

When We All Get to Heaven

September 20, 2018



From my childhood of attending church there is an old song that I hear periodically that always makes me smile. This cool morning, sun shining, skies blue, that old song played on the Christian radio station, WFRN, made me look to the sky and immediately think of loved ones and friends who are waiting there to greet us once again. My smile was due to a full heart of praise.

"When we all get to Heaven" written in 1898 by author Eliza Edmunds Hewitt stirs the hearts of Christian believers with an almost homesick feeling. Someday, when our work is finished here on earth, we too will take our place, a place prepared for us by none other than Jesus Christ Himself. (See the words of Jesus in John 14:1-4)

"Let not your heart be troubled, you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know."

It seems more than interesting to me that a majority of people even in many churches have such a misunderstanding of Heaven. After all, our focus is usually so horizontally prone that we only seem to look up when we are in distress. It is then that one might be heard to say, *"Dear God, please just take me home and get me out of here!"*

In his book, *"HEAVEN"*, author Randy Alcorn recalls what Jonathan Edwards, the Puritan preacher from the early 1700's said concerning Heaven:

"It becomes us to spend this life only as a journey toward heaven ... to which we should subordinate all other concerns of life. Why should we labor for or set our hearts on anything else, but that which is our proper end and true happiness."

Unfortunately, some people may have a view of Heaven that is not too appealing. There is one line of thought that seems utterly boring, such as sitting around on a white, puffy cloud all day, strumming on a little gold harp. Or, maybe the thought that it is one continuous church service with song after song after song.

According to a poll by a Barna Research Group, *"An overwhelming majority of Americans continue to believe that there is life after death and that heaven and hell exist."*

Heaven, according to the words of Jesus as recorded in John 14 is a place of peace, a place filled with many mansions, and all being prepared by the Creator Himself. It is a place our imaginations can never comprehend but will certainly have none of the issues of an earth that fell with the original sin. It will be back to fulfilling the words from Genesis, *"It is good!"*

To get to Heaven? You cannot purchase a ticket on the next flight. Actually, the price of admittance into Heaven was paid for already by Jesus. It is freely given to those who ask. You just need to receive that free gift. But, how do I ask? Thank you for asking that question. I will let Jesus answer that question.

"Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Friend, no matter where you are, no matter where you have been, no matter what you have done, the price has been paid. It was paid for when Jesus died on the cross and then rose again. Jesus now sits at the right hand of God, His Father, praying for you right now.

I pray that you will hear God calling for you to come out from the darkness and into His eternal life.