

If Heaven Is Your Destination

Introduction

C. S. Lewis...

"If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world."

1. Many people claim that they believe in heaven and that they are looking forward to heaven as being their home when this life is over.
2. One can tell whether heaven is truly someone's eternal destination.
Matthew 7:21-23
3. Therefore, if heaven is your destination, then....

You Have Obeyed the Gospel

1. Doing the Father's will.
Matthew 7:21
2. Understanding that the gospel 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.

3. Knowing that the gospel is understanding the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
1 Corinthians 15:1-4
4. You not only obey but you realize and understand why.
Romans 6:17-18; 1-5

5. Which includes God's required plan of salvation.

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."**

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, **"Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

6. Understanding that if you do not obey God's teaching then you will face certain destruction.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

Your Affections Will Be Set Above

1. Constantly seeking those things above.

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. Your focus will be on laying up treasure in heaven.

Matthew 6:19-21

3. We will not have a love of the world.

1 John 2:15-17

4. Nor will we have our friendships with those of the world.

James 4:4

You Are Growing in Christ

1. You are instructed to grow.

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

2 Peter 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

2. We will grow in the characteristics that will mold us into the kind of Christians that God wants us to be.

2 Peter 1:5-11

3. No matter what we will abound in God's work.

1 Corinthians 15:58

4. Our conduct in every way, will be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

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,

You Are Proving Yourself Faithful

1. By not forsaking the assembly.

Hebrews 10:23-25 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **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. By living each day with a sincere desire to finish our race.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but **one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.** And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

4. By standing fast in the Lord and being faithful until we die.

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

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

