

# HEAVEN

## THE GREAT ADVENTURE

RANDALL J. BREWER



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## Book Recommendations for “Heaven: the Great Adventure”

“Blessings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ for touching base with us . Thanks for sending your encouraging teaching about heaven.

May there be a heavy anointing, healings as you minister through these teachings. God will make sure that you accomplish the work He has set apart for you . May today be all you need it to be. May the Peace of God and the freshness of the Holy Spirit rest in your thoughts, rule in your dreams tonight, and conquer all your fears. May God manifest himself today in ways you have never experienced.

May your joy be fulfilled, your dreams be closer, and your prayers be answered. I pray that faith enters a new height for you; I pray that your territory is enlarged. I pray for peace, healing, comfort, endurance, happiness, godliness, joy, true and undying love for God .Prayer is our greatest investment of time.

It is all about Him,”

*Wambeye & Loice*

*The Kingdom Foundation Christian Centre,*

“This is one book that help me to accept myself for who I am because I am special in God’s eyes and that I can make a difference in someone’s life. It also presents varied awesome practical lessons portrayed behind every Bible character the writer quoted that give encouragement to a struggling soul to know God’s will for his life. This is one book that you should not let go.”

*Nolim Lukas, Sabah,  
Malaysia*

“Thanks a lot Randall Brewer, To me you are more than a brother in Christ, you are a messenger sent by God because every time I need a special word/ encouragement I receive your mails. Your messages have been an inspirational to me, you are a father, a role model. Thank you for always being sensitive in the spirit and obeying the Holy Spirit to send the messages to me. May God lift you higher and may this gift of writing bring you before kings as you lift the lives of others.

God bless you.”

*Rosemary W. Mwangi, Mombasa, Kenya.*

I have been following Randy's writings for some time now and am impressed with his Bible knowledge. "Heaven: The Great Adventure" is especially motivational. It not only stimulates thought about what Heaven is going to be like, but specific instruction is provided regarding what God expects us to do while here on earth in preparation for an eternity with Him in Heaven. Every believer and non-believer needs to read this book."

*Owen Briles  
Retired scientist and business owner*

"Your story 'Heaven: The Great Adventure' did and still does a lot to and for me. God gave me Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. And your story does confirm all the good plans, an amazing future and hope we have in Him.

Thank you so much for living so close to God, Brother Randall and share the love, beauty, wisdom, knowledge etc. with us.

Thank you God all glory and honor be to You!"

*Johanna Parera  
Disciple of Jesus Christ The Kingdom of God  
Nijverdal, Overijssel, The Netherlands*

"Thank you Randall for your writings I have been reading and enjoying for years. Now for the editor who is to publish your wonderful writings: I have been reading Minister Randall Brewer's writing's for some years, and they impart much wisdom and knowledge to me, and it is astounding.

And I recommend Reverend Brewer's anointed writings to you and everyone who reads the books you publish. You have my permission to use my testimony."

*Pastor Scott Paris.  
The Bread Of Life Ministries,  
2037 Del Rio DR, Stockton, CA 95204-1620*

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It is with our great gratitude that they have shared with the world, for all generations, the visions and majesty God has shown them.

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## FOREWORD

# A COUNTRY WITHOUT BORDERS

**N**ow, I consider myself just an ordinary guy. I have similar tastes and wants, just like the next Believer. However, God had decided to show me some glimpses of heaven in recent years I had never dreamed of seeing, nor asked for, but I am very grateful to have seen.

On occasion, our Lord has basically said to me, “I want to show you something.” He then unfolds marvelous sights, sounds, and fragrances of Heaven that He believes I need see.

I’m of a generation that demands proof or validation of everything or everyone that wants my attention or needs my approval. Give me at least one solid reason to side with you, and I’m there. This is what God has done to grab my attention, but He instead has given me seven billion reasons to worship Him as Lord and Savior of mankind.

Then I read author Randall J. Brewer’s manuscript of heaven and it’s great adventure. Never have I envisioned heaven and all it’s amenities as described by Randall. I was resolved to wearing a white robe as a badge of honor for all eternity. But as Randall illustrates, in heaven my will shall become perfected and in complete alignment with God’s will. In Heaven, as one of the many kings of the King, I can do as I please, go where I want, perform as I want, because I will have God’s seal of approval in all I do.

To wear what pleases me from moment to moment; to live and create as God lives and creates; to operate as a son mimicking my Father; allowing Him to show me His reasoning and physics in why He does what He does; whose law of love will still apply in this universe we will dominate. This is only the tip of the iceberg in a forever unfolding eternity.

Randall proves to us that Heaven is a planet designed with four directions. It has a capital city with a ruling seat, therefore this is truly a country without borders.

Why would we want to live only for this life, which is as brief as vapor rising from a steaming pot. In this life, all the riches and treasures and pleasures will one day be destroyed by an eternal flame



that will consume this planet. All the gold, silver and wealth made by God and man will be devoured, never to be used or seen again.

In the ages to come, memory of all that was evil and those who served evil will be removed from us. Only the knowledge that evil was destroyed by the Word will remain.

Although Randall J. Brewer paints the most magnificent picture of Heaven and the possibilities limited only by each persons imagination, I would urge us to consider this: be conscience of the millions that will be left behind. If Heaven is such a great place that no one can conceive, isn't it worth the repeated effort to take as many citizens of Earth with us?

Many of us pray, "Lord come quickly, right now!" But our work on earth is still unfinished. How do we know that? The Lord calls us to occupy the planet until He returns. To occupy means to fulfill the will of the King. Militarily speaking, when a land or country is conquered, the conquering force is to remain, protecting the interests of the King. Today the interest of our King is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, calling a world to repentance and acceptance of Christ our Savior.

Just as Heaven is a real place, Judgment Day is a real event that will divide the nations of man into two categories: those who accepted Jesus, and those who rejected Him.

Do you know someone that could possibly be left behind? Don't they deserve the same opportunity you chose to make it to Heaven? Will you allow them to be lost in eternal torment?

Opportunity knocks on your door today to make that call to someone who desperately needs to hear about Heaven and it's endless wonders. Be determined to take them with you when the last Trumpet sounds. ...and don't forget to give them your copy of this book.

Paul Baker

Publisher and friend of Randall J. Brewer

# INTRODUCTION

by Randall J. Brewer

**B**ack in the 1970s, when I was born again, two books by Hal Lindsey got believers everywhere all stirred up, and their messages took the church by storm. *The Late Great Planet Earth* and *There's a New World Coming* familiarized us with the Book of Revelation and everything there was to know about end-time events. The Rapture was on everybody's mind.

We just knew that any minute now the angelic trumpet blast would sound and suddenly we'd all be blasting off this planet like exploding kernels of popcorn. Pop! Pop! Pop! Up, up, and away! The anticipation of this glorious event altered our lifestyles, and our expectation level was at an all-time high. We loved Jesus with all our heart and grew closer to Him than we've ever been before. It was wonderful!

To our surprise, the Rapture didn't happen then and before you knew it the 1980's rolled around. In truth, we really didn't mind, because the Word was being preached so powerfully that every day we were being ushered into the very throne room of God. It was as close to having Heaven on earth as it could possibly get. We were riding the wave of God's glory and we never wanted it to end.

Years passed, and as we approached 1988 widespread anticipation of the Rapture resurfaced. The Bible teaches that the return of the scattered Israelites to their homeland would mark the advent of the last generation to be born on Planet Earth prior to the Rapture. Israel became a nation in 1948, and people began to speculate that, with 40 years being the length of one generation, the Rapture would thus place in or near the year 1988. Books were once again being written about it, and expectation levels soared, as they had a decade before.

We got our lives in order as we prepared to meet the Lord face to face. People didn't seem to care that the Bible says no man knows the day or hour when the Lord will return. No, this *was* going to be the

year! Of course, we all know it didn't happen then either.

Time passed on, as it always does, and many people turned their attention away from this grand homecoming and began to focus on dealing with the trials and hardships of everyday life. Yes, they still loved Jesus, but their burdens drove them to give their attention to surviving the evil here and now, instead of focusing on the sweet by and by.

As all this was going on, a new generation of believers rose up. Unfortunately, the exciting news of the Rapture and end-time events was not being taught as in years past. Thankfully, there are many believers alive today, such as me, who remember what it was like back then and who never let their enthusiasm and expectation grow dim and cold. It is they whom God has commissioned to light the fire in the hearts of this new generation, as well as their elders, because yes indeed, Jesus is coming soon.

As a whole, people aren't looking for the Rapture to happen anytime soon. They figure it will get here when it gets here. Whatever will be will be. They've let their guard down, and the sad thing is their actions show it. Their attitude is let's eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die. What people don't realize is that, this is precisely when Jesus will come back for His people. When you least expect it He will split the eastern sky and call you home.

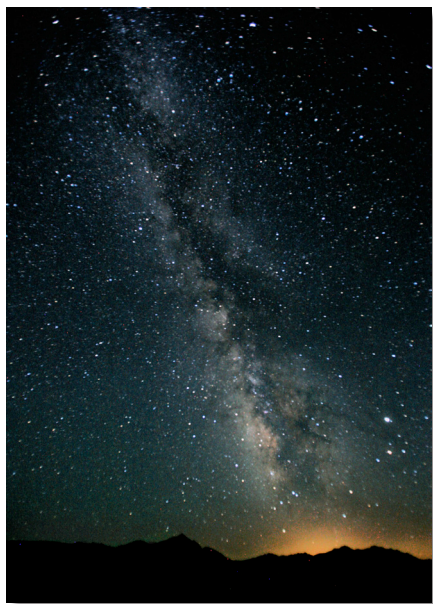
This book aspires to stir you and excite you, to light the fire of your expectation that, one day soon, you shall forever be with the Lord. Yes, soon, very soon, my friends, we are going to see the King. Look up, for Redemption draweth nigh!



## Chapter One

### Living the Extraordinary Lifestyle

Solomon wrote in Eccl. 3:1,2a, “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under Heaven : a time to be born, and a time to die.” The good news is that for the born-again believer death offers the possibility of great gain. Phil. 1:21 says, “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” Paul later said in verse 23 that “to depart and be with Christ” was “far better” than living in the flesh on Planet Earth. I like how the *Message Bible* puts it: “The desire to break camp here and be with Christ is powerful. Some days I can think of nothing better.”



level.

