## Harvard, NASA or Heaven?

Which is harder to get into, Harvard, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) or heaven?

Harvard University, located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is the United States' oldest institution of higher learning, established in 1636. In its early days, it primarily trained Congregationalist and Unitarian clergy, although its curriculum and student body were gradually secularized during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.



Harvard accepted just 5.9 percent of roughly 39,000 applications for its class of 2020.

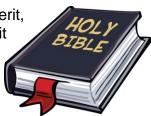


The NASA class of 2017 received 8,300 applications this year for less than 15 slots. That means if 14 people are selected, the acceptance rate will be .08 percent. "Applications opened Dec. 14, but that is just the beginning of an 18-month process that will end with the selection of 8 to 14 individuals for an opportunity to become astronauts," the official press release explained.

So what's harder to get into, Harvard, NASA or heaven?

The answer to that question depends on how one applies.

If you hope to get into any of these institutions based on personal merit, then the answer is heaven is the most exclusive. The Bible makes it clear that no one meets the standard of holiness required for entrance. It declares, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Since sinners are not allowed into heaven, that's a 0 percent acceptance rate.



If, however, you hope to get in based on grace, in that case NASA is the hardest. And heaven goes from the hardest to the easiest. The Bible says that "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13 NIV). That's a 100 percent acceptance rate!

And heaven is the only one that offers eternal life.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter