

## HOW BEAUTIFUL HEAVEN MUST BE

The desire of the faithful has always been the eternal home of the faithful - - *heaven*. We long for and earnestly await the day when the Lord Jesus shall return in the clouds to take us home to heaven. We find great comfort in the words of our Lord in John 14:1-3, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." Though Jesus would soon be leaving His disciples, He would not leave them forever. He would come back for them. He was not going to abandon them forever. Notice that Jesus said, "In my Father's house are many mansions," many abiding places. "If it were not so, I would have told you." If the extent of heaven was so limited that some of the faithful might be excluded from entering, then, Jesus would have told us so. He would not have filled the hearts of His disciples with impossible hopes and delusional expectations. Jesus would not have deceived us with such empty words. We can be assured that there will be plenty of room in heaven for the faithful of every age. In heaven the faithful will be adequately provided for. Of this we can be absolutely certain.

When Jesus comes again, He is coming to get His faithful ones to take them home to heaven. Paul also pointed this truth out in I Thessalonians 4:13-18, "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 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 them which are asleep. 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: 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. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." Note that when the Lord comes again He is coming to receive the faithful (get the faithful), and we shall be with Him forever. We look forward to the day when this promise becomes a blessed reality. Once again, this is the day the faithful have been waiting on; this is the day we have been preparing for; this is the day when our hopes and our dreams become reality.

In heaven the righteous will be clothed with robes of immortality (I Corinthians 15:51-54). Also consider Revelation 21: verse 4, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Anything that would cause us to be sad or to weep in sorrow will remain outside the gates of heaven. All that causes unhappiness, sadness, sorrow, pain (both emotional and physical), etc. will remain outside of the holy city. In addition to these blessings, in heaven we will enjoy the sweetest fellowship ever. There we will be in the presence of the Holy Father, His beloved Son, and the Comforter which is the Holy Spirit. We shall sit down with the redeemed of all ages in the eternal Kingdom (Luke 13:28, 29). In heaven we will be reunited with loved ones who have gone on before us (provided that they too have been

washed in the blood of the Lamb). See I Thessalonians 4:13-18. Heaven will be Christian fellowship at its best. Truly, heaven holds all that is precious and dear to us. Be fully assured of the fact that heaven will be more glorious, more beautiful, and more magnificent than mere words are capable of conveying. As we often sing, "How beautiful heaven must be..."

My friend, will heaven be your home when this life is over? If not; then, hasten to obey the blessed Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16): Believe in Jesus as being the Only Begotten Son of God, turn away from your sins, confess Christ as the Son of God, and then be baptized for the remission of your sins. Upon your obedience to the gospel you become an heir of eternal life (I Peter 1:4). However my friend, if heaven is not your home when this life is over; then, truly your life will have been spent in vain and you will stand before God on the Day of Judgment as a frightened and miserable individual. Today, make heaven your home by accepting the Son and obeying His Gospel.

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