

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Billy Box

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery
Servers - Bradley Box
Josh Berryhill
Blake Eddy

Closing Prayer: Ralph Burleson

Preparing the Lord's Supper Mary Eddy

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

David Key / Billy Box

Eddie Dickinson

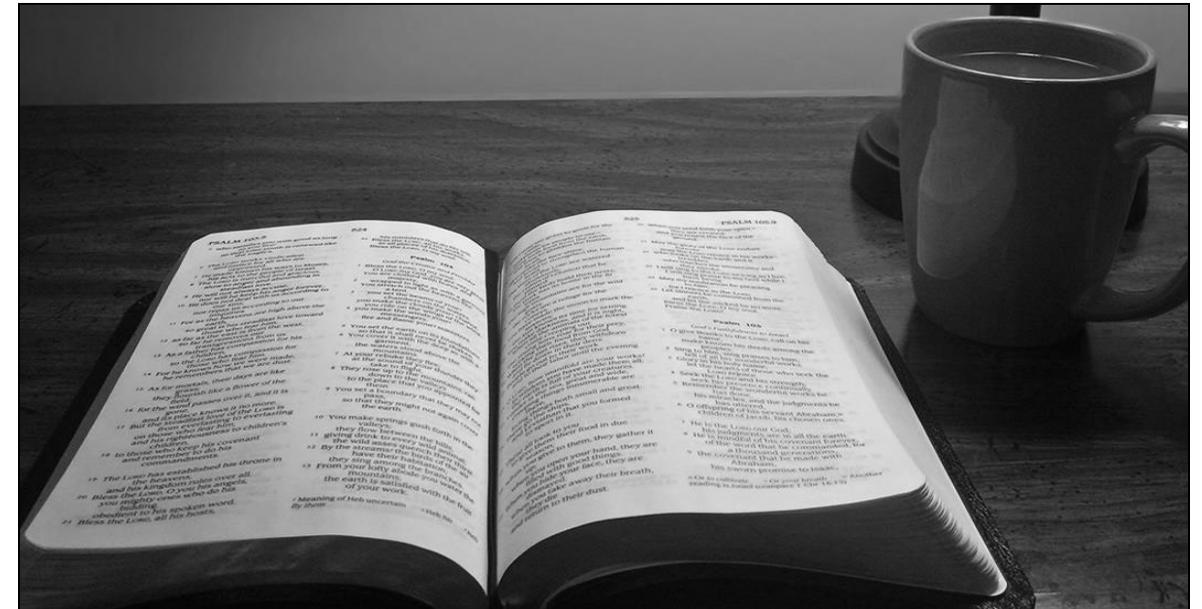
Minister: Greg Lowery

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What Does The Future Hold?



The Brilliant Beacon



Who Is Going to Heaven?

By Royce Pendergrass

“You are the ones who think you are the only ones going to Heaven.” All members of the Lord’s church have probably been accused of that at one time or another. Faithful Christians do have the expectation of entering that heavenly home. Let’s look at some of God’s teachings on the subject of heaven and that eternal peaceful rest.

We read in John 3:16, “God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” It is an elemental fact that to have eternal life one must believe in the Savior. God loved His creation enough that He sent His Son to be sacrificed and to shed the blood that could take away “the sins of the whole world” (1 John 2:2).

Jesus Himself came to earth, teaching about the fate that would come to all men. To the faithful He said, “Come, you blessed of My Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” To the unfaithful He said, “These shall go away into everlasting punishment” (Matthew 25:34ff). From the beginning, God has taught that the faithful will be rewarded and the unfaithful will be punished. That’s what most parents teach their children as they begin to learn and to understand what is expected of them. It’s really a simple teaching. The offspring must decide whether they want to be rewarded or punished and act accordingly.

Jesus taught this same lesson by saying, “He that reaps receives wages and gathers fruit to life eternal” (John 4:36). Farming was familiar with all to whom He spoke, and they all understood that in order to receive their wages they had to reap the harvest. He was speaking of the hard work they had to do to be paid and telling them that His faithful also must do some hard work to receive the fruit of eternal life. Those who want to go to heaven must pay the price while here on this earth. There will be no second chance. The faithful must “gather fruit to life eternal.”

Jesus also taught, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: And I give them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand” (John 10:27-28). He taught a lesson here that was so easy for His listeners to relate to themselves because they knew about shepherds and their sheep. Those who know the Master’s voice and heed it will be rewarded with eternal life with Him.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Lannie & Glenda Key: be praying for both of them during this difficult time

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Sister} is in the nursing home in Guin, pray for her she has some ongoing health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Angie Ganey Gardner: fighting against breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Guy Weeks: is undergoing cancer treatments, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Maddie Bishop (young girl South Haleyville) diagnosed with stage 4 Ewing sarcoma, please pray for her and her family and that treatments can defeat this cancer

Billy Lee {Carolyn’s Brother} he is in renal failure, is at the nursing home in Guin, please be praying for him and the staff caring for him

Danny Berryhill: diagnosed with thickness of the heart, please be praying that doctors can successfully help him with this problem

Bill Berryhill: latest test showed that his PSA was lower, treatments seem to be working, continued prayers for this good progress

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Timmy Weeks: recovering from shoulder replacement surgery, let us be praying that he has a successful recovery

Mason Estes: he is need of a liver transplant; please be keeping him and his family in your prayers

