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Ok, so for the record the EARTH is IN the Heavens. There are three heavens, two of which are together the Firmament that is the heavens that will be burned up. The third heaven where God's throne is, will NOT be burned up. It was a separate creation in Genesis 1:1. The firmament is where the elements will melt with a fervent heat; and the earth is in those heavens. So it's a great galactic melt down. The great white throne will be taking place after this melt down; and because New Jerusalem comes down from God out of Heaven, then it comes down into the heavens from the third heaven.

About the thousand year reign; all those of the first resurrection will REIGN with Christ for a thousand years.

The dead will not be raised up until after the thousand years.

Then there is the group of living people that get through the tribulation and repopulate the earth with mortals for those thousand years.

So the first resurrection groups will reign over the mortals. The first resurrection has to have a hierarchy because of the similar hierarchy the Apostles had with Him during the first coming.

- 1. The ONE: The closest to the Lord was John; and John is a type of the Body of Christ, the bride.
- 2. The Three: This would include John, and also Peter and James. So two other groups: Old Testament Saints (Friends of the Bridegroom) & Tribulation Saints (Friends of the Bride).
- 3. Then There are the 11 + Mathias and + Paul. This would make 13 and then you must remove those include above (John, Peter & James) so you must subtract 3 13 = 10. This group would be the mortals.

This also lines up with the temple:

- 1. The Holy of Holies
- 2. The inner court
- 3. The outer court

And also the heavens: Genesis 2:4, "These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens," All three heavens existed as one originally. Earth was IN the third heaven. The firmament was what was created as the first and second heavens after the destruction of those two heavens in Genesis 1:2.

- 1. The Third Heaven (Genesis 1:1)
 The Firmament: Genesis 1:6-8
- 2. The Second Heaven where the sun, moon and stars are (Genesis 1:14-18)
- 3. The Second Heaven where the clouds are and the birds fly (Genesis 1:20)

You know there are three heavens because of 2 Corinthians 12:2-4, "I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out

of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter." Paul is talking about John.

I have more exhaustive studies on this, but this is just an overview. If you are IN the first resurrection: Revelation 20:4-6, "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." This is inclusive of three groups:

- 1. The Old Testament Saints
- 2. The Church (Body of Christ)
- 3. The Tribulation Saints

This is called the First Resurrection which started with Jesus Christ, the Old Testament Saints rose up and some got up out of the graves and walked through the city. At any rate they all rose up from Abraham's Bosom in the nether parts of the earth and are in Heaven. You know this was a physical resurrection because some walked around the city and were seen by many at the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Also the First Resurrection includes the Church or the Body of Christ. This would be the believers in Christ from his Death, Burial & Resurrection till the end of this age at the resurrection from the dead. 1 Corinthians 15:51-53 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. This is more commonly called "the Rapture". The word "Rapture" is derived from Middle French "rapture", via the Medieval Latin "rapture" meaning: "seizure" or "kidnapping", which derives from the Latin "raptus" meaning: "a carrying off". So in 1 Thessalonians 4:17 there is the phrase: "...shall be caught up together..." and in 1 Corinthians 15:52 there is the phrase "...the dead shall be raised incorruptible..." the words "caught up" and "raised" are both the same as Rapture and/or Resurrection. The resurrection of the Body of Christ is also in both passages an Ascension into the heavens to meet the Lord in the Air. This is very different than the Lord's Second Coming when He comes in vengeance and lands on earth.

Accordingly an alteration of the two groups: the Dead in Christ and those that are Alive in Christ: In 1 Corinthians 15

1st Group in verse 52: "...the dead shall be raised incorruptible," verse 53: "For this corruptible must put on incorruption..." verse 54: "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption..." and "...then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory." Verse 55: "...O grave, where is thy victory?"

2nd Group in verse 52: "...and we shall be changed." Verse 53: "...and this mortal must put on immortality." Verse 54: "...and this mortal shall have put on immortality..." verse 55: "O death, where is thy sting?"

The same two groups are seen in 1 Thessalonians 4

1st Group in verse 13: "...concerning them which are asleep..." verse: 14 "...even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." Verse 15: "...them which are asleep." Verse 16, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first..." verse 17: "...shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

2nd Group in verse 13: "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren..." and "...that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." Verse 14, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again..." verse 15: "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent..." Verse 16, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God:" verse 17, "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

This can also be seen in John 11:25-26, "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" Here how can you believe in Jesus Christ if you are dead? Unless this is talking about the dead in Christ; and those that are alive and believe shall never die; because they are resurrected alive. (Now a double application you were spiritually dead; and after you believed on the Lord you were given eternal life as a free gift.) Then for both groups: 1 John 3:1-2, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." And again we have both groups in: Romans 8:10-11, "And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." And this continues: Romans 8:17-23, "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." Notice how that "...the manifestation of the sons of God..." is the same as the "...now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be..."

There is only one group called the "sons of God" in the New Testament. They are the individuals IN the Body of Christ. A great type of this is Eve; who was taken out of Adam: all the parts of her flesh were male (fits with the individuals as sons of God) but as a corporate body she was female: (fits as the bride of Christ as ONE chaste virgin.)

The first resurrection is also called the resurrection FROM the dead which the second resurrection is NEVER called. Both are called the resurrection of the dead. Luke 20:35, "But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:" So why no marriage after the resurrection? Because we are the SONS of God as individuals. There will be no need for copulation. And Acts 4:2, "Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead." You get the resurrection from the dead that it comes through the preaching of Jesus. It is Jesus Christ who descends with a shout and raises us up. And Romans 1:4, "And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:" Jesus Christ was the FIRST to be resurrected FROM the dead. He is therefore the first begotten of the dead: Revelation 1:5-6, "And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." So if you are "...washed us from our sins

in his own blood..." then you are going to be "...made us kings and priests unto God and his Father..." again in Revelation 5:9-10, "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth."

The three designations we will have will be: Kings, Priests & Prophets. The others in the First Resurrection will be Kings and Priests. So we see an hierarchy during the thousand year reign. It is obvious because no other group will be the Bride of Christ but the Church. During the Reign the Church will be the Queen; as Christ is the King: we as individuals will be kings. It will be our responsibility to rule the kingdoms under Jesus Christ by what we have been given at the Judgment Seat of Christ for our service NOW in the Church Age. Our lack of Bible Study will affect the kingdom we are over; the king's court under us will be Old Testament Saints & Tribulation Saints who will advise us as well as administrate the kingdom.

The mortals that lived through the tribulation will populate the kingdom and will be ruled over by us. We stand to lose them to Satan at the end of the thousand years if they are deceived by Satan to rebel against Jesus Christ. They will be burned alive and end up in Hell; to be brought up at the Great White Throne Judgment. However if they do NOT rebel, they remain ALIVE and enter into the Great White Throne Judgment without DEATH and pass through because their names are IN the Book of Life. The life and death during the thousand year reign will be viewed as physical. If you die in that time, you end up in Hell. There will be no need for faith, because you will see Jesus Christ, and hundreds of thousand immortals like Jesus Christ ruling all the kingdoms. What a time that will be!

