

REASONS WHY I WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN

- A. When polled, approximately 80% of the American public expressed a desire to go to Heaven.
- B. Tragically, to some Heaven is not real—on par with Roman or Greek mythology.
- C. The Bible has proven itself reliable in numerous ways.
- D. It is the product of or was inspired by God (2 Tim.3:16).
- E. It is inerrant—meaning that it contains no errors (John 8:31-32; 17:17).
- F. It is indestructible—meaning that it cannot be destroyed (Matt.24:35; John 10:35).
- G. It provides man completely with guidance in matters of righteousness (2 Tim.3:17).
- H. It is scientifically accurate—revealing that our universe is the product of the Almighty (Gen.1:1ff).
- I. It is morally accurate—revealing that life is sacred and serves a supreme purpose (Gen.4:10; 9:5-6; Ecc.12:13); too, it reveals that evil and good exist and that each has a reward (2 Cor.5:10).
- J. It is theologically accurate—revealing that there is just one God and one way in which to worship and two eternal destinies as the result of our religious beliefs (Acts 17; Matt.25).
- K. Knowing then, that we have the power of choice concerning our souls' eternal destinies, we should strive hard to make Heaven our eternal home for many reasons revealed in the Scriptures.
- L. There is a song entitled, "Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All;" yes, all men should desire to go to Heaven because it will be a place of...

I. MORTGAGE/RENT AND DEBT-FREE

- A. Christ is presently preparing Heaven for our arrival (John 14:1-6).
- B. When God created the earth and all of its inhabitants, He did so perfectly.
- C. His plan to redeem fallen man was perfect in its nature.
- D. When He produced the church, it was perfectly created.
- E. Therefore, when He promised to prepare for us a place, it will be perfectly suited for our habitation.
- F. Many in America are losing their homes. Some of these foreclosures are the results of poor financial choices.
- G. Many Americans are "swimming in debt."
- H. Heaven will be home only to those who properly prepared themselves by having their paperwork in order.
- I. Thankfully, Heaven will be...

II. WORRY-FREE

- A. Worry is one man's greatest enemies.
- B. Worry is in direct conflict with faith (Matt.6:24-34; 8:23-27).
- C. Worry does not exhibit proper Christian living (Php.4:4-9).
- D. We human worry over many things that are beyond our control.
- E. However, Heaven will be free of all the concerns associated with this life.

III. CONFLICT-FREE

- A. That conflicts will occur in our lives is inevitable.
- B. Conflicts often occur because of misunderstandings or misinterpretations of things said or done.
- C. Since man is limited in his ability to read the heart of others he often come to untrue or incomplete conclusions regarding various matters.
- D. Has anyone ever told you, "I know what you were thinking"?
- E. God has provided us multiple instructions relative to these matters
- F. Conflicts come in many "shades":
 - 1. There are person-to-person conflicts—when one person has a disagreement with another (Matt.5:21-26; 38-48; 7:1-5; 18:15-18; 1 Cor. 6). This matter could be doctrinal in nature; or, it could be over personal opinions (Acts 15:36-39; Php.4:2).
 - 2. There are congregational conflicts.
 - a. Sometimes these occur when some in the congregation have been or are perceived as being neglected or mistreated (Acts 6:1).

- b. Sometimes these occur when brethren have misplaced loyalty for mere men (1 Cor.1:10-13; 3:1-4).
- c. **VITAL:** Notice how much the house of Chloe cared about the spiritual well-being of the church (1 Cor.1:11). Chloe's house (A) **recognized** the ungodly behavior; (B) **refused** to be a partaker of it; (C) **reported** it to a spiritually minded, unbiased person.
- d. Sometimes these occur when a brother or sister or a group of brethren possess a prideful spirit (Acts 5; 3 John 9-11). "Prating" means to "talk much and foolishly."

3. There are spiritual conflicts (Acts 4:1-21; 5:22-42; 6:8-15; 15TH; Rom.16:17).

G. God has instructed us to pursue and pray for peace (Matt.5:9; Acts 10:36; Rom.12:18; Heb.12:14).

H. Truly, Heaven will be conflict-free.

III. SATAN-FREE

A. Satan is deceptively intelligent (Gen.3; Matt.4; 2 Cor.11:3).

B. Satan is capable of disguising himself (2 Cor.11:14).

C. Satan can reach us here on earth (Matt.16:23; Mark 14:10-11; Luke 22:3, 31-32; John 8:39-45; 1Pet.5:8).

D. Satan seeks opportunities to assist us in self-destructive behavior (1 Kng.22; 2 Kng.17:17; Luke 22:3, 31-32; 2 Thes.2:1-11).

E. Satan is doomed (Jude 6; Matt.25:41).

F. Satan, the old serpent, the deceiver, will be cast into the lake of fire (Rev.20:1:1-3, 10).

G. Yes, Heaven will be free of the diabolical ruler of this world.

IV. TEMPTATION-FREE

A. When we obeyed the Gospel, we entered a race—the race for our lives.

B. Man's greatest challenge is temptation, lust, pride, etc. (1 John 2:15-17).

C. Man is surrounded by so many things that can call away his attention from God.

D. Man often succumbs to his unlawful desires (Jms.1:12-16).

E. In response, God has provided man with a program to keep him strong and which allows to him to be victorious.

1. He has been provided the rules regarding the race (1 Cor.9:24-27).

2. He has been provided a guide for mental preparation (Php.4:8).

3. He has been provided a fail-proof exercise routine (1 Tim.4:6-8).

4. He has been provided a diet plan (Psm.34:8; John 6:22, 26-27; Heb.6:4-5; 12:1; 1 Pet.2:3).

5. He has been provided a plan for endurance (Heb.12:1).

6. He has been provided a Coach perfectly suited for leading him (Heb.12:2).

7. He has been provided the reward for winning the race (1Cor.9:25; Jms.1:12; Rev.2:10; 7:9-14).

V. PAIN, SORROW, DEATH, AND TEAR-FREE

A. Revelation 21:1-7 attempts to convey to us through human language how beautiful Haven will be.

B. Every emotion God possesses we humans possess.

C. Deity experiences sorrow over sin (Gen.6:5); Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be acquainted with sorrow (Isa.53:3).

D. We humans likewise experience sorrow (Rom.9:1-3; Php.2:26-28).

E. Some of us live with constant pain; this is why pain killer medicines result in billions of dollars of annual sales.

F. Death has been and continues to be man's greatest fear.

G. To many, death is final, the end.

H. Tragically, far too many do not make the proper preparation for death.

I. Before Lazarus was brought back from the grave, his sisters knew that death was not the end (John 11:17ff).

- J. One of Christ's greatest feats was overcoming and demolishing the fear of death (Acts 2:24; Heb2:9, 14-15).
- K. Unlike the world, we should welcome death, knowing what awaits us on the other side (Luke 23:43).
- L. Concerning the "new heaven and new earth," there are several views:
 - 1. KEY: Remember that the book of Revelation uses a great amount of figurative language.
 - 2. This is a description of Heaven, the glorious home of the soul after the Judgment.
 - 3. These verses represent the victorious church while still on earth which overcame the trials previously before it.
 - 4. When one looks at the order of events or visions from Revelation 12 forward, he should be able to recognize the logical conclusion as revealed in chapters 21-22—the victorious church at home resting with God.
 - 5. God used similar language in pronouncing a passing away of the Jewish faith or L.O.M. (Isa.51:1-6).
 - 6. "Zion" is a term used to describe the church (Isa.51:16; Heb.12:22-23).
 - 7. Jerusalem and Israel are used to describe the church (Gal.4:24-26 & 6:16).
 - 8. God employed similar language in the O.T. to pronounce the coming of the Christian age (Isa.65:17-25).
 - 9. "Holy mountain" is a reference to the church (Isa.2:1-3 & 65:25).
 - 10. Peter and John foretold the passing away of the present heaven and earth after the Judgment (2 Pet.3:7-13; Rev.20:11-21:7).
 - 11. "New" means new in kind, superior to that which preceded it.
 - 12. This is the city for which the patriarchs sought, the heavenly Jerusalem (Heb.11:10).
 - 13. We too must seek the "continuing city" that is to come (Heb13:14).
 - 14. The tabernacle is where God's presence dwelt with man (Exd.40:16-34; Heb.8:2 & 9:11). Christ dwelt or "tabernacled" with man (John 1:14).
 - 15. We will drink from the fountain of life (John 4:10 & 7:37).

CONCLUSION

- A. Heaven is in view for those who love their souls.
- B. The beauty and grandeur of Heaven cannot be adequately described by mere words.
- C. Dear saint, think of all that God has offered us if we remain faithful unto death!!!!