At this very moment, as you are reading these words, Jesus is preparing a special place for you that will offer you great gain. That place is Heaven. It has been said that next to the idea of God, the concept of Heaven is the greatest vision to enter into the heart of every man, woman, and child. This being so, then tell me, when was the last time you heard an exciting, thought provoking message about Heaven? A message so thrilling that it stirs you inside and causes your enthusiasm to soar to its highest

A message that makes your mouth water because it is so motivating that no longer is Heaven a place clouded in mystery, but in your heart becomes a reality to be grasped. A message that moved you to raise your hands and cry out with eager, heartfelt anticipation, “Come quickly, Lord Jesus.” How long has it been since you heard a message like that? Years? Yeah, me too. In fact, if I were a betting man, I would wager that the majority of you have never heard a message as compelling as the one you are about to read.

*Time*® magazine once said, “In today’s churches, let’s face it, Heaven is preserved like a bug in amber.” We can look at it, but it’s lifeless. Why is this so? Why doesn’t the idea of Heaven carry more weight in our everyday lives?

I can think of three reasons:

First of all, the only idea of Heaven most people have is childish and boring. Who wants to sit on a cloud and play a harp forever? Haven’t you been taught that this is what Heaven is like?

And let’s not forget those chubby little curly-haired baby angels with tiny wings flying around your head as you do so. The idea of doing this for all eternity is a big turn off. In fact, it can be downright repulsive.

Does wearing a white robe forever thrill you? Not me. Or how about singing in a celestial choir for the next ten million years? Does that excite you? Maybe if you’re musically inclined it might, but if you’re like me and can’t carry a tune to save your soul, this idea can hinder your desire to go there.

Don’t get me wrong. I’ve been saved for over two thirds of my life and I love praising God as much as the next person. It’s just that I can’t sing worth a dime and, if the truth be known, I can’t even clap in rhythm. I fit into the “make a joyful noise” category. This I do well. And often.

For some people, this is as compelling as Heaven gets. There is no color in their vision of Heaven. It’s all black and white. B-O-R-I-N-G! It’s not compelling at all. Why go to Heaven and be bored if you can go to hell and drink beer and party with your friends? I’m serious! This is what a lot of people believe.

Never have they heard a true teaching about Heaven that grabbed hold of their attention and wouldn’t let go. Let’s be honest, people crave fun and excitement. I know I do. This need creates a void in their lives that needs to be filled. It’s an itch that needs to be scratched. People hate to be bored!

Personally, I live the life I’ve been given as if it were one great big fantastic adventure. I’m a lover of the outdoors and I’ve gone white-water rafting on a raging river in West Virginia; and hiked to the top of the second tallest waterfall in the world; I’ve descended into dark caves and have traveled through canyons galore; I’ve walked on

a glacier and have hiked through deep woods to see some of the most beautiful sights this planet has to offer; I have seen wild bear, moose, bison, timber wolves, mountain goats, and deer of every shape and size. This is what my life is like now and—as you shall see—an afterlife of adventure awaits us all. Sorry, but an eternity of endless singing does not trip my trigger.

I'm sure many of you feel the same way, but don't feel bad if you do. It was God who put that desire for adventure in you in the first place. Trust me, there will be far more to do in Heaven than sing.

The second reason the idea of Heaven doesn't carry much weight with people is because they get consumed with trying to build a Heaven for themselves here on planet earth. We do this because we've been told we can. We feel the world will give us ultimate happiness, so we put all our effort and energy into experiencing all we can in the here and now. Going for the gusto!

For some people, the accumulation of great wealth becomes their motive for living. They believe that "he who dies with the most toys wins." For others, Heaven is a fishing pole in one hand and a can of beer in the other. Or they think Heaven is riding a Harley motorcycle, or tail-gating at some professional ball game.

And let's not forget swinging on a hammock between two palm trees on some tropical island while drinking juice out of a coconut with a straw. To them, that's Heaven. Nothing more, nothing less. They toast each other around a campfire and say, "It doesn't get any better than this."

In and of itself this is a great way to live--I mean, who doesn't want to have fun and enjoy all that life has to offer? I do. The problem with this lifestyle, however, is that without Jesus in your heart and a clear vision of Heaven in your mind, you're only going to feel great for a short while. Time quickly passes by, you again start feeling empty inside, and before you know it you're ready for another "fix."

The truth of the matter is that what this world has to offer will never be enough. Even Paul said in 1 Cor. 15:19, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable." The *Message*® Bible puts it this way: "If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we're a pretty sorry lot." Thankfully, there is more for us than the temporary pleasures this life has to offer.

On the flip side, the burdens of life can sometimes be so overwhelming that thoughts of Heaven become the farthest thing from your mind. Who can think about Heaven when you've just been laid off from your high-paying job, after you purchased a new home last month? Or your spouse has just been diagnosed with terminal cancer? Life is hard, I'll give you that.

Sometimes it takes everything you've got just to make it through the day. For sure, it is hard to focus on Heaven, a place that seems to be so far off into the future, when your world is crashing around you today. Life is not easy and nowhere in scripture did God say it would be. In fact, He said the opposite would be true. Jesus said in John 16:33, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world."

The *Message* Bible states: "I've told you all this so that trusting Me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world."

No, we are not promised an easy life, but in Jesus we can live a victorious life. My calling is to encourage people everywhere to trust Jesus, never give up, and keep moving forward in their walk with Jesus. In regards to eternity, the key is to have well-balanced beliefs. We can't think about Heaven so much that we ignore the trials and blessings here on earth. Likewise, we can't let today's activities consume us so much that we pay the price of ignoring the glorious afterlife that awaits us.

*The key is balance.* We need an equal combination of both. We need to be Heavenly minded and earthly good. Both beliefs complement one another. This is why we must forever strive to live our lives with the end in mind. Any person who can do that will live a meaningful and satisfying life.

What you see in the future becomes your reference point for the here and now. Without a clear vision of the future, your mind will be empty and void. Forever in a fog, you'll wander through life like a homeless vagabond not knowing if you're coming or going, rather than moving strategically to an appointed place. But when the idea of Heaven and life eternal becomes real to you there will be this tremendous energy flow moving through your life all the time in day-



to-day living. It will be like a giant magnet pulling you through life to your desired end.

So live your life with the end in mind. Visualize how you will finish this life and envision the hereafter. It will give you a proper perspective of things to come, and you'll find encouragement to keep doing what you're doing so you can finish the way you envision yourself finishing.

Paul writes in 1 Cor. 9:24-27, "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it under subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

*The Message® Bible* says, "I don't know about you, but I'm running hard for the finish line. I'm giving it everything I've got. No sloppy living for me! I'm staying alert and in top condition. I'm not going to get caught napping, telling everyone else all about it and then missing out myself."

Make a sacred oath between yourself and God. Say out loud, "I will fervently live my life according to my design with the end in mind." A glorious eternity in Heaven awaits you if you do.

What will Heaven be like? Glad you asked...

## Chapter Two

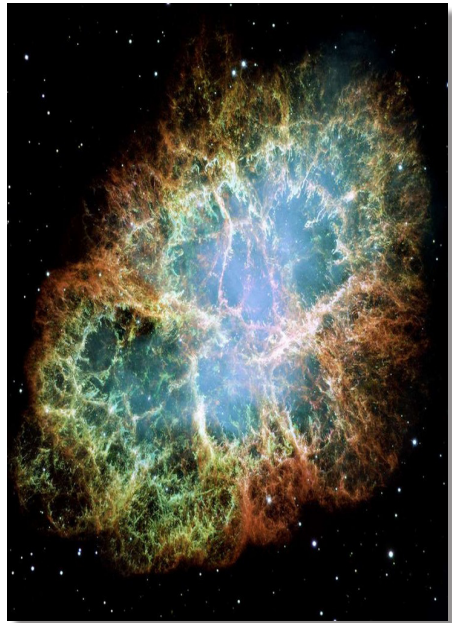
### The Land of Enchantment

Let's have some fun. I want to share with you some ideas I have about what Heaven will be like when that glorious transformation takes place and Jesus comes to take us home.

All my life I have been fascinated with tales of people being transported to some magical kingdom, a place filled with sight and sound beyond anything we could think or imagine, tales that take you to another time, another place. For instance, the *Star Wars* movies all take place “a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away.” Works such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Peter Pan*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and *The Chronicles of Narnia* all capture your imagination and birth in you the need to believe that there is something better out there that awaits us when this life is over.

There truly is such a place. It's called “Heaven.” The Chief Architect of this glorious kingdom is Jesus, and He said in John 14:2,3, “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.” I get goose bumps just thinking about it.

So what is Heaven like? In order to fully comprehend what you're about to read, imagination is required. Paul wrote in 1 Cor. 2:9,10, “But as it is written: ‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him’” 1 Cor. 2:9. But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of



God.”

I do not pretend to know even a sliver of truth behind all that awaits us in the next life, but I do believe that a hint of what Heaven is like is revealed to us throughout all of scripture. Jesus once told His disciples to “**launch out into the deep**” <sup>Luke 5:4</sup> and that is precisely what we’re going to do here.

*The Message® Bible* records Paul’s words this way, “No one’s ever seen or heard anything like this, never so much as imagined anything quite like it-- what God has arranged for those who love Him. But you’ve seen and heard it because God by His Spirit has brought it all out into the open before you.”

At first what I have to say may appear to be a little far-fetched, but I ask you to bear with me. The idea of Heaven being something beyond what we could think or imagine is part of its appeal to the human mind. I assure you that everything I have to share is all Biblical. Besides, it wasn’t too long ago that automobiles, computers, microwaves, and space shuttles were considered figments of the imagination. All I ask is that you hear me out and then judge for yourself. Are you ready to go on a journey you’ll never forget?

Although we’ll be looking at several scriptures throughout our study, the main Biblical text from which we’ll build our foundation is going to be one verse and one verse only. Surprised? I thought so.

It’s found in 1 John 3:2,

“Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”

The *Message® Bible* puts it this way:

“Who knows how we’ll end up? What we know is that when Christ is openly revealed, we’ll see Him—and in seeing Him, become like Him.”

