

Why I Want To Go To Heaven

Introduction: I'd like to share one of my wants with you this morning/evening. (Not only what I want, but also WHY I want it.) "I Want To Go To Heaven!" Ultimately we're all headed to one of two places, Heaven or Hell - Either eternal punishment or eternal life. (Matt. 25:46) We will either raise our eyes in comfort or torment. (Lk 16:19-31)

I. Heaven And Hell

A. It's like this; whatever happens at death, one thing is for sure, we will all face eternity. (Ph 2:10-11; cf. Rom 14:11) Another surety the Bible teaches is that all will answer for their deeds. (Rom 2:4-9; cf. I Peter 1:17)

B. Fear of Hell shouldn't be the only reason why we want to go to heaven either. Of course, it should be one of the reasons. (Matt 8:12; 22:13; 25:30) (Matt. 25:41; Mk 9:43-44; Jn 15:6)

C. In contrast heaven is prepared for us. (Jn 14:2) This world isn't my home and I don't plan on being here forever. Have you ever moved to a new house, or city? At first it doesn't feel like "home." After a while it begins to feel more comfortable. (Ps 84:2) You've heard it said, "Home is where the heart is." Well, many only have their hearts focused on the here and now. (Matt. 6:20-21) Our citizenship is not in this world. (Jn 15:19)

II. My Heavenly Home

A. If my home is in Heaven, where's my family? Most of us like to see our families, especially after we've been away for a long time. If you are a Christian, then your family is God, Christ, and your fellow saints. (cf. Matt. 10:35-37; Matt. 12:46-50) Shouldn't there be some yearning to be with them?

1. Shouldn't we want to be where God is? (Matt 5:16; 5:45; 6:1)
2. Christ is? (Ph 1:23-24; Jn 14:2-3)
3. Our fellow saints? (I Thess. 4:17)

B. Just like getting home after a long day at work or school, it's our place of rest and comfort. (Heb 4:9-11; Rev 14:1; Isa 65:17; Rev. 7:17; 21:4; I Cor 15:42-44; Rev 2:7; 1 Cor 15:52; Rev. 21:4)

1. These blessings are conditioned upon laboring. One must logically be doing something before they can rest from it.

C. The alternative (hell) is clearly for those who are not part of God's adoptive family. And if not part of God's family, not living with God, Christ, and His saints in eternity. Not living in His home then no place of comfort or rest. (cf. Rev 14:11)

Conclusion: Why share this "want" with you today, because another want of mine is for you to share it with me. How sad to think those we know here won't be there. No comfort no peace no joy.

Struggle through life only to have more pain and anguish. Well, that doesn't have to be the case. There is a choice and you and I can fulfill that desire together.