

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

A Place Called Heaven

Scripture Reading:

“¹Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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. ³And 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 (John 14:1-3).

Introduction:

A. Heaven is a place where: (1) There is no evil, (2) The righteous will dwell eternally, and (3) God and Christ dwell there eternally.

B. Based on the text, Jesus informed His Disciples of His departure (C.R. John13:33). The Disciples were greatly troubled about Jesus leaving them (v. 1). Therefore, Jesus comforted their hearts with the promises listed in verses 2-3. These promises are comfort to all Christians – knowing that Christ is preparing a place for us, one day He is returning and we will spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

C. “The most thrilling thing about Heaven is that Jesus Christ will be there. I will see Him face to face. Jesus Christ will meet us at the end of life journey” – Billy Graham

D. “Here in this world, He bids us come; There in the next, He shall bid us welcome
– John Donne

Heaven is a Place Where:

I. There is No Evil

A. The wicked will not be there (Matt 13:47-50)

The “Bad” fish (v. 48) and the “Wicked” (v. 49) are the Unrighteous (Unbelievers).

B. There will be no death there (Luke 20:34-36; Rev 21:4)

In heaven there is no death. A person cannot die any more (Heb 9:27). The Believer will live forever with God (John 1:4; 17:2-3).

C. There will be no sorrow, crying nor pain there (Rev 21:4)

1. Sorrow – disappointment, regret, failure, inferiority

2. Crying – arguing, fussing, cursing, immorality

3. Pain – diseases, accidents, pressure, abuse, fights

❖ Life will be perfected. All the sufferings and evilness of this life will be over. Heaven will be a perfect place – **For Believers Only.**

D. There will be no sin there (Rev 21:27)

II. The Righteous Will Dwell Eternally

A. The righteous are those who obey Christ and follow Him (John 10:4-5, 27-28).

B. The righteous are God's servants (Rev 22:1-5)

"... His servants shall serve Him" (v. 3). "Heaven is not a place of unoccupied idleness but a place of ceaseless activity. It will not be necessary to rest in order to give the body an opportunity to recuperate" – Dr. J. Vernon McGee

- God has a service for us to do when we get to Heaven.

C. The righteous will enter into eternal life (Matt 25:34, 46)

D. The righteous will experience the joy and pleasures of being in God's presence in Heaven forevermore (Ps 16:11).

E. The righteous will enjoy hearing Jesus say, "Well done, good and faithful servant ..." (Matt 25:23).

III. God and Christ Dwell There Eternally

A. Heaven is God's dwelling place

○ What is Heaven Like

"In one of his books, A.M. Hunter, relates the story of a dying man who asked his Christian doctor to tell him something about the place to which he was going. As the doctor fumbled for a reply, he heard a scratching at the door, and he had his answer. "Do you hear that?" he asked his patient. "It's my dog. I left him downstairs, but he has grown impatient, and has come up and hears my voice. He has no notion what is inside this door, but he knows that I am here. Isn't it the same with you? You don't know what lies beyond the door, but you know that your Master is there."
– (Ministry 127).

1. "The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men" (Ps 11:4).

2. Heaven is God's Sanctuary

"For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the Lord behold the earth" (Ps 102:19).

3. Heaven is the high and holy place where God dwells

- "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones" (Isa 57:15).

B. Jesus is at the right hand of God in heaven

- “So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God” (Mark 16:19).
- “Thereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.” (Luke 22:69).
- Matt 22:24; 26:64; Acts 2:34; 7:55; 1 Pet 3:22)

C. We can be with God and Christ in Heaven

1. We must be born again

- “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God (John 3:3).
- “Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:5).
- “Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again” (John 3:7).
- “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Rom 6:23).

2. We must be united in Christ (John 17:22-24).

- ²² And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: ²³ I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. ²⁴ Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world (John 17:22-24).

3. We shall appear with Him in glory

- “When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory” (Col 3:4).

4. The Believers will be with Jesus in the resurrection (1 Thess 4:17).

- “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” (1 Thess 4:17).

5. The Sons of God” (children of God) will be like Christ (1 John 3:2).

- “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” (1 John 3:2).
- **“Heaven is the Centre of the Christian's universe and he is bound to it by eight golden links:**
 - Our Father is there—Matt. 6: 9;
 - Our Savior is there—Heb. 9: 24;
 - Our home is there—John 14: 2;

- Our name is there—Luke 10.:20;
- Our life is there—Col. 3: 1-3;
- Our heart is there—Matt. 6:19-21;
- Our inheritance is there-1 Pet:1:3-5;
- And our citizenship is there—Phil: 3:20 (R.V.)—*Henry Durbanville*

Study Questions:

1. Are you ready to meet the Lord?
2. Are you listening for the “shout” from Christ, as He descends from Heaven and the “voice of the Archangel” and with the “trump of God” (1 Thess 16)?
3. Have you shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ and His Saving Grace with anyone recently?

Conclusion:

A. Heaven is the dwelling place of God, Christ and Believers

B. No wicked person will be in heaven – you must be born again to enter heaven.

C. When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus, we’ll sing and shout the victory!

D. F-A-I-T-H

Forgiveness – We cannot have eternal life and Heaven without forgiveness.

- “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace” (Eph 1:7).

Available – Forgiveness is available to all but it is not automatic.

- “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Impossible – It is impossible for God to allow sin into heaven

- “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom 3:23)

Turn – Turn (Repent) from sin and self to Jesus

- “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” (Rom 10:9).

Heaven – Eternal life is available in the present and in the future

- “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” (John 14:3).

Memory Verse:

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (2 Cor 5:21).

From the Teaching Ministry of:
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“...the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).