



QA: Has Anyone Been to Heaven and Returned? by [John T Polk II](#)

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

QUESTION: Has anyone been to Heaven and returned?

ANSWER: No, not physically or spiritually.

1. Heaven is physically out of reach. "Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, And My right hand has stretched out the heavens" (**Isaiah 48:13**). This is impossible without God. The heavens are so stretched out, that the American spacecraft, New Horizons, the size of a baby grand piano, traveled 9 1/2 years, at 31,000 mph, for over 3 Billion miles to come within 7,700 miles of Pluto, once a planet furthest from the Sun in our Solar System. No "god" but God could have made Outer Space. God is "He who builds His layers in the sky, And has founded His strata in the earth" (**Amos 9:6**). Solomon declared:

But will God indeed dwell on the earth?
Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You.
How much less this temple which I have built! (**1 Kings 8:27**)

God, not Evolution, made planets' orbits so precise the fly-by was possible. The "foundation of the earth" was revealed through Job: "He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing" (**Job 26:7**). This, also, has been confirmed by astronauts and spacecraft in recent decades.

2. Heaven is spiritually out of reach, except for the saved. From time to time, someone claims to have died, gone to Heaven, and returned to tell about it. **According to Jesus Christ, only one has been in Heaven and come to earth to tell about it:**

"If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven." (**John 3:12-13**)

Since "God is in Heaven" (**Psalms 115:3**), and "No one has seen God at any time" (**John 1:18**), then those who think they have must be mistaken. God's Word on the subject is the last word. At the "last trumpet" the dead are resurrected and changed (**1 Corinthians 15:52**), and not before! According to Jesus, when we die, our souls pass into the realm of departed spirits, called "Sheol" (in Old Testament Hebrew) and "Hades" (in New Testament Greek):

So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in

torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. (**Luke 16:22-23**)

In his vision of Heaven, John saw:

... a great multitude which no one could number.. standing before the throne... who are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. (**Revelation 7:9, 14-15**)

Jesus said:

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.” (**Mark 16:15-16**)

Make Heaven the goal.

— *jtp11, December 26, 2021*