It stands to reason that in order for us to understand what Heaven will be like, we need a clear understanding of what Jesus was like after He paid the ultimate price for our sins and arose from the grave. Our text clearly states that “when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”

We best start by answering the question, “When will Jesus

be revealed,” or, “When will we see Him as He is?” The answer is obvious. Paul tells us in 1 Cor. 15:51,52 and 1 Thess. 4: 16,17. Let’s read these verses together as one text. “Behold, I tell you a mystery (Did you ever notice that the Bible reveals many mysteries to us?): We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

“For the Lord Himself will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.”

Jesus is revealed and we are changed, all at the same time, when the Rapture occurs and we behold Him face to face in all His glory. A glimpse of what Jesus will look like is given at the Transfiguration as recorded in Matt. 17:1,2, “Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, brought them up on a high mountain by themselves, and was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.” That’s pretty impressive!

The *Message® Bible* says, “His appearance changed from the inside out, right before their eyes. Sunlight poured from His face. His clothes were filled with light.”

Let’s read the same words from Paul as translated in the *Message® Bible*:

“But let me tell you something wonderful, a mystery I’ll probably never fully understand. We’re not all going to die--but we are all going to be changed. You hear a blast to end all blasts from a trumpet, and in the time that you look up and blink your eyes--it’s over. On signal from that trumpet from Heaven, the dead will be up and out of their graves, beyond the reach of death, never to die again.”

“At the same moment and in the same way, we’ll all be changed. The Master Himself will give the command. Archangel thunder! God’s trumpet blast! He’ll come down from Heaven and the dead in Christ will rise--they’ll go first. Then the rest of us who are still alive at the time will be caught

up with them into the clouds to meet the Master. Oh, we'll be walking on air! And then there will be one huge family reunion with the Master. So reassure one another with these words."

I like the sound of that! Wow! Talk about an exhilarating beginning to a magnificent eternal adventure!

Probably the most often asked question about Heaven is, "What will we look like when we get there?" Did you notice in the movie *The Wizard of Oz* that Dorothy looked the same in the land of Oz as she did on her farm in Kansas? No physical transformation took place. I don't know about you but I for one do not want to look the same for all eternity as I look now. Wrinkles, scars, gray hair, liver spots, love handles. No way!

I give God a big heartfelt "Thank You" and "Glory Hallelujah" that "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye" we will be changed. Corruptible will put on incorruptible. That "moment" (which comes from the Greek *atomos*) will be a measure of time so fast it cannot be further divided. That's fast! Will people look old there?

Will tiny babies who died in infancy be confined to a small body in a world without end? Tell me, what do you think we're going to look like? Will we look like the Stay-Puff Marshmallow Man? Or how about Chewbacca? Would you like to look like some tall, hairy ape-like creature and do nothing but grunt and snort for all eternity? Probably not. No, I assure you, we will not look like an alien creature from some far-off galaxy. Nobody in Heaven will have pointed ears like our beloved Mr. Spock. We will, however, live long and prosper.

For sure, Heaven will be a place of altered states. When we were born-again, we became the offspring of divine glory, and when the Rapture takes place, the same glory that radiates out of Jesus will also radiate out of us. We will actually shine brighter than the sun.

Romans 6:5 says, "For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection." When that trumpet blast sounds we'll crash through the barriers of physical limitations and instinctively we'll grasp hold of all that Jesus has prepared for us. Waiting for us is "an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade" <sup>1 Peter 1:4</sup>.

Phil. 4:19 tells us that in Heaven there are "riches in glory."

And it's all ours! Heaven is a real, physical place. Jesus went there in bodily form, as did Elijah and Enoch, so we know it's not some spiritual vapor cloud somewhere. The Bible tells us there are streets in Heaven, as well as trees, mountains, animals, cities, buildings, water, and everything you can possibly imagine.

Yes, Heaven will be filled with things absolutely unheard of on Planet Earth. It will cause us to nod enthusiastically and say, "Of course!" We'll point our finger at places and things and say with exuberance, "Look at that! Wow! Will you look at that!?! Will you look at all that!?!?" You will see how different things are than what you imagined they would be.

Heaven is a world of enchantment, the manifested victory over hell and the grave. It is the fortress against the mundane reality that is life in human form. Life on Planet Earth is a challenge to be overcome and Heaven is the prize for those who do.

Think of Heaven as a gigantic planet. The book of Revelation tells us there are directions in Heaven, a north, a south, an east, a west; this tells us that it is navigable. It would not surprise me one bit if the North Star that shines so bright in the night sky is in fact Planet Heaven. We know it's not part of our solar system-- it's millions of light years away. Do you know what that means? It means that at the Rapture we'll all become spiritual astronauts!

Heaven will be a place of resolution. We'll have the mind of Christ and will be strikingly intelligent and full of life. We will have firmness of purpose and will be filled with an overwhelming zeal and earnest energy. We'll move from partial to full understanding.

1 Cor. 13:12 says, "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known."

The *Message*® Bible puts it this way: "We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a midst. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing Him directly just as He knows us!"

In Heaven we'll understand all there is to know. We'll know everything wholly and completely. All the loose ends will come together and get connected. You will be confident, sure of yourself, always in

control. You will have a gifted, brilliant mind, and the studious eye of a great scholar. An air of polished confidence will surround you and your thoughts will be bright and clear and magnificent. You will know everything that is going on and everything that is going to happen.

All the questions you've ever had will be answered with divine satisfaction. Never again will you wonder about anything. We'll have in fullness the mind of Christ. Indeed, we have to: How else will we be able to comprehend all that God has in store for us when we cross over to the realm of eternal glory?

## *Chapter Three*

### *Life Beyond the Five Senses*

**I**n Heaven we will have new bodies—different kinds of bodies, but probably not as different as we think. People ask all the time, “Will people recognize one another in Heaven?” Without question, of course we’ll be recognized in Heaven!. We’ll look pretty much the same as we do now, only better. Our new bodies will be gorgeous, more splendid than we could ever imagine.

They’ll be brand new and immaculate, a spectacular work of divine creativity. They’ll be firm and strong, shaped like a dream. They’ll be impeccably clean and neat, pure as wind-driven snow. You’ll stand straight and tall with the distinguished demeanor of a conquering warrior. An Olympic champion receiving the gold medal comes to mind.

Like Jesus, you also have conquered hell and the grave, and a triumphant smile will dance across your face. Your face will shine with the glory of God, and its brilliance will be like that of a very precious jewel. It will be perfectly symmetrical and all its features will be the perfect size and shape. A tidal wave of God’s love will engulf you, which you’ll express with the look on your face.

In Heaven your hair will glow and will be softer than the beautiful mane of a huge lion. It will glisten in the light of God’s glory. If Jesus counts the hairs on your head on Planet Earth, you can be sure special attention will be given to your hair in Heaven!. No more split ends or dark hair turning gray or falling out. What color will your hair





be? What will be its length? Whatever your heart desires! Yes, Jesus will give you the desires of your heart. We'll have eyebrows designed by God. There will be no hair growing out of our ears and nose. Every microscopic detail will be touched by the creative and mighty hand of God. If you don't like the way you look now, don't worry about it.

Total satisfaction is guaranteed in Heaven. You'll be the perfect height, shape, and size. Nothing will be overlooked. You'll be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. You'll be without spot or wrinkle. There will be no runs, no drips, no flaws. You'll be the ultimate portrait of Godly perfection.

In Heaven you'll have skin like silk, fine, delicate, and shining forever. There will be a gleam in your doe-like eyes so bright and so radiant that there will be a very attractive precision in what you see and how you'll express yourself. You will flash smiles of satisfaction on your rose-petal mouth and the sound of laughter will follow you wherever you go. The glory of God will be blazing across your face like a flowing river. So much can be told about people by looking them in the eye.

In Heaven your eyes will be alive and full of passion. They will be remarkable for their depth and tranquility. Crystal clarity will shine forth wheresoever you direct your gaze. Your glorious eyes will boldly proclaim that inside you is life, more life, and again more life. The very *zoe* [biblical Greek for "life of God"] will be pouring out of you like an erupting volcano, and this will heighten the sharp definition of your face with its soft and smooth skin, created by the Master Himself.

Your new, glorified body will be perfectly manicured. No more pimples, warts, crossed eyes, ingrown toenails, bad breath, and body odor. Yes, you'll be transcendent through and through. You'll walk with perfect balance—no more stumbling or tripping over your feet. You'll walk an elegant poise and grace that would put the most gifted human dancer to shame.

Your voice will ring with excitement, as you give full expression to all that is inside you. With a youthful exuberance you'll speak in tones of utter amazement. You'll all have an endless smile filled with vibrant energy, a smile that will be an expression of perfect love and sincerity.

Your teeth will be perfectly aligned and lovingly polished to

a deep gloss. They'll sparkle like diamonds, adding to the beauty of your sublime face. We have already seen where Paul said "eye has not seen or ear heard all the things that God has prepared for those who love Him" <sup>1 Cor 2:9</sup>.

If our sight and hearing are affected by our glorious transformation to the hereafter, then it only stands to reason that all our physical senses will also be affected once we become like Jesus when we see Him as He is. Psalms 17:15 says, "As for me, I will see His face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness." Oh yes, you can believe with full confidence that Heaven is a place of total and complete satisfaction.

Once there, you'll have a new and unfamiliar sense of taste, smell, and touch. Heaven is so electrifying you'll feel the voltage of life surround you. You'll be driven by the power of simply being alive.

In Heaven you'll be living a dream, a golden dream, a perfect, idyllic life that is totally fabulous. You'll have nonstop energy. You won't get tired in Heaven, but wouldn't it be nice to lie down with the back of a huge lion as your pillow? The soft velvet touch of the green grass will take you to a place beyond relaxation. And then, when you get up, the grass you were on won't be crushed, but immediately will rebound back to its previous position. Heaven will be that perfect.

In Heaven your nostrils will be rewarded with a fragrance so stimulating you'll think that you can reach out and touch it. The air will be fresh and sweet and clean. The smell of Heavenly spices will fill the air. You'll be floating on air, eternally content in every way. You will hear fresh new sounds never imaginable on Earth. The beautiful birds of Heaven will astound you as they orchestrate Heaven's symphony and chirp away in divine harmony. The trees, fields, and rocks are alive and will sing merry melodies to the Lord God for all eternity, causing you to stop and bask in the splendor of the moment.

