Heaven is Where I Want to Be!

What will heaven be like?

Heaven will be a place of rest (2 Thessalonians 1:7; Hebrews 3-4; Revelation 14:13), comfort (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 2 Thessalonians 2:16), rejoicing (1 Thessalonians 5:16), singing (Revelation 5:9), and peace (1 Thessalonians 5:23). There will be no death, sorrow, heart aches, disease, sickness, pain, tears, hunger or thirst in heaven (Revelation 21:3-4). The heavenly city (new Jerusalem) will be a place of total perfection as represented by the term “foursquare” (Revelation 21:1-2, 16). The word “foursquare” (Greek - tetragonos) means “a square with four equal angles; metaph. Square, i.e., perfect” (LS 802). “Shaped like a cube of a tremendous rock” (AG 813). If one furlong equals 1/8 of a mile, the city was 1,500 miles in each direction, making an enormous perfect cube (Revelation 21:16). Interestingly, the most holy place in Solomon’s temple was a perfect cube (cf. 1 Kings 6:14-20). The language is figurative and simply indicates the perfect nature of heaven. The inhabitants shall continually drink of the water of life and eat of the tree of life (Revelation 22:1-5).

Who will be in Heaven?

There will be no sin or sinners in heaven. The residence of heaven will all have been forgiven of their sins through a spirit of humility while living in this earth (Revelation 21:23-27; Matthew 5:2-3; Isaiah 57:15; Lamentations 5:16,17, 21). Those who experience heaven will be those who exercised an obedient faith while living in this earth (Revelation 14:13; 2 Thessalonians 1:7; Hebrews 3-4). God’s eternal rest is contingent upon one’s obedience to His commands (Hebrews 3:12, 16-18; 4:1, 9-10). To obey is to truly
believe and to live in disobedience is to display a spirit of unbelief (cf. John 3:16, 36; 5:38; Acts 14:1-2; Hebrews 3:18-19).

What will We be like in Heaven?

We will be clothed with immortality (2 Corinthians 5:2). There will be a change that takes place in our resurrected bodies (1 Corinthians 15:51-56). We will be as the Lord who created us and we shall see Him (1 John 3:1-3). The faithful will be crowned with glory (Revelation 2:10) and wear their eternal robes of white (Revelation 3:5).

When will the Saints be in Heaven?

Jesus said, “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only” (Matthew 24:36). When the Lord does come again to bring His saints home to glory there will be very specific events occur. First, the Lord will come to the earth to claim His own (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). The end shall then come (1 Corinthians 15:24-28). Jesus will judge humanity. The Lord will condemn to hell those who lived as un-repenting sinners and there shall they ever be with the devil and his angels (2 Thessalonians 1:7-12; Revelation 20:10-15). The earth that we now live in will be burned up (2 Peter 3:10-13). Finally, the new heavenly Jerusalem shall descend wherein the righteous shall live for eternity (Revelation 21:1-3).

Where will you spend your eternity?

John C Robertson

"Why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name"

Acts 22:16
Maintaining Your Salvation

Bible Correspondence Course # 8

Introduction:

The apostle Paul wrote, "Faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire that thou affirm confidently to the end that they who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men" (Titus 3:8). To “maintain” (Greek - proistemi) means “to undertake resolutely, to practice diligently, to maintain the practice of” (Moulton 344). What is the Christian to “practice diligently?” Paul states that it is “good works” that the Christian is to resolutely undertake and practice diligently. Many religious minded people reject the idea of faithful obedience; however, the Bible tells us otherwise. This lesson shall examine the Christian's life of obedience as revealed in God's word.

I. Misunderstanding of God's Word:
   A. Denominational bodies misunderstand "works" of Paul and James.
   B. "Truth" verses "core gospel."
   C. Calvinism destructive to truth.

II. Remember God's Demand for Man's Perfection:
   A. We are to be as God in this world (Matthew 5:48; 1 John 4:17 etc).
   C. No man is to go "onward" (2 John 9-11)

III. Maintaining Your Salvation:
   A. Giving diligence (2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Peter 1:5-10) because we have not made it to heaven yet (see Hebrews 3-4).
   B. Let us daily walk as God would have us (Ephesians 4:1-4):
      1. Live "soberly and righteously in this present world" (Titus 2:11).
      2. Bear fruit (John 15:1-10).
      3. Forsake worldliness (1 John 2:15-17).
      4. Preach to the lost (1 Corinthians 4:16-17) and edify the saints (Hebrews 10:24-26).
      5. Faithful till death (Revelation 2:10).

Conclusion:

The Christian that will inherit a heavenly home will be the man or woman who humbly approaches service to God in obedience. Such a one lives with purpose. I will make it to heaven and I will give diligence in this life.