

HEAVENBOUND!

Ps. 48:1 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. 2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Would you like to be somewhere else? ... That's a dangerous question to ask in a church service, isn't it?! ... But, *would* you like to be somewhere else? Do you watch those programmes on television about people considering a move to Australia, or New Zealand, where it's sunny and it's put across the lifestyle is relaxed? ... It is usually sad though when they come to where they hear the messages from their families, ... the idea of parting is the most difficult.

There is nothing more sure in life than some day we shall be parted, - we are not here forever ... There is a 'move' we all must make one day whether we want it or not, and it is important to know where we are 'moving' to ... to where we shall spend eternity. ... It is not like going to another country, where you can leave it if you don't like it! There is no going back in eternity, and what decides your destination is *Who* you take with you, - whether or not you know Jesus as your Saviour and Lord.

It is the most important journey, and preparations for it begin in this life. If you invite the Lord Jesus into your life, you already have a place in Heaven, and when you leave this world you will be with Him forever ... However, if you leave this world without Him, you will be without Him in eternity and you will be without hope. You will enter a place of great torment, from which there is no escape ... There is no 'second chance' If you choose to live without the Saviour, you will die without Him, and you will enter the most horrendous reality, the likes of which would have us shaking with fear if we could only imagine it to the smallest degree.

Hell is a place no one would ever want, but Jesus offers the only means of escape for here is what He said, **Jn. 3:17** God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. **18** He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

... *We need to be sure* ... Are you *sure* of your place in Heaven? Do you have the certainty that the moment you leave this scene of time your soul will be welcomed into the presence of God? ... Are you *Heaven-bound*?

Here is just a little taste of what this 'Glory land' offers ... what awaits every children of God in Heaven.

God is eternal, and He created Heaven. It is a place our finite minds cannot fully comprehend. No one can send us back pictures or reports, but Heaven is God's perfect dwelling-place. ... He did not always live in Heaven because Heaven is a part of God's creation, created before this world.

... Where did God live before He created Heaven? The answer is ... God's own presence was His eternal residence. He was complete in Himself. He is *omnipresent*, - everywhere, - and no single place can contain His whole essence. As the Scripture explains, [Joshua 2:11](#) He is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath ... [Ps. 139:7](#) whither shall I flee from thy presence? ⁸ If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. ... there is no place He is not.

When God brings us home to His Heaven, - where we shall be with Him forever, - we shall be changed and transformed into His perfect image. The earthly constraints and imperfections holding us back just now will be removed and God will change us into how He always intended for us to be, - ... here is how that was, [Gen. 1:27](#) God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. ... And John reinforces the point by writing, [I Jn. 3:2](#) we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

And that also means we shall be more ourselves, because we shall be as He *intended* us to be, before sin entered. We shall have no distractions, and all our attention in Heaven will be on Him, as He had designed for our first parents in the Garden of Eden. Forever we shall be [present with the Lord \(II Cor. 5:8\)](#) ... and only then we shall be what He originally appointed.

That is because Heaven is the place of holiness ... The righteousness and holiness of God is the required standard for every subject of Heaven ... and when He calls us He will fittingly clothe us in His holy holiness for the Bible says, we shall be as holy as He is! ([I Pet. 1:16](#) Be ye holy; for I am holy) ... That will be the Heavenly completion of His work!

There will be nothing in us even remotely associated with sin for there is *no* sin in Heaven, [Rev. 21:27](#) there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth. There is no man-made religion, or selfishness, or attempts to make ourselves respectable good enough we're saved because, as Paul wrote, [Eph. 1:6](#) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

On that day when God calls you to meet Him, you need not come expecting religion or good morals or anything which starts with you to save you, because Jesus tells about a company who will plead with Him, with tears streaming

down their faces, **Mt. 7:22** Many will say to *[the Lord Jesus]* in that day, ... Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? ... and ... done many wonderful works? ... But He has already explained, **21** Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. ... There will be nobody in Heaven on their own merits, but on the merits of Christ alone ... Every citizen is there because of God's free and sovereign grace applied to the sinner through the work of Christ on the cross.

Heaven is also the place of security ... where no enemy can gain admittance, and yet ... **Rev. 21:25** *the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day.* It is a place of absolute peace, safety and tranquillity ... completely without danger. It is secure in the fullest knowledge of God and its foundation is immovable. When we look up into the sky, into space, ... we realise how small a speck our little planet is ... and yet it was to here God sent His Son to prepare a people to take unto Himself ... What a place Heaven must be ... Even all the stars and the moon and the sun will have gone for there is no need for them in Heaven, **Rev. 21:23** *for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.* **24** *And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it.*

It is secure because it has God as its Ruler, the One **Col. 1:13** *Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.* ... It has a royal garden of unequalled attraction (**Rev. 22**) ... and it has the great home of the Father, which He shares with all His redeemed, **Jn. 14:2** *In my Father's house are many mansions* ... **3** *I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

Heaven is a place of outstanding beauty. ... In the Old Testament, Moses, and the Hebrew dignitaries **Ex. 24:10** saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness. ... Daniel saw it also, **Dan. 7:9** *I beheld* ... and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. **10** *A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.*

There will be no hatred in Heaven, - no bitterness, no malice, - ... no jealousies or nastiness or rivalry. ... It is the place of perfect harmony. There is no loneliness there ... not even among that **Rev. 7:9** *great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongue* ... Despite the multitude being so great Heaven won't be overcrowded. God has designed for His people to be as one ... and He will be able to see where each of His children are. Created for God's glory, it meets the needs of His people throughout eternity.

And yes, there will be no strangers ... no outsiders, no visitors, no immigrants, and no unknowns for everyone will know everyone and the songs we sing will all be in harmony! ... Our eyes will be dancing as we look upon our Saviour, - we shall never become tired of looking ... and no earthly description can adequately convey the bliss of gazing upon the face of Jesus! We shall be with those we knew on earth and we shall have greater Heavenly harmony than at any time previous ... the same perfect love for every subject of Heaven ... even those we never met on earth.

And the language of Heaven will be understood perfectly by all ... The activity in Heaven, the wonder of Heaven will all be couched in the Heavenly glory emanating from out of the Throne. ... Yes, all eyes will be on the Triune God, - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and we shall enjoy the deepest and most unfathomable fellowship with Him forever. There will never be a time when we want for anything for He shall supply all our needs according to His great riches in Glory (Phil. 4:19).

Will all this *really* happen? It is in God's Word, and it's God's promise so it *will* happen because He said it! ... Is it wrong to think about Heaven? ... No, not at all, for if you were planning to move to the other side of the world, you would be making preparation. It is a great task moving to another country ... but this is a greater journey we are considering, so as the writer to the Hebrews counsels, **Heb. 4:11** [Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest](#)

Richard Baxter wrote, "There is nothing but Heaven worth setting our minds upon" ... Heaven is ahead of every believer, so keep ploughing onwards, **Phil. 1:6** [Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ ...](#) And yes, be assured of this, the Holy Spirit is preparing you, - believer, - for Heaven, just as the Lord Jesus is preparing Heaven for us ... That is how He told us to be looking forward to Glory, **Mt. 6:33** [seek ye first the kingdom of God](#) ... and it is bound to be that when we are *seeking* the final Kingdom we are also *thinking* about it! Heaven is our eternal inheritance, - the prepared place for God's prepared people.

There's a light upon the mountains,
and the day is at the spring,
When our eyes shall see the beauty
and the glory of the King;
Weary was our heart with waiting, and
the night-watch seemed so long,
But His triumph-day is breaking, and
we hail it with a song.