



## The Greatest Privilege

**H**ave you ever wondered what the greatest privilege in life would be? I don't suppose you have, but if you had, what do you think it would be? Some people would say, "to give a million dollars to the American Cancer Society." Another would say, "to have dinner with the President of the United States." Still others might say, "to travel to the moon." Do you know what I think the greatest privilege in life would be? I'll tell you. It would be to walk and talk with the Father of the Universe, the Father of Jesus Christ, the God of all eternity. That's what I think the greatest privilege would be.

Guess what? If you are born again, you have been given that



privilege! That's right. There's no more waiting, no more wondering, no more asking. It's been given to you. What are you going to do about it?

***Believe it or not, all Christians have this privilege. Every one has been given access to God Almighty through***

the works of Jesus Christ. But, how many take advantage of it? Very few. It's time to make a change. It's time to start accessing the throne of God

and to start claiming what He's already provided to you as a family member. Let's start with a verse out of Ephesians. Here, we are told about this access unto God.

***For through him [Jesus Christ] we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. (Ephesians 2:18)***

Folks, if it says you have access, you have access! I know what some might say about this, but what people say about this doesn't matter. What God says about this does, and He says that you now have access to Him. If you have access to Him, it's time to take advantage of it.

What does access mean? It means, "admission." You've literally been

# The Greatest Privilege

admitted into the throne room of God - for all time! There's nothing you can do to change this. But, you might say, "I don't feel like I have access." *How you feel has no bearing on the accomplishments of Jesus Christ.* You have access! You might say, "my preacher teaches that I am a sinner and that I don't deserve a good spiritual life." He says, "I still have a long way to go before God would ever have time to listen to me." Friend, you have access. It doesn't matter what your preacher, or anyone else for that matter, says. If God's Word teaches that you have an admission ticket to enter into the throne room of God's love at any time, that's exactly what you have.

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims:

each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. (Isaiah 6:1-3)

Isaiah had been given quite a privilege, wouldn't you say? He was given a vision of what the throne room of God's love looked like. Dear Christian believers, what I am talking about is far more than seeing a vision. It is literally entering into the real place of God's abode and talking with Him. That's the privilege I'm talking about.

Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? (Isaiah 66:1)

If you understand this verse, you know that you are already placed at God's feet. Kind of an interesting concept, isn't it? But, this is a figure of speech showing that no man-made temple could really house God. But let's say that you are already at God's feet. Then you really don't have that much farther to go to see Him face to face, eye to eye, as you talk things over with Him, do you?

Ezekiel had a unique "throne" experience. Here's the vision he saw.

And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it. And I saw as the colour of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of his loins

# The Greatest Privilege

even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about. As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. ... (Ezekiel 1:26-28)

If your mind works in pictures, you can only imagine what this vision to Ezekiel was really like. But it does give you good material from which to make your own pictures as you enter into God's throne room of grace and love. *Imagine a throne of sapphire stone, the color of amber with fire round about.* God was so bright that he couldn't even distinguish His details, but he could see one thing, that looking at God was like looking at a rainbow. I know you've seen a rainbow. And I know you know the color

of amber. Well, there you have it, a great start on a mind picture of what God's throne looks like. By the way, don't forget to add the six-winged seraphims.

This wasn't the only vision Ezekiel was given of the throne room and surrounding areas of God.

Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne. And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter them over the city. And he went in in my sight. Now the cherubims stood on the right side of the house, when the man went in; and the cloud filled the inner court. Then the

glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD'S glory. And the sound of the cherubims' wings was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when he speaketh. (Ezekiel 10:1-5)

What have we learned about the palace in which the throne room is located? For one, there is an inner and an outer court in which God moves. There is a threshold to the house over which the glory of the Lord went up and stood. Finally, the outer court is a long way from the inner court and the throne room because we read, "the cherubims' wings was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when he speaketh." Wow! That's got to make you think!!! When God talks, his voice fills this entire area. I can't wait to visit

# The Greatest Privilege

Him there. What about you?

