



How things fit together in the Kingdom

What Does “Seated in Heavenly Places” Mean?

We regularly hear bible teachers state that “we are seated in heavenly places”ⁱⁱ, but what does that concept really mean?

Because we are Earth-bound as natural beings, and can’t be in Heaven, most believers consider the concept to be allegorical or theological. This results in them ignoring it as irrelevant in their life.

Those who are operating in the Spirit and developing their spiritual (charismatic) gifts see the concept as a spiritual reality because the Bible says so. They believe they are there and function on that assumption.

Those who are being taught by Father about the mysteries of Heaven¹ and of the spirit realm, these have learnt to inhabit Heaven with their spirit. They understand this as a literal activity that we can all accomplish. It’s seen as a normal, mature ability that the spiritually naive and immature are ignorant of, but which training can open up for them. These mystics know that the process, called ascension, is based on our love relationship² with the Trinity and our onenessⁱⁱⁱ with them.³ Paul wrote about this,^{iv} so it’s nothing new and it’s not error (heresy).

However, we must understand the basics of this concept in light of reality, not from human understanding or interpretation. In other words, what did Paul really mean when he wrote it?

(1) Firstly, we must see it in context. Paul was instructing his readers in the reality of what’s happened now that we’re spiritually reborn. He wrote that rebirth results in: Jesus being in us, and us being in him. The Spirit resides inside us and we are able to live Jesus’ life out of his Spirit in us – if we decide to do that. Paul states that we’re made spiritually alive in Jesus and we’re raised up together with him.^v That’s because he died, came back to life (resurrected) and went back to Heaven (ascended). We do the same, according to Paul, so we’re in Heaven with him right now.

(2) Secondly, what does that really mean? How can we be in Heaven, just because he’s there? Paul says that’s because we’re “in Christ”. ‘Us in him’ is the concept of oneness.⁴ Oneness is a process of perfectly growing together, like a husband and wife are able to do. We can sit together in Heaven because of this oneness that we can have with him. He’s there representing us and acting on our behalf.^{vi}

Like many spiritual realities that Paul writes about⁵, the outworking of this concept is not automatic – we have to learn to access it’s benefits. That will actually happen as we grow into genuine spiritual maturity.

If we are actually sitting in the realm of Heaven in the spirit, it would read, “we are sitting in heavenly

1 – These believers are known as ‘mystics’

2 – Our passionate love for him unites us with him (1 Corinthians 6:17)

3 – WATCH: Justin Abraham (4-3-2021) “Ascending Into The Realms”
www.companyofburninghearts.com/post/new-youtube-teaching-video-ascending-into-realms OR
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ih_OW4xzk50

4 – “Oneness of the Heart, Mind and Soul with Jesus”
canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Oneness-of-the-Heart-Mind-and-Soul-with-Jesus.pdf

5 – e.g. Having the mind of Christ; Living without condemnation.

realms” (actually in Heaven itself⁶), but it doesn't. It states that “we are seated in heavenly realms **IN CHRIST**”. The qualification is, “IN Christ”. That is, in him, not in actually. Not in his name, but in him, in our relationship with him, our oneness together. So it's not an actuality, but a representational situation.

Sitting in the realm of Heaven in Jesus is a picture statement – it's metaphorical of a spiritual reality. It's like the expression, “Jesus wants to sit on the throne of our heart”. We don't have a throne sticking out of our heart, and he's not looking to sit on one of those. “Throne of our heart” is a metaphor for who rules our desires and will. For sons, it's our King who should be in charge of us, because we surrender our will to him and submit to him.

See the difference? Now can you see that being seated in Heaven in Jesus is a functional reality through relationship, not a spiritual one where our spirit has to actually be there.

(3) Finally, Father's mind on this co-seating with Jesus in “the heavenly realm”^{vii} is what we really need to understand. Here's Mike Parsons' notes from his understanding of what Father said to him about it:

*“When we are seated, we are in a place of rest within His will and heart. Then we are able to release His will, His governmental perspective, to everything on earth. That is why it is important for us to understand heavenly government.”*⁷

Here's what that means: When we are living in a place of rest, resting in his will and resting in his heart as a son, we are seated with him in Heaven because we're aligned with him. We're one with him.

“Resting within his will” means we're happily allowing him to have his way in our lives, our circumstances, our family and in the world, and we're not being at all concerned about anything. “Resting within his heart” means we're content (fully satisfied) in his love for us, knowing he has our best interest in mind, because he's our perfect Beloved.

When we're in that place, seated with him in Heaven through oneness, we can then operate as sons, partnering with him to see his will done and Heaven manifest on the face of the earth. This is operating in our governmental role which is what the *ekklesia* originally meant in the Ancient Near East (ANE) of the 1st century. At our re-birth, then, we're brought back to where Adam originally was as planet managers, in charge of the Earth for the King, ruling and reigning.

That's a much bigger concept than just sitting in Heaven “in Christ” because it's a nice place to be.

Do you comprehend the gravity of our role as sons now?

Here's more on our governmental role from Mike Parsons according to his understanding of what Father personally taught him:

“When a king is ruling, he sits on a throne. That is where he has authority. Ultimately, God wants to enable us to be seated in authority in heavenly places so that we can then bring His kingdom into the earth...”

Heaven and earth were originally in complete alignment, but no longer. The earth is fallen from that place and therefore needs to be restored. That is God's desire, so restoration is about bringing His will and purpose from heaven into the earth; to manifest it, to see His will at work. He does not want to control everything Himself, He encourages us as His sons to participate with Him in the process...

If we are going to see something established on earth, it needs to be established in heaven first. How do we do that? By exercising our role in heavenly government...

All government begins in the relationship that is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, because that is where everything starts. It is all coming out of His heart of love, out of His desire for restoration. All of it is based in who He is. Government is an expression of the intimacy that exists within God Himself. It is all about

6 – Thayer's Greek Lexicon: Epouránios (ἐπουράνιος) – is an adjective used for Heaven itself. www.biblehub.com/greek/2032.htm

7 – Mike Parsons (15-3-2021) “278. Established in Heaven” freedomarc.blog/2021/03/15/established-heaven

love because God is love...

The sons of the kingdom carry government and all of us are sons of the kingdom. We all have a governmental position, whether we like it or not. Whether we understand it or know it, we have authority because we are sons...

Agreement, cooperation and unity are all necessary in government: between God and us and between one another..."⁸

So, being seated in Heaven is about ruling as co-heirs of the Kingdom.^{viii} Magnificent. However, **we need to be prepared to learn how to do it.**

IMPORTANT: Heaven only operates out of peace and rest. That means, if we're not in a proper level of peace and rest, then we can't operate out of Heaven for the King. It's impossible to rule with him "in heavenly places" if we're out of alignment in that way.

[REFERENCES are on the next page]

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Permission to quote Mike Parsons' work received on 20-7-2020.

8 – Mike Parsons (15-3-2021) “278. Established in Heaven” freedomarc.blog/2021/03/15/established-heaven

i **REFERENCES**

ii – Ephesians 2:6 (KJV, ASV, AMP, WEB, etc.)

iii – John 17:21-23

iv – 2 Corinthians 12:2-3

v – Ephesians 2:5-6

vi – Ephesians 2:6 (TPT)

vii – Ephesians 2:6 (TPT, ISV)

viii – Romans 8:17 (NIV, ISV, EXB)