

The *Sine Qua Nons* of Heaven

Those Things *Without Which*
Heaven Would *Not* Be Heaven

The *Sine Qua Nons* of Heaven

Those Things *Without Which*
Heaven Would *Not* Be Heaven

❖ Imagine you could eat as much as you wanted of anything you liked, without ill effects...

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven





The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



- ❖ Imagine you could eat as much as you wanted of anything you liked, without ill effects...
- ❖ so long as you ate alone.

❖ Imagine playing any sport you wanted, whenever you wanted, and with a champion's skill...

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



- ❖ Imagine playing any sport you wanted, whenever you wanted, and with a champion's skill...
- ❖ always against robots, with no spectators, no one to talk to afterwards.

❖ Imagine exploring
breathtakingly beautiful
worlds and discovering
amazing creatures...

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



- ❖ Imagine exploring breathtakingly beautiful worlds and discovering amazing creatures...
- ❖ but never being able to share your experiences.

Sine Qua Non 1:

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Sine Qua Non 1:

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Personal Relationship
requires:

- Continuity of unique
identity (Revelation 2.17)

Sine Qua Non 1:

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Personal Relationship
requires:

- Continuity of unique identity (Revelation 2.17)
- Recognizability (Luke 16.9)

❖ What if Heaven had
every conceivable
pleasure except for love?

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



- ❖ What if Heaven had every conceivable pleasure except for love?
- ❖ What if someone “loved” you, but had no interest in your thoughts and dreams?

Sine Qua Non 2:

INTIMACY

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Sine Qua Non 2:

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



INTIMACY

To be simultaneously
fully known
and wholly loved.

(cf. 1 Corinthians 13.12b)

Sine Qua Non 2:

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Wait! We can't even
know ourselves
intimately, apart from
relationship with our
Creator and Redeemer.

Sine Qua Non 2:

No one can really know themselves if they do not know their origin, purpose and destiny.

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Sine Qua Non 2:

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Ultimate intimacy is only possible through the One Who knows our heart, gave us our gifts, and planned our destiny (cf. Psalm 36.9).

Sine Qua Non 3:

JESUS

Our infinite, omniscient
Creator, Redeemer and
heavenly Bridegroom.

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



JESUS

➤ Preceded Heaven.

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



JESUS

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven

- Preceded Heaven.
- Created Heaven and Earth (John 1.3).



JESUS

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



- Preceded Heaven.
- Created Heaven and Earth (John 1.3).
- Tied His eternal destiny to ours (John 1.14).

JESUS

- Guarantees our eternal joy (Psalm 16.11).

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



JESUS

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



- Guarantees our eternal joy (Psalm 16.11).
- Endured the cross for the supreme joy of intimacy with us (Hebrews 12.2).

JESUS
IS THE ULTIMATE
SINE QUA NON
OF HEAVEN.

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



— Interlude —

ARRIVING IN HEAVEN



Ed Long

1935-2017

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Let's tune our hearts to
Psalm 73.25:

“Whom have I in heaven
but you?
And earth has nothing I
desire besides you.”

The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



The
Sine Qua Nons
Of Heaven



Let's tune our hearts to
Psalm 73.25:

“Whom have I in heaven
but you?”

And earth has nothing I
desire besides you.”

... and get excited about
our coming wedding.

The *Sine Qua Nons* of Heaven

Those Things *Without Which*
Heaven Would *Not* Be Heaven