Judy Barker (David Barker’s Mother): she had been diagnosed with bone and lung cancer; please keep her and her family in your prayers

Kristi White: diagnosed with cancer affecting her esophagus, stomach and other areas taking treatments at MD Anderson, please pray this cancer will be defeated

Austin Carter (Travis Garrison’s Nephew): scans found a mass on his thyroid, please be praying that this does not turn out to be a serious problem

Hugh Martin: he is dealing with a broken hip and some other ongoing health problems, please pray that he will get strong enough for surgery

Deborah Pollard: she is dealing with cancer, please be praying that this cancer is treatable and that it can be defeated

Van Roberts: has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer can be defeated

D.W. Jones (Mary’s brother): had hip replacement surgery, please pray that he has a good recovery

One... asked Him ‘Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? Jesus said to him, “...You know the commandments: do not commit adultery, do not kill; do not steal, do not bear false witness, defraud not, honor your father and mother” and he answered and said, “Master I have observed all these from my youth.” Jesus, beholding him, loved him and said, “One thing you lack: go your way and sell what you have and give to the poor and you shall have treasure in heaven: and come, take up your cross and follow Me.” (Mark 10:17-21)

From this, we understand without a doubt that there is more required of the faithful than just refraining from sinful activity. The faithful must not be so attached to their earthly belongings that they become an obstacle to reaching the heavenly home. Jesus was not attached to earthly things, and the faithful must “follow in His steps” (1 Peter 2:21).

Can anyone have assurance of a heavenly home when this physical life is over? Who is going to heaven? Just being a member of any “church” will not grant entry into heaven. Only those who honor Jesus as Lord of their lives, hear, believe and obey the Word of God will enter heaven. This includes to repent of sins, to confess Jesus as Lord, to be baptized for the remission of sins and then to live a faithful, active Christian life. Those who do so will enter heaven. May God bless you in your efforts to reach that heavenly home!

Obtained at: www.gospelgazette.com

We Read of a Place Called Heaven

By Rodney Nulph

“We read of a place that’s called heaven, it’s made for the pure and the free; these truths in God’s Word He has given, How beautiful heaven must be.” “This world is not my home, I’m just a passing through, my treasures are laid up, somewhere beyond the blue, the angels beckon me from heaven’s open door, and I can’t feel at home in this world anymore.” What wonderful songs we sing about heaven, which bring radiant joy to our hearts as we live upon this earth. I love to think and to meditate on heaven and the glory that one day we shall behold. When I think about heaven, it reminds me how badly I desire to go home! Truly, how beautiful heaven must be! Heaven has been the hope of believers in all ages. Righteous Abraham looked forward to heaven (cf. Hebrews 11:10), and Moses of the long ago also groped for the beauties therein (cf. Hebrews 11:26). Like the righteous of old, we too look forward to heaven! What can we know about this wonderful place to which we look forward? What does the Bible have to say about our eternal dwelling place?

In the first place, the Bible gives us the Promise of Heaven. Heaven is an eternal dwelling place that is promised to those who are faithful. Just prior to His ascension back to heaven, Jesus comfortingly assured the disciples, “...In my Father's house are many mansions...” (John 14:2a). Jesus gave a promise of which we can lay hold. The promise of heaven is dear to the redeemed of God! Paul believed in the promise of heaven as well (2 Corinthians 5:1). Because of this wonderful promise of heaven, we can encouragingly sing, “Earth holds no treasures but perish with using, however precious they be, yet there’s a country to which I am going, Heaven Holds All To Me!” What a Promise is ours!

In the second place, the Bible gives us the Picture of Heaven. Heaven is so wonderful, so unspeakable that God has chosen to describe its picture by telling us what is not there. We see in the picture of heaven a place of no sin (cf. Revelation 21:27). Sin has turned the world into a prison wherein mankind often serves as its inmates. However, there will be no sin in our eternal dwelling place; just think of a place of no sin, what a picture! We also see in the picture of heaven a place of no sorrow (cf. Revelation 21:4). We live in this world, which is full of sorrow, tears, death and heartache. However, there will be no sorrow, tears or death in our eternal dwelling place; just think of a place of no sorrow, what a picture!

In the third place, the Bible gives us the Populace of Heaven. The Bible affirms that the Godhead will be in our eternal dwelling place. Jesus in the Model Prayer affirmed that the Father is there (cf. Matthew 6:9b). Peter affirmed that Jesus, “is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him” (1 Peter 3:22). Matthew confirmed that the Holy Spirit was in heaven, “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him” (Matthew 3:16). We will enjoy the sweet fellowship of the Godhead in our eternal home. There will also be obedient angels in our eternal dwelling place (cf. Matthew 18:10; Revelation 3:5). The populace will also include those who are born again, converted, children of God, whose names are written in the Book of Life (cf. Revelation 5:9; 21:27). As was said by Gospel preachers of long ago, “Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people!” God’s redeemed children will inhabit heaven for eternity! What a populace with which to enjoy the endless ages of eternity!

With the promise we have from inspiration of heaven, the beautiful picture the Bible paints of heaven and the wonderful populace therein, why would anyone want to miss heaven? Dear reader, share in the wonderful joys of the spectacular place called heaven by obeying the Gospel (cf. John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Matthew 10:32; Acts 2:38, et al.).

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