

Heaven

(John 14:1-6)

Introduction:

1. (John 14-16) Jesus spoke to His disciples for the purpose of comforting them.
2. As Jesus endeavored to comfort His disciples, He spoke about a number of subjects.
3. He began by talking about "heaven" -- the subject we are studying.
4. As we consider what the Bible teaches about heaven, we see that it is to be a matter of utmost importance to Christians.
 - a. (Matthew 6:19-21) Heaven is where we are to lay up treasures.
 - b. (Philippians 3:20) Our "conversation" [citizenship] is in heaven.
 - c. (Colossians 1:5) Our hope is laid up in heaven.
 - d. (1 Peter 1:3-4) Our inheritance is reserved in heaven.
5. From John 14:1-6 we are pointing out that:
 - a. heaven is God's dwelling place
 - b. heaven is a prepared place
 - c. heaven will be the eternal home of the Lord's followers.
6. Before we study these main points let us first be reminded of . . .

Discussion:

- I. SEVERAL EVENTS THAT WILL OCCUR BEFORE THE LORD BLESSES HIS FOLLOWERS WITH A HOME IN HEAVEN
 - A. No one knows when, but one day Jesus is going to return (2 Peter 3:10a).
 - B. (2 Peter 3:10b) When the Lord returns, everything will be destroyed.
 - C. The resurrection will occur (John 5:28-29a).
 - D. After the resurrection, judgment will take place (2 Corinthians 5:10).
 - E. At the judgment, the Lord's faithful followers will be blessed with a home in heaven (Matthew 25:34).
 - F. With this information before us we are ready to point out that . . .
- II. HEAVEN IS GOD'S DWELLING PLACE
 - A. (John 14:2) Jesus said that heaven is the "Father's house" (Matthew 6:9 -- *"Our Father which art in heaven"*).
 - B. This should surely motivate us to want to go to heaven, but there is something else that we must consider.
 1. Since heaven is God's dwelling place, we know that it will never end because God is eternal.
 2. (Matthew 25:46) Jesus referred to heaven as *"life eternal."*

3. (Revelation 22:5) Those who are blessed with a home in heaven will *"reign for ever and ever."*

C. Not only is it God's dwelling place, but . . .

III. HEAVEN IS A PREPARED PLACE

A. (John 14:3) Jesus said He was going there to prepare a place for His followers.

B. Heaven will be prepared in such a way that certain things will not be there (Revelation 21:4, 22, 23, 25, 27a).

C. However, heaven will be prepared in such a way that certain things will be there (Revelation 22:1, 2; 14:13).

D. In addition to being a place prepared by Christ, . . .

IV. HEAVEN WILL BE THE ETERNAL HOME OF THE LORD'S FOLLOWERS

A. (John 14:3) Jesus said to His disciples, *"I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."*

B. To get to heaven we must go through Christ (John 14:6).

C. According to Revelation 21:24, only the saved will be in heaven.

1. To be saved a person must obey the Gospel (Mark 16:16).

2. After being saved we must remain faithful to the Lord (Revelation 2:10).

D. This is the Lord's will, and only those who obey Him through faith will find eternal life in heaven (Matthew 7:13-14).

Conclusion:

1. If your life ended right now, where would you spend eternity?
2. What a shame it would be to miss the beauty and grandeur of heaven.