Trees will clap their hands, and before you know it you'll be joining them with uplifted hands, as you also give praise and glory and honor to the great God of the universe. In Heaven you will reach out and touch God. You will see Him. You will hug Him. You will kiss Him. You will talk to Him and He will talk to you.

Oh, the glory of it all! I can't wait to get there! There will be beautiful new colors in Heaven, more vibrant, more bright, and more

stunning than the grandest rainbow. Earth will seem to be but a black and white world when compared to the kaleidoscopic kingdom of Heaven. Each and every tone will have a life all its own and will be commissioned by God to bring pleasure to all you gaze upon. The blazing colors in Heaven are a kind of neon advertisement of what is to come as you partake of the greatest adventure of all time.

Your wardrobe will be magnificent and abundant in size and scope. You won't be limited to wearing a white robe for all eternity! That would be so boring—I mean, this is *Heaven* we're talking about. With great exuberance you can design your own clothes with color schemes and patterns of your own devising. Or, if you like, you can let the angels of Heaven design them for you.

Whichever way you choose, you can be sure you'll be dressed better and will display more splendor than the greatest fashion model on earth. The dazzling garments of the world's cultures are but a foretaste of how you'll dress in Heaven. You'll be the center of attention wherever you go—as will everybody else be.

And since forever is a long time, there will be no limit to the number and style of clothes available to you. You'll have an infinite wardrobe and you can wear whatever you want whenever you want. The good news for all you ladies is that you'll never have to wear the same thing twice. Another option is that if you like what you're wearing, you can have the freedom to wear it for a million years or longer. Why not? Like I said, forever is a very long time!

In Heaven you'll eat meals so delicious you'll think you're in another world—which, of course, is precisely where you'll be. The Bible records three times where Jesus ate food after His resurrection, so yes, there will be gourmet food once we cross over to the other side. I cannot begin to conceive that something as enjoyable to us in life as fine dining will be eliminated once we get to Heaven. Can you?

Don't ever forget that Jesus loves parties. He performed His first miracle at a wedding feast when He turned water into wine. Let me tell you, these feasts were no small affair. They were big. Really big! They went on for several days.

Also, the Old Testament tells of several feasts ordained by God for the children of Israel to partake in. And like the wedding feast, these times of celebration were monumental affairs that went on for

days on end. Well, this Marriage Supper of the Lamb, this one meal, this huge party, this ultimate banquet, will go on for seven years. And it's only one party! Think of how many more there are to come! What do you think the Marriage Supper of the Lamb is all about? It's one great big, gigantic party! Yahoo! The supercharged atmosphere of this event will be more electrifying and more exciting and fun than the best-ever New Year's Eve party on Earth. It will be the celebration of all celebrations, as God welcomes all of us to our eternal home.

It's a Heavenly banquet of mammoth proportions, with angelic food and drink prepared by the very hosts of Heaven. These angelic beings are assigned by God to serve us for all eternity, and it will be obvious that at this mega feast they'll be up to the task. There will be an air of confidence in everything they do.

The food they'll prepare will be totally indescribable. Can you imagine being given the assignment to prepare a meal so special that even God Himself will sit down and partake of it? Can you imagine what this food must taste like? It will be phenomenal to say the least. Just think, a perfect body eating perfect food. It gives me hunger pains just thinking about it. We'll have a multitude of specialties to choose from, and there will be no limit to the variety of flavors these creative angels will prepare for us. Yes, this food will be far greater than anything you've ever tasted on earth. It will be better than your mother's fresh-baked apple pie and your grandmother's homemade country biscuits.

It will be...Heavenly! Here's the part I like best: Since we won't get filled up in Heaven, we'll be able to try everything. There will be no limits on the size of our portions. If you like good food as much as I do, rest assured that there is Heavenly food in your future, food so scrumptious, so tasty, so appetizing, so juicy, so succulent, so mouth watering, so pleasing, so abounding in flavor that you'll wish you had gone to Heaven long before you did. All I can say is, "Jesus, will You pass the sauce, please?" Bring it on!

Also, the book of Revelation tells of fruit trees in Heaven that will have different fruit on them each month. Revelation 22:1, 2a says, "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month." When Jesus

walked the earth He once cursed a fig tree for having no fruit on it. Rest assured, this won't happen in Heaven.

When you pluck one of those fruit off a tree another one will instantly pop back into its place. (Imagine that happening on Earth.) Every fruit tree in Heaven will bear an endless supply of fruit hanging on its branches. In Heaven the sin of gluttony will no longer exist, so we can eat at our heart's content whenever we want to. Personally, I love to swim so I'm sure that between bites I'll probably take a nice long dip in the river of life that flows from the throne of God. I get excited just thinking about it. Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

Finally, in Heaven we'll all be the perfect age. Jesus was 33 when He received His glorified body, and since we will be like Him because we'll see Him as He is, we also will have the equivalent of a 33 year old body. Think about it. That is indeed the perfect age. Not too young, not too old. For all you sports fans out there, Michael Jordan was 33 when he came out of his first retirement to lead his team to the world championship and the best record in basketball history. And what a fine physical specimen he is.

Yes, your new glorified body will be the perfect mix of elegance and athleticism. There are no steroids where we're going, only the power of God flowing in and through your perfect 33 year old body. In Heaven you'll be able to do things so astonishing that on Earth you thought were only possible in some science fiction movie.

John 20:19 says, "That evening, on the first day of the week, the disciples were meeting behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them!" Also, we read in Luke 24:31 that after breaking bread for the men He met on the road to Emmaus, "then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight." In His glorified body Jesus could walk through walls and disappear in a flash! We also will have the capability to vanish in our resurrected bodies and reappear in a different location. This explains how we'll be able to travel far distances in the new Heaven and new Earth.

The city of God, the New Jerusalem, is a gigantic, cube-shaped city of glorious splendor, 1,400 miles long, 1,400 miles wide, and 1,400 miles tall. It is so huge that to travel around this magnificent dwelling place will most certainly require the "need for speed." After Jesus arose from the dead He interacted with His disciples for forty

days and then ascended into Heaven. His body levitated and He traveled to another planet...Planet Heaven! We also will be able to float and drift in the air and travel to other galaxies. (And you thought Heaven was boring?) How do I know this? Because Jesus did it and we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is.

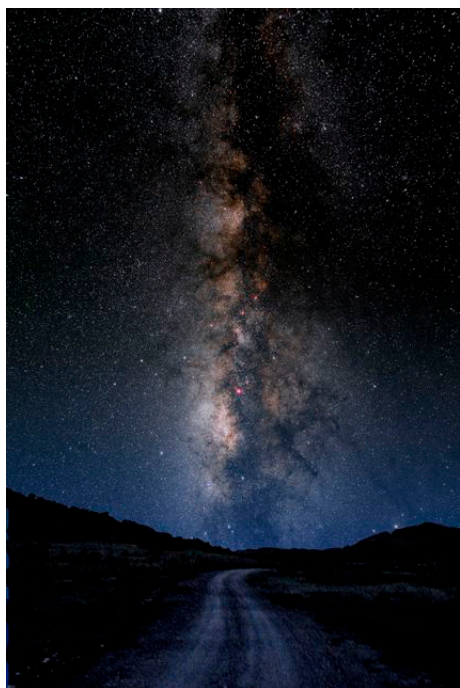
Whatever Jesus can do, we also will be able to do. This is the one reality that must be grasped if we are to gain even a sliver of understanding of what awaits us once we get to Heaven. Your new glorified body will have incredible new “superhero” abilities. You can fly, float, or immediately materialize somewhere. In the Broadway show *Peter Pan*, the audience was always captivated when the boy who wouldn’t grow up was lifted off the stage and began to fly over their heads.

Think of being able to do this whenever you wanted to. It will be unlike anything ever imagined on Planet Earth. And this is only the beginning! If all this is not enough to whet your appetite, just wait until you see what we get to do with these new glorified bodies. For sure, the best is yet to come. God has a habit of always saving the best for last. What we’ll be able to do in Heaven is totally out of this world. Literally!

## Chapter Four

### The Children and Their Domain

God has placed inside each of us the need for discovery and adventure. It is a need that is utterly addictive and has been in the heart of man since the beginning, when God formed Adam out of the dust of the earth. We notice in Genesis 2:7, 8 that Adam was not made in the Garden of Eden. Actually, he was formed in the wilderness, and then God put him in the garden. Thus, I believe



God made man wild at heart and placed within him the spirit of adventure. How else was he going to fulfill the command of God to “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth” <sup>Genesis 1:28</sup>? A person with a passive, unassertive spirit would not be able to do this; it requires the authoritative, imposing, and commanding presence of an adventurous spirit.

The compulsion that drives us forward to fulfill this need drove Columbus on his journey to discover America. This same drive, this same ambition, compelled Lewis and Clark to set out on a pilgrimage to explore this great country. It leads scientists to make shattering new discoveries in the field of medicine and it drove man in his quest to set foot on the moon. It drives us to climb the highest mountains and plumb the deepest oceans. It causes us to throw caution to the wind and walk a tightrope over Niagara Falls or bungee-jump head first off a tall bridge.

Beyond a shadow of a doubt, man cannot and will not live



without adventure in his life. Why are we this way? It's simple: God is this way, and we all have been made in His image. If the craving for adventure is here with us on earth, most certainly this desire will be with us in Heaven as well. The good news is that God never gives us desires without also giving us the opportunities to fulfill them.

Sound exciting? Trust me, it is! It has been said that the Bible reveals to us the perfect will of God. While this may be true, there are only four chapters in the entire Bible that show us what I call the "perfect" will of God.

The first two chapters of Genesis and the last two chapters of Revelation show us the original intent of God for the human race. These scriptural "bookends" outline for us what God's "perfect" will actually is. Every chapter in between is God's effort to get man back into a covenant relationship with Himself after the fall of Adam which, of course, was not part of His will for man.

We can catch a glimpse of Heaven by what is revealed in these special four chapters. When you study these scriptures, you will see that Genesis 1 and Revelation 21 both begin with God's creative power creating and sculpting whole new worlds that previously did not exist.

Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the Heavens and the earth." The very first thing God reveals to us in His Word is that He is a God of adventure! For sure, God is action-oriented. He is constantly creating new things. In the middle of the Bible, we read in Is. 43:18, 19 that God said, "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Wow! Can you sense the spirit of adventure in these verses?

Then, in Revelation 21:1, we read, "Now I saw a new Heaven and a new earth, for the first Heaven and the first earth had passed away." There is definitely a pattern here. The beginning, middle, and end of the Bible all talk about God creating new things. That's exciting! That's adventure! That is what going to Heaven is all about!

Rest assured, Heaven is NOT a place of fixed monotony and endless repetition. Neither is it an eternal church service. In Heaven we don't have to go to church; we *are* the church. With God dwelling among us, everything we do and everywhere we go can be considered



a church service. Heaven will certainly not be boring, nor will we be sitting in a church pew for the next trillion years.

On the contrary. Heaven is a place of action and new adventures that will be totally grand. We will do things unheard of on Planet Earth; things so unexpected that it will take eternity to discover them all, things so magnificent that we would be left spellbound if they were all revealed to us.

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” <sup>1 Cor 2:9</sup>. Heaven is a place of constant challenges and new responsibilities. It’s the place where we’ll be hooked up with the Creator of the universe, Who is constantly creating new things and new wonders. What we see in Heaven when we first get there will be different in the future, because new things will forever be created. That’s what a Creator does. He consistently creates new and exciting things.

Let’s face it, on Earth new things grow stale after a while. You may be excited about getting a new car for two or three weeks, but before you know it the excitement wears out. We’re ready for something different. Something new and exciting. Something fresh.

*Here’s where it really gets exciting.*

Since we’ll be like Jesus because we’ll see Him as He is, we also will be able to create new things. “What things?,” you ask. How about your own planet? You think I’m kidding? I’m not! John 1:1-3,10-14 says,

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

“He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the

Father, full of grace and truth.”

These verses reveal to us that it was Jesus Who created the Heavens and the Earth back in Genesis 1:1.

Now remember, we can do the same things Jesus does, because we'll be exactly like Him in terms of creative powers and abilities. We will be perfect beings in a perfect world, so we've got to expand our thinking! We've got to go beyond the norm. In Heaven we'll think like God thinks and we'll do what God does. We'll be just like Jesus, because we'll see Him as He is. And if Jesus can design and create an entire planet, then we also will be able to do the very same thing.

You are probably wondering how I came up with the fantastical idea that all believers have the potential to live their lives on Earth in a certain way, and that by so doing, they will be rewarded in Heaven with their own planet. The truth is, I did not come up with this idea. God did! Let's go back to God's "perfect," perfect will in Genesis 1 and 2.

Question: What did He give the first man and woman?

Answer: Their own planet! He gave them Planet Earth to be their own personal domain. This is a hint of what Heaven will be like. I remind you that God is no respecter of persons. If He did it for Adam and Eve, He will do it for you and me.

Stop for a moment and think how awesome that is. Adam was given an entire planet to rule over, and the same thing can happen to us once we get to Heaven. We need to understand that life in the here and now is a training ground for the next life. It's a Heavenly "boot camp," and we are being prepared in this life to fulfill the positions of authority that we'll hold in Heaven (see 2 Timothy. 2:5, Revelation 22:5).

Have you ever wondered why this vast universe is so barren, but Earth is so full of potential rulers being prepared for the life to come? Jesus said in John 14:2, **"I go to prepare a place for you."** What comes to your mind when you think of Jesus saying to you in Heaven, **"This is your place?"**

A country estate? A village on the Riviera? Sandy beaches and palm trees? Personally, I see a monster-sized planet!!! I see beautiful pictures taken by the Hubble telescope of galaxies millions of light years from earth and I think to myself, "There's my planet! There's my

kingdom! There's my galaxy!" I really do think this.

For those of you who don't, well, all I can do is quote the words of Jesus, **"Be it unto you according to your faith"** <sup>Matt. 9:29</sup>. We must understand that God does not make anything in vain. For everything there is a plan and a purpose.

"In the beginning God created the Heavens and the earth."  
<sup>Gen 1:1</sup> Notice the word "Heavens". That's plural. For what reason do you think He made all these worlds that cannot be seen with the naked eye? I am here to tell you that He made them for us!! Jesus went away two thousand years ago to prepare a place for us. Not just a house or a mansion, but a place, a location, a real live physical place where we'll spend all eternity ruling and reigning with Him.

If Jesus created the Heavens and the earth in six days, can you imagine what all He can create in two thousand plus years? And He's doing it all for you and me! I'm telling you, this is going to be a joy ride we'll never get tired of. It's going to be wild! Totally, totally wild! How wild? Wild as the wind! Believe it!

All of us need to enlarge the vision we have of what we think Heaven will be like. It's beyond anything we can think or imagine. "Eye has not seen nor ear heard... all that God has prepared for those who love Him" <sup>1 Cor. 2:9</sup>. Notice the phrase "all that". We'll say in Heaven like we say on earth, "Wow! Look at all that!"

I've been on some beautiful winding roads up in the mountains, and a magnificent panoramic view was seen around every bend in the road. I'd pull off to the side of the road and the splendor and majesty before me made me speechless. Beautiful waterfalls fell off the top of mountains and glistened in the sun. Thousands of gallons of water rushed over the outcrop of rocks and created a wonderful display of God's glory.

A giant glacier moved between two mountains on its slow but relentless journey to the lake below; eagles soared in the air and bears roamed in the woods. I was given the privilege to step out of my own world and into a beautiful kingdom filled with sight and sound. It was magnificent! The sun was shining above, the sky was blue, and a cool breeze blew in my face as I beheld this miraculous display of God's creative power. Yes, this was an awesome creation, created by God Himself.

As I stood there awestruck, I felt like I was in another world. I said to myself, “Will you look at that? Will you look at all that?” ALL THAT!!! I’d drive to the next bend in the road and repeat the same process all over again. This went on for the entire day and I didn’t want to leave. Down in my heart I knew that this was just a small hint of what Heaven is like. Since man is made in the image of God, I also believe that earth is made in the image of Heaven. And if earth is like the view before me, what do you think Heaven is going to be like?

I drove away with one thought in my mind. Come quickly, Lord Jesus! These few words were ringing in my ear, “Will you look at that? ALL THAT!!!” Jesus created the Heavens and the earth and Genesis 1 tells us He did it by speaking words. The phrase “And God said...” is found throughout the entire chapter. In the kingdom of God things get created by the simple act of speaking your desire out of your mouth.

We also can do the same thing. Jesus did it and we can too because we will be like Him because we’ll see Him as He is. You’ll be able to create your own world, your own kingdom, just like Jesus did in the book of Genesis. It will be great! It will be grand! It will be absolutely wonderful!

How would you like to have your own personal Grand Canyon in your back yard? Or how about a forest of giant redwood trees like they have in California or the cedars of Lebanon? Or how about something as majestic as Niagara Falls or as towering as Mt. Everest? It’s possible. In Heaven all things are possible. The sky’s the limit. Literally!

Just think, all you have to do is speak it out. A spiritual metamorphose will take place before your very eyes. If a caterpillar can turn into a butterfly and water can turn into wine, then the mountain range in your back yard can turn into a sandy beach whenever you want it to. Yes, you can have the exact same creative abilities as Jesus and you can change the landscape of your “place” anytime you so desire! What’s more, there will be no more long periods of waiting for our faith-filled words of creation to get fulfilled. Time as we know it will be no more in Heaven.

How do you measure “forever”? We’ll live completely in the present tense. Everything will be one eternal, continuous “NOW”! Therefore, we will get instantaneous results! Things happen in Heaven faster than the twinkling of an eye. Words cannot describe

how spectacular this great adventure will be. Oh, and let's not forget about the angelic spaceships that will forever be at our disposal. You're probably thinking, "Spaceships? Now you've gone too far!" But my friend, it is true. There are two scriptures where spaceships are recorded. They're not called "spaceships," but that's precisely what they are.

2 Kings 2:11 says, "Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into Heaven." What do you think this "chariot of fire" was? What do you think it looked like? This was not some man-made conveyance like the one Charleston Heston drove in the movie *Ben Hur*. No, this was a God-made vehicle sent to bring Elijah by a whirlwind into Heaven. Elijah was swept off of Planet Earth, traveled millions of light years through outer space, and arrived at Planet Heaven. In today's terminology this "chariot of fire" would be called a spaceship. Why would we be surprised at this? We send men and women into space all the time. We even have a manned space station orbiting Earth (which, by the way, I have seen pass overhead on a clear, star-filled night). Divine "chariots of fire" also exist.

In Heaven we can travel from where we are and instantly reappear someplace else. Or, if we like, we can let a mighty angel chauffeur us on an unforgettable ride on a Heavenly spaceship, a chariot of fire pulled by horses of fire. It goes beyond anything you'll experience at any amusement park. It will be a ride you'll never forget!

The second Biblical reference to a spaceship is found in the description of Ezekiel's vision of God's glory. Ezekiel 1:4 says, "Then I looked, and behold, a whirl-wind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness was all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire." Stop for a moment and meditate on Ezekiel's description of God's glory. Some of the images I have seen from the Hubble telescope can be described the very same way and are almost identical to what is described in Ezekiel's opening chapter.

Also, what is it with all these whirlwinds? Apparently our journey to Heaven will not be a quiet transit. Ezekiel proceeds to describe the four living creatures he sees in Heaven, then goes on to say in verses 1:15-21, "Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold,

a wheel was on the earth beside each living creature with its four faces. The appearance of the wheels and their workings was like the color of beryl, and all four had the same likeness. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel. When they moved, they went toward any one of the four directions; they did not turn aside when they went. As for their rims, they were so high they were awesome; and their rims were full of eyes, all around the four of them.”

“When the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, because there the spirit went; and the wheels were lifted together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. When those went, these went; when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.”

