

HEAVEN WILL SURELY BE WORTH IT ALL

Int.

1. Aim: To show that all we must do to reach heaven will be worth all the effort.
2. Romans 8:18 **"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."**
 - a. The sufferings of this world are real and painful. Jn. 16:33
 - b. When compared to the glories of heaven they are not that bad.
 - c. Heaven will surely be worth it all
3. I want to go to heaven, and I don't want to go alone. I want to help others enter the Narrow gate
4. At times it is difficult to keep ourselves motivated in the Lord's service.
 - a. We all face times when our zeal does not burn as hotly as it should.
 - b. At times we take our eyes off the goal.
5. We must constantly focus our attention on the goal.
 - a. Phil. 3:13-14 look forward! **"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."**
 - b. Thoughts of heaven can help us maintain self-discipline & self- motivation and remind us that....
6. **HEAVEN WILL SURELY BE WORTH IT ALL.....**

Discussion

I. ...BECAUSE IT IS THE WONDERFUL CITY OF GOD'S ABODE.

Many verses in Revelation describe the beautiful place called heaven. Notice that it is...

A. A wonderful, happy city!

1. **God dwells there among the redeemed of all ages.** (21:1-3)
 - a. We will be in very presence of God; see Him face to face.
 - b. This is where we have sent our prayers; see the great throne.
 - c. I imagine the presence of God!
 - (1) Here we struggle to comprehend "God", in heaven the struggle is over.
 - (2) If seeing God doesn't excite you, then please take a close look at your relationship with Him!
2. **No more tears, death, sorrow, crying, or pain** (21:4)
 - a. Cause of all these removed.
 - b. Rev. 7:13-17
 - c. Exciting isn't it! No canes or wheelchairs. No more medicine. No doctors or hospitals, because we will not be sick. There will be no funeral homes or cemeteries.
3. The heavy burdens we bear in this life, burdens so heavy that almost make us fall, will all vanish when we hear our blessed Lord welcome us home.

4. Heaven will surely be worth it all.

B. No sin - God and Lamb are the light (21:23-27)

1. God is the light of Heaven. No night - God is always present.
2. No need for Gates or alarm systems. No need for protection - no enemies
3. Nothing to spoil; sin turns man against man, but no sin in heaven.
4. Heaven will surely be worth it all ...

II. BECAUSE OUR BATTLE WITH TEMPTATION AND SIN WILL HAVE BEEN WON

A. Our earthly existence is a constant battle:

1. Must be watchful of Satan and his many disguises (2 Cor. 11:14). **"And no marvel: for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."**
2. Be careful not to fall into his snare (2 Tim. 2:26). **"And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."**
3. There is never a time to let our guard down.
4. Eph. 6:11 **"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil"** = TRICKERY

B. All the things of the world we lust after will pass away (1 John 2:16-17).

1. Heaven can't be ours if we spend this life pursuing the physical.
2. We will have no more temptations to sin.

C. The flesh, the cause of our lusts, will be put off - 1 John 3:2; 1 Cor. 15:51-54

1. Without flesh no temptation in heaven.
2. What a wonderful blessing.

D. With heaven as our goal, let us not grow weary of fighting the good fight!

1. Gal. 6:7-9
2. James 5:7-8
3. We will reap the promised harvest! - Heaven is surely worth it all!

III. ... BECAUSE OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF ITS INHABITANTS.

A. Enoch (Gen. 5:24), Elijah (2 Kings 2:11), Stephen (Acts 7:60), will be in heaven.

B. Not these alone, but all who obey the Lord.

1. 2 Tim. 4:7-8 Heb. 5:9
2. Finally see the giants of faith - talk with Moses, Noah, Sarah, Deborah, Timothy, Barnabas, Mary the mother of Jesus, and Paul.
3. Those who laid spiritual foundation for our life - (perhaps Mothers, Fathers, Grandparents, elders, friends, etc.) Great to embrace them once again!

C. Jesus will be there (Acts 1:9)

D. When our voices join with those of Moses, Enoch, Stephen, Paul, and the nameless thousands who have faithfully served the Lord, we can confidently proclaim - Heaven is surely worth it all!

IV. WORTH ALL THE INVESTMENTS

A. Time

1. Think of all the time you have used in learning the Bible
 - a. Studied to become a Christian - Rom. 10:17
 - b. Continued to study all through the years - 2 Tim. 2:15
 - c. Bible classes you have attended - some study in preparation

2. Time used in teaching others the Bible
 - a. Mark 16:15-16 - command to go teach others
 - b. I I Tim. 2:2
 3. Time in worship to God
 - a. Heb. 10:25
 - b. You realize the importance of being in attendance at all the services
 - c. It is not an inconvenience but a joy to worship God
 - d. If you are regular in attendance at all the services then you spend at least 4 hours a week = 208 hours a year + travel time + time getting ready
 - e. In addition to this count the number of hours for VBS, Meetings, singings, visiting other congregations
 4. Time in helping other people
 - a. Visiting the sick, shut-ins, bereaved, and discouraged
 - b. Doing good deeds to help others takes time
 5. But heaven will be worth it all
- B. Money invested
1. Contributions
 - a. Give as we have been prospered - 1 Cor. 16:1-2
 - b. If you have given more than 10% of your income and have been doing this for years, then you have given a large sum of money
 - c. Special contributions for mission work, special needs
 2. Takes money to attend the services
 - a. Gas money
 - b. Clothing - because you consider this important and you dress for the occasion

3. Spend money helping others - food, clothing - gas money to go
- C. All the money and time used in the cause of Christ is worth it all because Heaven is worth all that we may ever do to reach that place.

V. SUFFERING FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST

A. Some persecutions

1. All that live godly I Tim. 3:12 **"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."**
2. We have persecutions - small in comparison to Paul and some others
 - a. Ridicule
 - b. Excluded from certain things because we are Christians

B. Heaven will be worth it all

VI. SACRIFICES WE MAKE

A. Give up all the pleasures of sin - Heb. 11:25

1. We watch our language - control our tongue
2. Christians dress in a different way - to cover the shame of our nakedness
3. Certain activities in which we are not involved

B. We could use our time and money for all the worldly things of life.

1. Spend our time in sin and evil
2. Spend our money for worldly and fleshly activities

C. But we have decided that we will not do this because we know about heaven.

Conclusion

1. 2 Cor. 5:10 **"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."**
2. Brethren, we cannot blend with the world and go to heaven. The road to heaven is free for all, but not traveled without a price. That price may cost you friends, position, money and other material things. This may seem great in this life on earth, but as the hymn reads, "Heaven will surely be worth it all."
3. I want to go to heaven, and I'm sure you do as well.
 - a. Soon, we'll be going home. Some day soon we will draw our last breath and our heart will beat for one last time. That time is closer than ever before.
 - b. Soon we'll be going home - that heavenly home.
 - c. In this life we cannot fully grasp the extent of the joy and amazement of seeing our Lord face to face, laying our burdens down, resting from our labors, basking in the interrupted glory of His love.
4. Heaven will surely be worth it all!

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