God did some remodeling in heaven in preparation for Jesus Christ.

Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; (Hebrews 8:1)

There's another seat beside God's throne. It's on God's right hand side and it belongs to Jesus Christ.

Now, you must add that to your picture. *Every time you enter into God's throne room, not only is God there, but also Jesus Christ.* That's a really good

thing. Jesus Christ is the one who made it possible for you to enter into this most holy place. And, he's always there when you are there. He is your mediator and he will always ensure your access to

God.

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)

Never forget that God sat Jesus at his right hand. *Once God sets something down, it stays forever.* Nothing could ever change this.

John gives us yet another view of something not yet mentioned.

John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; (Revelation 1:4)

He tells us of seven spirits

before the throne of God. That's pretty cool. Not only are there cherubims, there are seven spirits present. I hope your picture is growing. *When you go to God in prayer, He and Jesus Christ aren't the only ones who hear your prayers. There's actually a pretty big audience listening, caring, loving and watching over God's Word.*

The greatest details of the throne, throne room, and the audience within ear shot of God is also provided by John,

After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will show thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately

# The Greatest Privilege

I was in the spirit; and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald. And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold. And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face

as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, (Revelation 4:1-9)

To get into heaven, you have to go through a door. *One day, we'll all walk through that door.* What a joy that will be.

John said that God looked like a jasper and a sardine stone. One scholar wrote regarding these two stones:

“”The Sardius was blood-red, speaking of the sacrifice of blood, pointing to the cross and

the first coming of Jesus to shed His blood for the remission of sin. The name is derived from two Hebrew words meaning ‘behold the Son.’ It pointed to the person of whom John the Baptist said, ‘Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world’ (John 1:29). It also tells us that He (the Lord Jesus) was the first born of every creature, and the first begotten--the ONLY begotten--son of God (John 3:16). “The Jasper, the last stone in the Old Testament breastplate, represented Benjamin. This was a clear stone, speaking of total victory. On the Jasper stone was Benjamin’s name, which is a combination of two Hebrew words (BEN and JAMIN), so scholars tell us, meaning ‘the son of my right hand’...or, as one authority puts it, ‘the son of my power.’ The first and last stones pointed forward to the first and second coming of the great High Priest--none other than the Lord

# The Greatest Privilege

Jesus Christ.”

Can you imagine the brilliant colors represented by what John saw? Really something! John said that the throne looked like an emerald and he brings up the rainbow again. *I'd say that the rainbow plays an important part in visualizing what God looks like.* I love the “sea of crystal” before the throne. A sea is a mighty big place and so too must the throne room be. Ireland has beautiful crystal in Waterford, but they have nothing on God’s floor design. It must be unbelievably brilliant. Then we hear of those animals before called cherubims, you know, the ones with six wings. He further describes how they look and what they do.

The throne room is so big that all of the angels can stand around the throne.

And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, (Revelation 7:11)

How magnificent it must truly be.

And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. (Revelation 8:3)

When you thought you had the picture all figured out, something else came upon the scene. There is a golden altar before the throne. I'd say that this is a very large altar, large enough to hold all the prayers of all the saints. *You can be guaranteed that every prayer gets the attention that it*

*deserves. The angels see to that!*

Finally, we learn that the throne is located in God’s temple in heaven.

And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. (Revelation 16:17)

What a beautiful place. Crystal floors, rainbow colors coming from God on the throne, the colors of emerald and sapphire, sardius and jasper shining round about. Gold and fine stones emitting their rays of brilliance and light. And if that were not enough, the sheer size of the place will be almost overwhelming. That’s the way it looks now, with the different entities serving God and with Jesus Christ at His right hand. Now that you have an idea of what to visualize,

# The Greatest Privilege

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go there! Pray there! Speak there!

You have access so use it. *Don't be bashful, shy, down-trodden. Be uplifted. Rejoice in your God-given privilege to enter into His presence with singing and prayer, thanksgiving and need.* Go there, now, today, tomorrow, and forevermore.

God Bless you,

Jerry D. Brown