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth*
3. Believers will see the glory of the unity of God the Father and the Son

John 17:22 – *the glory which You gave Me, I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one.*

1. Believers will see the eternal love of God the Father for the Lord Jesus forever

John 17:24 – *Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me for you loved Me before the foundation of the world*

1. Believers will be with the Lord Jesus forever

1 John 3:1 – *See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God, and such we are…now we are children of god, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appear, we will be like Him,* ***because* We will see Him just as He is**….

 **Consider**

1. Nothing on earth can compare to seeing & experiencing the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ
2. Nothing compares to the seeing & experiencing the unspeakable glorious mystery of knowing God Father & the Lord Jesus in heaven

1 Cor. 2:7 – 9 – *we speak God’s wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory; the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood, for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory: but just as it is written, things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him*

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard all that God in store for those who love Him

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. Heaven will be the place of belonging to God Father

We will say forever – Our Father

1. Heaven is our place of seeing the & knowing the glory of the Lord Jesus forever
2. The believer’s heavenly country & city are prepared for them!
3. Believer’s will sing the song of belonging – acceptance in heaven

We will sing forever - **Now I belong to Jesus – Jesus belongs to me, not for the years of time alone but for eternity**

When all my labors & trials are o’er, and I am safe on that beautiful shore, Just to be near the dear Lord I adore will through the ages be glory for me. **O that will be glory for me; glory for me, glory for me; when by His grace I shall look at His face, that will be glory, glory for me!**

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**