

Why I Often Refer to ‘Heaven’ Rather than ‘God’

Referring to ‘heaven’ rather than the godhead is part of being a citizen of Heaven. This is a common expression of those who live in the Kingdom rather than just the church. For example: Bill Johnson (“When Heaven Invades Earth”) & Danny Silk (“Culture of Honor”).

When we refer to Australia in our normal conversations we do this collectively of the nation. Reference to a particular person or organisation is only given when that person or organisation is specifically being spoken about. For example, in general conversation we talk about:

- **The Australian Rugby Union team** – we don’t talk about the Australian Rugby Union organisation’s team, even though this organisation generates and oversees the team. The team represents Australia, so as citizens we refer to it as the Australian team because they are representing all of us.
- **Australian law** – not the law of Australia’s parliament.
- **Australia’s foreign policy** – not the policies of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade.

Similarly, we are citizens of heaven and refer collectively to our citizenship as well as our leader.

Ephesians 2:19 (AMP)

Therefore you are no longer outsiders (exiles, migrants, and aliens, excluded from the rights of citizens), but you now share citizenship with the saints (God’s own people, consecrated and set apart for Himself); and you belong to God’s [own] household.

Scriptures using ‘Heaven’ as a Collective Reference

Hebrews 3:1 (NKJV)

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

Hebrews 6:4 (NKJV)

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,

Hebrews 12:23 (NKJV)

to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,

Isaiah 32:15 (NET)

*This desolation will continue until new life is poured out on us from heaven.
Then the desert will become an orchard and the orchard will be considered a forest.*

Scriptures Where Heaven’s Residents are Reference Collectively

Jeremiah 51:48 (NET)

*Then heaven and earth and all that is in them will sing for joy over Babylon.
For destroyers from the north will attack it,” says the LORD.*

Job 38:7 (NKJV)

When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Luke 2:13 (NKJV)

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God...

Erroneous Theology

Our thoughts about what heaven is like from the Old Testament and from Revelations is one of static structure. We imagine it as a place where God sits on his throne and the saints and the beings in heaven just 'hang around' worshipping him.

Heaven is a hive of activity. The angels are on assignment and the saints are actually supporting in intercession for the plans Father has for the Earth and those living on it.

So...

Out of this combined activity in heaven, and a desire to join with them to see Father's will done on Earth arises the expression 'heaven' when referring to the outworking of Father's will in heaven. This is because we're excited to be partnering with whatever is going on in heaven.

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