There it is, spelled out for you in black and white. I challenge you to tell me this is not a spaceship. A wheel within a wheel with huge, awesome rims that are full of eyes. The galactic design and capabilities of this angelic vehicle will make Captain Kirk’s *Starship Enterprise* look like a child’s toy. Each of us will have a whole fleet of these faster-than-lightning vessels at our disposal as we set out to explore the deepest parts of God’s forever-expanding universe. Truly, we’ll boldly go where no one has gone before.

I call Heaven “The Great Adventure” because once there, we’ll go on one breathtaking adventure after another. We’ll live an existence that will never cease. Think about it...we’re going to live forever! We’ll see God face to face. We’ll be able to create our own worlds and travel to other planets and galaxies faster than you can blink an eye.

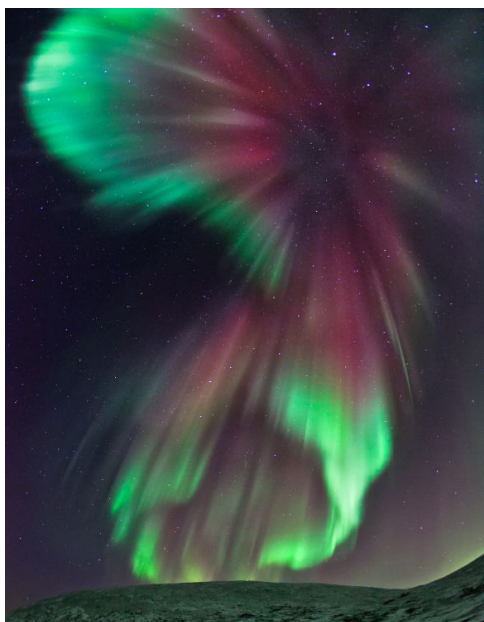
Yes, my friend—in Heaven you can have your cake and eat it too. We’ll never run out of things to do and places to go. Think about that the next time your alarm clock goes off and you have to force yourself out of bed to spend another long day at work. Comfort yourself knowing that very soon all the hardships and mundane trials of this life will end. Hallelujah!

## Chapter Five

### When All Accounts Are Settled

Hopefully you've had fun learning about Heaven and what it's going to be like once we get there. The time has come, however, for us to take a more serious look at this important subject. There is a myth about Heaven that many people believe, and it is time to put this false belief to rest.

People think they can live any way they want to on earth, and if



they say a special prayer before they die, they go to Heaven and live happily ever after in a great big mansion. Who do they think they're kidding?

First of all, nowhere in scripture does it say that everybody will get a mansion in Heaven. Yes, Jesus said **"In My Father's house are many mansions,"** but He didn't say *everybody* would get one. As we shall see, our rewards will be handed out in Heaven, and the size of our eternal dwelling place will be based on how well we served and obeyed God during our lives on Planet

Earth.

Gal. 6:7,8 says, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he shall also reap. For he who sows to the flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." This spiritual law is true in this life as well, and the consequences and rewards of what we do in the here and now will carry over into the next life. Our status in Heaven is determined by what we do while we're here on earth.

There are no promotions in Heaven. Once we leave this planet our eternal destiny and positions are forever sealed. This is why we



should live every moment of our lives according to our design with the end in mind: Our future status in Heaven depends on it.

Prophetically speaking, it is the midnight hour. The end is near and the trumpet is ready to sound. People everywhere talk, sing, and preach about the Rapture and the second coming of Jesus, but they live like it's never coming.

Many believers have become complacent in their walk with the Lord and are no longer on fire for God like they once were. The gifts of God that once burned in their hearts have become commonplace to them, and they have stopped pursuing those gifts. But soon, when they least expect it, that day will come in the “twinkling of an eye” when they will be pulled up into the air and come face to face with their Savior.

Then what? Romans 14:10b-12 tells us, “For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: ‘**As I live**, says the Lord, **every knee shall bow to Me and every tongue shall confess to God.**’ So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.” People who think they can live any way they want to, with everything being grand for them in Heaven, in reality mocks God. They are running away from the responsibility God places on them to dedicate their lives to doing that which is pleasing to Him. Those who plan to make things right with God tomorrow usually die today.

In the parable of the rich fool that Jesus teaches in Luke 12:16-21, “**The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room for my crops?’ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.**” This is no game, my friends. God takes what we do with our lives very seriously, and so should we.

Each of us must heed Amos 4:12b: “Prepare to meet your God...” The Bible speaks of two judgments to come. At the last judgment, the Great White Throne Judgment, God will judge those who haven't accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and their judgment



will be one of eternal damnation where there will be “weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Revelation 20:11-15; Matt. 8:12).

Christians, however, will not be a part of this final judgment. During the seven-year period between the Rapture and the Second Coming of Christ, a great reward ceremony and celebration will take place as all believers one by one stand before Jesus at what is known as the Judgment Seat of Christ.

This is all part of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, and we’ve already seen how wonderful that will be. 2 Corinthians 5:9,10 says, “Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

At both judgments people will be judged “according to their works” performed on Planet Earth. As a Christian you will be held accountable for the life you’ve lived since you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. You will not be held accountable for anything that happened in your life up prior to that time.

The Word of God says that when you were born again your past was wiped away. It was thrown into the Sea of Forgetfulness, and as far as God is concerned your past doesn’t exist. It is your conduct since becoming a born-again believer for which you will be held accountable.

When you stand before Jesus you will give an account to Him of your behavior and attitudes toward the things of God, toward fellow believers, and toward those not born again. You will give an account of every idle word spoken and your motives for doing the things you did. Also, you will give an account of the talents, skills, and resources that God has given you <sup>Luke 19:12-26</sup>.

We are accountable to God to shine as bright lights in this dark world and to glorify God on Earth. Notice 2 Corinthians. 5:10, which says we will be judged according to what we have done “whether good or bad.” 1 Corinthians 3:13-15 <sup>AMP</sup> says, “The work of each one will become plainly and openly known— shown for what it is; for the day of Christ will disclose and declare it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test and critically appraise the character and worth of the work each person has done. If the work which any

person has built on this Foundation (Jesus Christ)—any product of his, whatever survives this test, he will get his reward. But if any person's work is burned up under the test, he will suffer the loss of it all, losing his reward, though he himself will be saved, but only as one who has passed through fire." Heaven will be a place of personal rewards, and this excites me more than words can say.

Not only will we be judged according to our works done on Planet Earth; we'll be richly rewarded for them as well. Based on the works that we do, there will be a wide range of rewards and positions of authority given to believers. For example, the apostle Paul will receive far more rewards in Heaven than, let's say, the thief on the cross who asked Jesus to remember him in Paradise.

I love what Jesus says in Revelation 22:12: "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to everyone according to his work." *We* determine the degree to which we are rewarded in Heaven—not God. Did our lives gravitate toward those temporal things that only satisfy the flesh, or did we live in such a way that our daily lives were lined up with the eternal will and Word of God? Have you sought God earnestly? Hebrews 11:6b says that God "is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Are you fulfilling your destiny, the Heavenly call God placed on each of our lives? Have you planted yourself in a local church? Psalms 92:12,13 says, "The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of God." Yes, going to church on a regular basis and getting involved there is important. The work we do is not a finite work! Everything we do has eternal consequences, and in the end you are accountable for how you live your life. Every day we are being given the opportunity to lay up for ourselves treasures in Heaven. That excites me!

That gives me a reason to get up in the morning. That gives me a reason to live. The greatest joy a person can have is to know that his or her life counts for something, to know that they have made a positive difference in the lives of others. Life has no meaning when all your energy, talents, finances, and desires are expended upon yourself only. True peace and contentment comes only by reaching out to others and being a blessing to their lives.

When you've lived a life of spiritual integrity, when everything

you've done is motivated by your love for God and other people, you can stand with confidence before God, Who knows everything about you.

He knows who you are, what choices you've made, and why you made them. Not only will our works be examined, but our thoughts, motives, and intentions as well. Jesus said in Luke 8:17, **“For nothing is secret that will not be revealed, nor anything hidden that will not be known and come to light.”**

Hebrews 4:12,13 says, “For the Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to Whom we must give account.”

God knows everything about you, and He longs to reward you openly and abundantly for all that you do for Him and with Him. Be confident that what you do for Him will be rewarded and not forgotten.

## Chapter Six

### We Determine Our Rewards

I'm sure it will come as a surprise to many believers to learn of all the things they can do on Earth for which they will be rewarded once they get to Heaven. Our God is a loving God, and He is truly reward-minded. 2 Corinthians 5:9,10 says, "Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

Your rewards in Heaven will be eternal and can never be taken from you. Hebrews 6:10 says, "For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His Name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister."

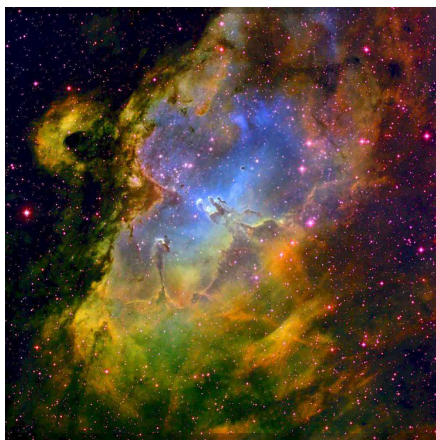
The *Message*® Bible says: "God doesn't miss anything. He knows perfectly well all the love you've shown Him by helping needy Christians, and that you keep at it."

All the work we do for God carries with it an eternal reward. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 3:6-

8, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters is one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor."

*It only stands to reason that, the more work you do for God, the more abundance of rewards you will receive.*

This is proof positive that, because some people do more work for God than others, not everybody will be the same or hold the same positions of authority in Heaven. The choice is clearly ours to make. Jeremiah wrote in Jeremiah 32:19, "You are great in counsel and



mighty in work, for Your eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, to give to everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings.” Ezekiel says the same thing: “Righteous people will be rewarded for their own goodness, and wicked people will be punished for their own wickedness” <sup>Ezekiel 18:20 NLT</sup>. This is sowing and reaping in its simplest form. Although the rewards in Heaven will be plentiful, and yes, we should seek them, God desires us to serve Him for Who He is and not just because of all of the eternal benefits that are available to us.

He desires people to serve Him with a pure heart, and if our motives are right and in the proper order, this attitude of putting God first will also be rewarded. Jeremiah 17:10 says, “I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.” Proverbs 24:12 states, “If you say, ‘Surely we did not know this,’ does He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?”

