

Heaven, Our Eternal Home

Introduction

1. **Most every individual will say that they want to go to heaven. Most believe that you have to be religious in order to go there.**
 - A. **Many believe that as long as you believe in Jesus and accept Him as your savior then you will be able to go to heaven.**
2. **As soon as one is born into this world they begin to walk the path of life. Some will live only a few hours, some a few years, and most will live several years, extending past the age of accountability on into adulthood.**
 - A. **Once one becomes accountable for their actions, then they will be judged by Jesus Christ in accordance with His revealed doctrine.**

John 12:48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

3. **Most religious people will never see the heaven they claim to want to go to. Why? Simply because they have not obeyed all the words of Jesus and the inspired writers of the revealed Word.**
Matthew 7:21-23
4. **However, after we have reached an accountable age, Heaven WILL BE our eternal home IF:**

We Have Obeyed the Gospel

1. We must DO the will of the Father

Matthew 7:21

2. We must answer the call

A. The gospel, the Word of God calls us to obedience

John 6:44-45

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. It is the gospel that is God's power to save.

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

4. The gospel message tells us about the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

5. Faith, repentance, confession, and baptism is required for one to be obedient to the gospel of Christ

Acts 2:38

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

Acts 17:30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

Acts 8:37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

Heaven will be our eternal home IF: Our Affections Are Set Above

1. **We must continually seek those things above, the spiritual things of life.**

Colossians 3:1-2 If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. **Set your mind on things above**, not on things on the earth.

2. **We must strive to ensure our treasures are deposited in heaven where it really counts.**
Matthew 6:19-21
3. **As a result, we need to ensure that we are not lovers of the world.**
1 John 2:15-17
4. **When we set our affections on spiritual things then we will also ensure that we are not engaging in worldly friendships.**

James 4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that **friendship with the world is enmity with God**? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Heaven will be our eternal home IF: **We Are Growing In Christ**

1. **We are longing to grow!**

1 Peter 2:1-2 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all guile, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, **desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,**

2. **We are to continually growing in grace and knowledge.**

2 Peter 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...

3. **We are to add **Christian characteristics** to our life daily.** **2 Peter 1:5-11**

4. **We are to continue to abound in the Lord's work.**

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, **always abounding in the work of the Lord,** knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

5. **We are to abound in love.**

Philippians 1:9-10 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, **that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,**

6. **Our very life should become the gospel advertised.**

Philippians 1:27 Only let **your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ,** so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,

Heaven will be our eternal home IF: We Are Proving Faithful

1. By not forsaking the assembly.

Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

2. By not growing weary.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

3. Running the race with the attitude of winning. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

4. By standing fast in the Lord

Philippians 4:1 Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

5. By remaining completely faithful until the day we die.

Revelation 2:10Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Conclusion

1. If we sincerely want Heaven to be our eternal home then we will strive fully and completely to live a life that will be pleasing to God.

A. Our ultimate goal should be to want to hear our savior say:

Matthew 25:34...Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

2. Let's ensure that we have and continue to:

- A. Obey the gospel
- B. Have our affections set above (on spiritual things)
- C. Grow in Christ
- D. Prove ourselves faithful to the very end!

Invitation

Place _____

Date _____
