

Connect360: Meeting the King

July 21, 2023

- *Lesson 6 in the Connect360 unit “Heaven & Angels: Our Eternal Home and Its Heavenly Hosts” focuses on Revelation 1:17-18.*

Frankly, I do not like standing in long lines to do anything, but there will be millions of saints in heaven. Won't there be long lines to see Jesus, the main attraction? No.

Think about it. Today when I pray, I have immediate access to God. I do not have to get in a line to offer my prayers and petitions. God can hear and answer billions of prayers simultaneously. Our access in heaven will be even better. Remember, God is omnipresent, and Jesus is God. So, Jesus will still be ever-present and available to you.

Some people imagine that when they first see Jesus, they will run up to him and give him a high-five or fist bump. There was a time when I thought my first face-to-face meeting with Jesus would be like that old shampoo commercial—the one where two people are in a beautiful field running toward each other in slow motion. Music is playing, and their freshly shampooed hair is bouncing gently. Then finally they meet each other in an embrace and spin around slowly as the music crescendos.

Since then as I have studied God's word, I have dropped that mental image. There is a popular Christian song about imagining what we will do when we see Jesus. I do not think we will dance. I do not think we will jump for joy. We will do exactly the same thing John did when he encountered the risen Christ, as described here (1:17).

John had hung around Jesus during his earthly ministry for three years, eating and drinking and talking to each other as friends. But the Bible says

John was so star struck, he fell down at the feet of the glorified Jesus like a dead man. In other words, John was so overwhelmed by the sight and voice of Jesus in his resurrected state that he fainted. I believe we will all fall at the feet of Jesus when we see him in all of his majesty and glory in heaven.

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