Remember, to God motive and attitude are everything. If you do a good deed for somebody in order to receive praise from them, then God says you have had your reward. To Him, it’s as if the good deed was never done. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 9:16,17, “For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this willingly, I have been entrusted with a stewardship.”

The *Message Bible* says this: “Still, I want to make it clear that I’ve never gotten anything out of this for myself, and that I’m not writing now to get something. I’d rather die than give anyone ammunition to discredit me or impugn (wrongfully accuse) my motives. If I proclaim the Message, it’s not to get something out of it for myself. I’m compelled to do it, and doomed if I don’t! If this was my own idea of just another way to make a living, I’d expect some pay. But since it’s not my idea but something solemnly entrusted to me, why would I expect to get paid? So am I getting anything out of it? Yes, as a matter of fact: the pleasure of proclaiming the Message at no cost to you. You don’t even have to pay my expenses!” Like I said, motive is everything! What you do in secret God will reward openly

Matthew. 6:4,6,18

The integrity with which we conduct the affairs of our life and our

walk of holiness will also be rewarded. David wrote in Psalms 18:20, “The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed (rewarded) me.”

The *Amplified*® translation says, “The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness (my conscious integrity and sincerity with Him): according to the cleanness of my hands has He recompensed (rewarded) me.” Can you see in all these verses how the responsibility of the way we live, and the rewards we receive in Heaven, is clearly on our shoulders?

David tells us in Psalms 7:8 how we’ll be judged in Heaven: “Judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness, and according to my integrity within me.” He also says in verses 9,10, “Oh, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but establish the just; for the righteous God tests the hearts and minds. My defense is of God, Who saves the upright in heart.”

We must be faithful to forever walk the straight and narrow path that the Lord laid out before us. 1 Peter 1:13,16 says, “Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He Who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, ‘Be holy, for I am holy.’” Yes, our faithfulness to live this way and to conform our lives to the image and glory of God <sup>1 Corinthians 11:7</sup> will also be rewarded in Heaven. 1 Sam. 26:23 <sup>NIV</sup> says, “The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and faithfulness.”

The words we speak also carry a great compensation of reward. Proverbs 12:13,14 says, “The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, but the righteous will come through trouble. A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, and the recompense of a man’s hands will be rendered to him.” Another translation says, “Your reward depends on what you say and what you do; you will get what you deserve.”

Get up every morning, fill your heart with good intentions, and make it a point everywhere you go to say encouraging words to people. Lift them up and make them feel special. Ephesians 4:29 says, “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the

hearers.” Prov. 13:2a says, “A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth ...” Yes, people will be rewarded for what they say. Jesus said it best in Matthew 12:36,37: **“But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”**

Since so much depends on our words, we must forever be watchful over them. They do, after all, reveal what is in our hearts. Jesus said in Matthew 12:34, **“For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.”** If you cannot speak proper words to people, then do as David does in Psalms 39:1:

“I said, ‘I will guard my ways lest I sin with my tongue; I will restrain my mouth with a muzzle ...’”

He said the same thing in Psalms 141:3: “Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.”

It would be a wise thing for all of us to follow David’s example. After all, many of our rewards depend on it. There are certainly many other things we can do in and with our lives for which we can receive eternal rewards.

Giving is one such thing. **“I tell you, use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. In this way, your generosity stores up a reward for you in Heaven”** Luke 16:9.

Also, you will receive rewards for services done by the people to whom you’ve given your resources. Matthew 10:41 says, **“He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward.”**

Think about that for a moment. If you give financial support to an evangelist, you will be rewarded for the thousands upon thousands of souls that get saved in his or her ministry. Personally you may only lead a handful of people to the Lord, but at the great reward ceremony you will be accredited with saving thousands, if not millions, of people.

And if those people who got saved go out and saved others, you will be rewarded for that as well. It’s the snowball effect and the rewards just keep getting bigger and bigger. That should put a smile on your face. It does mine.

In Heaven we will be rewarded for the sincere, heartfelt prayers we pray in secret. Jesus says in Matthew 6:5,6, “**And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father Who is in the secret place, and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you openly.**”

If you are not in full-time ministry but instead have a job, rejoice because eternal rewards are available to you for putting in a hard day’s work. This also includes stay-at-home moms!.

Proverbs 27:18 says, “In the same way, workers who protect their employer’s interest will be rewarded.”

Col. 3:22-24 says, “Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eye service, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance, for you serve the Lord Jesus.”

If your boss or others persecute you, then rejoice for great is your reward in Heaven. 1 Peter 3:14 says, “But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it.” Thank the person who does you wrong, for he unknowingly has heaped another reward onto the pile of eternal blessings you’ll receive from the Lord. Thank him for that and see how he responds. Who knows? This could be the doorway that leads him to the gift of salvation.

The list goes on and on. Consider these verses:

“A curse on those who lead astray the godly. But men who encourage the upright to do good shall be given a worthwhile reward” Prov. 28:10.

“But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it” 1 Peter 3:14.

“For I, the Lord, love justice. I hate robbery and wrongdoing. I will faithfully reward my people for their suffering and make an everlasting covenant with them” Is. 61:8,9.

“The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward” Psalms 19: 8b,11.



“If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; for so you will heap coals of fire on his head, and the Lord will reward you” Proverbs 25:21,22.

“Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him” Is. 40:10.

“And it shall be: like people, like priest. So I will punish them for their ways, and reward them for their deeds” Hos. 4:9.

“Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in Heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you” Matthew 5:11,12.

“And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward” Matthew 10:42.

“And be very careful around them so you don’t lose out on what we’ve worked so diligently in together; I want you to get every reward coming to you” 2 John 8.

It goes beyond comprehension, God’s desire to bless you and reward you for works rendered unto Him. All areas of life are avenues where we can do things for the glory of God and thus be rewarded.

Daily go out and participate in what I call “the Ministry of Nice.” Buy a coworker a cup of coffee. Bake a neighbor a dozen cookies. Open the door for somebody, or help them carry out their groceries the next time you’re at the store. Fulfill the love walk that God has called each of us to. Do it cheerfully and always be prepared to speak a kind word into the lives of others.

Get your calculator, because you may not believe what I’m going to tell you now. Let’s say you’re an active believer who works hard at serving God and other people. You do 20 good deeds a day, for which you will be rewarded. That’s 7,300 rewards a year. You got saved at an early age and were faithful for a total of 60 years. 7,300 rewards x 60 years = 438,000 rewards!

Oh, and that’s not all. The Bible teaches that God will multiply your seed sown. The Bible also teaches that a person can believe for a hundredfold return on all their giving. If that is true on Earth, then

let's believe that it is true in Heaven as well. So let's take our 438,000 rewards and multiply that by 100. That comes out to 43,800,000! Can you even begin to imagine that? 43 million, 800 thousand rewards!

But if all this weren't enough, there remains one special reward in Heaven that grabs hold of my attention and won't let go. I pray that it grabs hold of yours as well...

## Chapter Seven

### Our Destiny is Our Responsibility

Heaven will be a place of new status where positions of authority will be given out as rewards for work well done on Planet Earth. Know with certainty that everyone will not be in the same position once we get to Heaven.

Heaven is not a huge celestial communion where everybody is the same, does the same, and gets rewarded the same. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Revelation 22:3-5 says this about Heaven: “And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. They shall see

His face, and His Name shall be on their foreheads. And there shall be no light there! They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.”



Notice something very important here. This honor, this reward of rulership, of reigning forever and ever, is reserved for the servants of

God.

Not every believer while on Planet Earth, surrendered their will to God and became a servant of the Most High. The life we now live is a training ground for Heaven, and our acts of service here determine our status and positions of authority in Heaven.

Read carefully what Jesus says in Matthew 19:27-30: “Then Peter answered and said to Him, ‘See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore, what shall we have?’ So Jesus said to them, ‘Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left

houses or brothers or sisters or father or wife or children or lands, for My Name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit everlasting life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

There is most definitely rank and file in Heaven. The *Message® Bible* says, “Jesus replied, ‘Yes, you have followed Me. In the recreation of the world, when the Son of Man will rule gloriously, you who have followed Me will also rule, starting with the twelve tribes of Israel. And not only you, but anyone who sacrifices home, family, fields - whatever - because of Me will get it back a hundred times over, not to mention the considerable bonus of eternal life. This is the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first.’”

Has this grabbed hold of your attention yet? Read on! The Bible is filled with verses saying that in the next life some of us will rule and reign with Christ:

2 Timothy 2:12a says, “If we endure, we shall also reign with Him.”

Do all believers endure? I don't think so.

Do all believers serve God with all their heart? Hardly.

It stands to reason that if there are rulers in Heaven, then there must be followers there as well. The first shall be last, and the last shall be first. I'm telling you, not everybody will be the same in Heaven. The good news is that the choice is ours to do with our lives that which will be able to get us promoted to positions of rulership in Heaven.

Let me repeat: The responsibility of where and how we'll end up in the next life is entirely on our shoulders; this is why we should live our lives every minute of every day with the end in mind. In the parable of the talents recorded in Matthew 25:14-30, Jesus says, in verses 21 and 23, “His Lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of the Lord.’”

The *Message® Bible* records the Lord's response this way, “Good work! You did your job well. From now on be My partner.” Jesus said in Luke 19:17, “Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.”

A good and faithful servant is a humble person who accepts his assigned task and fulfills his calling with devotion and integrity. Do all

Christians do this? Sadly, no. The *Message® Bible* declares the Lord's response to the servant who buried his talent and did nothing for God: "You wicked and lazy servant ... take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents ... and cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Ouch! That doesn't sound like a fun place to be. Notice for a moment that this person was a servant just like the other two who doubled their talents. In other words, this unprofitable servant was a Christian with the same chance to be promoted as the other two. He did nothing for God with his life and look what happened to him.

Please, don't think you can be born again on Planet Earth and then go off and live anyway you want to with no regard given to God or His will for your life. God will not be mocked! What a man sows is precisely what he will reap.

On a brighter note, I want to share with you now the one reward that excites me the most. Revelation 5:9, 10 says, "And they sang a new song, saying: 'You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nations, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.'"

