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**A Discussion Question about Heaven and Hell**

One author says of Swedenborg's idea of heaven and hell that it is an eminently reasonable, fair, and just idea, and that it is just the sort of arrangement that a fair and just God would probably set up. It goes like this (says that author):

Some people say to God "**Thy** will be done." When these folks die, God says to them, "OK."

Others say "**My** will be done," and when they die, God says "OK."

The first is heavenly and the second is hellish. Following only the demands of one's own will would be (as Schop pointed out so well) hellish.

In John Milton's famous long poem Paradise Lost, he has Lucifer say at one point that he would rather rule than serve. "Better to **rule** in hell than **serve** in heaven," he says. Which we might take to mean, better to get **my** will, even if it’s in hell, than subjugate my will to anyone else’s, including God's, even if it be in heaven.

That line strikes me as the perfect illustration of Swedenborg's notion of heaven and hell.

What are your thoughts on this?