This is the New Earth described in Revelation 21:1, and clearly we are taught here that many of us will be kings in Heaven. Tell me, what does every king need? Answer: a kingdom! Not only will some of us be given rewards—huge mansions, and our very own planets - we'll also be given kingdoms over which to rule! We have already seen that some of us will be made ruler over ten cities, others five cities.

Daniel 7:18, 27 tells us, "But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever. Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms (notice that's plural) under the whole Heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High." Wow! Talk about a great adventure! This excites me to no end! God's kingdom is an everlasting kingdom made up of smaller kingdoms and dominions ruled by those who faithfully served Him with their lives on earth.

Personally, this is the main reward that I'm living for. I want to be God's partner forever and ever! Don't you? Revelation 2:26-29

says, “And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—‘He shall rule over them with a rod of iron; as the potter’s vessels shall be broken to pieces’— as I also have received from My Father; and I will give him the morning star. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

In Heaven there are cities, nations, and kingdoms, each of which will have its ruler. The *Message® Bible* translates this passage this way: “Here’s the reward I have for every conqueror, everyone who keeps at it, refusing to give up! You’ll rule the nations, your Shepherd King rules as firm as an iron staff, their resistance fragile as clay pots. This was the gift My Father gave Me; I pass it along to you – and with it the Morning Star! Are your ears awake? Listen. Listen to the Wind Words, the Spirit blowing through the churches.” Did you catch that part about the Morning Star? We’ll rule the nations and we’ll be given our own star! Stars have planets, and planets form galaxies!

If we heed the call to live our lives according to our design with the end in mind, and if we do this faithfully, then the day will come when we’ll be rewarded with our own star, our own planets, our own galaxy, our own kingdom! Wow! Double wow! What could be more spectacular than that?

Heaven is a place of action, and governing authorities will be needed in the areas of education, manufacturing, entertainment, the arts, and various other fields. Trust me, Heaven will not be boring. There will be enough to do and enjoy for all eternity. Some of us will be God’s partners as we rule and reign with Him. We’ll work side by side with Jesus as we make plans for the eternal future, and we’ll have a say-so in all the new things that will be created.

As His trusted advisors, we’ll oversee life in God’s kingdom and will be liaisons between God and those under our rule. This is my dream. This is my goal. This is my reason for living. I strive to live every minute of every day in a way that is pleasing to God, with the firm belief that, in the kingdom to come, I will be His partner and rule and reign with Him forever and ever. It is my hope and desire that this is your dream as well.

Preparing you for this great adventure is what the Bible is all about. Take heed and hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Is. 3:10,11 says, “Say to the righteous that it shall be well with them, for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.”

“Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, for the reward of his hands shall be given him.” The NLT<sup>®</sup> translation puts it this way: “But all will be well for those who are godly. Tell them, ‘You will receive a wonderful reward!’ But say to the wicked, ‘Your destruction is sure. You, too, will get what you deserve. Your well-earned punishment is on the way.’”

This isn’t all fun and games, folks. There is a serious side to all of this. The author of Hebrews says, “For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Heb. 10: 26, 27, 31).

Listen to what Jesus says in Luke 13:24-30: “**Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open for us.’ and He will answer and say to you, ‘I do not know you, where are you from,’ then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught us in our streets.’ But He will say, ‘I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.’ There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God.**”

“**And indeed there are [those who are] last who shall be first, and there are [those who are] the first who will be last.**” Please, don’t take lightly the existence you’ve been given. It truly is a matter of spiritual life and death. And remember, it’s totally up to you to determine your eternal destiny.

Shortly before his death, Paul wrote to Timothy, “For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing” <sup>2 Timothy 4:6-8</sup>.

Notice that there is a reward for being anxious for the Lord’s

return.

The *Message Bible* says, “You take over. I’m about to die, my life an offering on God’s altar. This is the only race worth running. I’ve run hard right to the finish, believed all the way. All that’s left now is the shouting—God’s applause! Depend on it, He’s an honest Judge. He’ll do right not only by me, but by everyone eager for His coming.”

Many people are eager for the Lord’s return for the wrong reason. The trials of this life overwhelm them, and they don’t have the tenacious determination to rise up and fight the good fight of faith. They are sick and tired of being sick and tired. Their desire to go to Heaven is that it will be an avenue of escape from the hardships of life. This is wrongful thinking. God has given each of us a mission in life, a Heavenly calling, and the completion of that mission should be the only time frame dictating when we should go to Heaven.

Even Jesus said, “**It is finished**” before He hung His head and died on the cross. Yes, we should all want to go to Heaven. We should be anxious for the Lord’s return. It’s just that we shouldn’t want to go too soon.

There’s work to be done, and each day we’re alive the focus of our lives should be the fulfillment of our Heavenly calling. Paul ran his race, and he ran hard! He lived for Jesus and gave it everything he had. We, too, must do the same. We cannot get so caught up and entangled with the affairs that weigh us down and prevent us from running and completing our race.

Paul also says in Acts 20:24, “But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.”

What we do with our lives is so important. This is why I strive to tell you that every day each of us should rise out of bed determined to live our lives according to our design (our Heavenly calling) with the end in mind. Your endurance, loyalty, and humility will secure for you the honor of receiving many great rewards when you stand before Jesus in Heaven.

Luke 14:11 <sup>AMP</sup> says, “**For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled (ranked below others who are honored or rewarded), and he who humbles himself (keeps a modest opinion of himself and behaves**



accordingly) will be exalted (elevated in rank).”

The *Message® Bible* says, “What I’m saying is, if you walk around with your nose in the air, you’re going to end up flat on your face. But if you’re content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself. You’ll be—and experience—a blessing. They won’t be able to return the favor, but the favor will be returned—oh, how it will be returned!—at the resurrection of God’s people.”

## Chapter Eight

### God Does Not Change, We Do

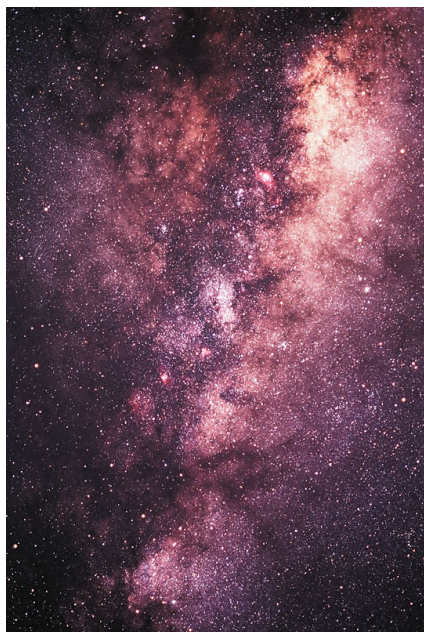
**Y**our life matters. You are important to God, and He wants to be important to you. Since we are going to be held accountable to Him for our actions and motives during our lives on Planet Earth, we should live each day to the fullest, serving Him with our whole heart. We all have a race to run, and we should run it well. We need to become the workman who is not ashamed.

2 Timothy 2:15 says, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the truth.” Concentrate on doing your best for God. Be all that you can be. Be motivated to have a continuous lifestyle of unending service to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

1 Thess. 1:3 <sup>NIV</sup> says, “We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ ...” As wonderful as Heaven is, we can’t forget the life we have to live on Planet Earth. Remember, rank and file in Heaven.

Throughout the Bible we are given marching orders for what we are to do in order to secure a bright future in Heaven. Jesus said in John 15:9,10, “**As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you, abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.**”

Earlier, in John 15, Jesus said, “**Abide in Me, and I in you**” <sup>v.4</sup>. The *Message® Bible* says, “Live in Me. Make your home in Me just as I do in you.” If you want to guarantee for yourself great rewards in Heaven, then learn to abide in Christ every day of your lives. When



you abide in Christ, God's voice comes, faith flows, and amazing results ensue.

The word *abide* means "to remain, stay, dwell, reside." It means to "continue in, dwell in, walk with, live in, and seek after." Know that God must be sought after in order to be found. You must take an active part in your relationship with the great God of the universe. James 4:8a says, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."

Abiding in Christ means to live in unison with Him:

- *His will becomes your will.*
- *His desire becomes your desire.*
- *His way of doing things becomes your way of doing things.*

When you abide in Jesus, He becomes your all in all. Nothing else matters but Him.

The word *abide* also means to "take up permanent residence." If you're abiding somewhere, you're not just staying there temporarily, as in a short stay at a hotel or a short vacation with family or friends; abiding means you're living there continually.

When you abide in Jesus, you think about Him all the time. He's the first Person you think about when you get up in the morning and the last Person you think about when you go to bed; you think about Him at work and you think about Him at home; you think about Him when you're shopping and when you're watching a ball game; you think about Him when you're doing the dishes and when you're mowing the lawn.

Your desire will always follow what you give your attention to. Therefore, set your mind on Jesus and don't let your life become cluttered. Simplify your life! Put God first! Paul told Timothy not to get entangled with the affairs of this life <sup>2 Timothy 2:4</sup>.

Remember, we are *in* the world but not *of* the world. Do not get tied to this natural realm, because its workings can steal your time away from God. In the parable of the sower, Jesus said, "**Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the Word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the Word and it becomes unfruitful**"

Mark 4:18,19

Paul says that those who are the enemies of the cross of Christ

have “set their mind on earthly things” Phil. 3:18,19. In other words, if you’re too busy for God, you’re too busy. Do not give Him the last five minutes of your day. Do not give Him the leftovers. Our God is not a “leftover” God. He is great and He is mighty. We should put Him first in everything we do. It is foolish not to do so.

Jesus came to give His life for us; we must do the same. Ask yourself if there is anything between you and God. If there is and you do nothing about it, you will one day have to stand before Christ and give an account for that. His response will probably be, “**Depart from Me, I never knew you.**” A workman who is not ashamed, however, will continually and steadfastly resist the temptation to become ensnared in the world’s fleshly distractions. A faithful person is one who has chosen eternal objectives for his or her life.

A person who abides in Christ will “**seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness...**” Matthew 6:33. As born-again believers, we must all develop a huge appetite for the Word of God. We must crave spiritual food more than we crave natural food, and that craving should be so great that it is impossible to satisfy. We need to become so addicted to the Word of God that, it seems like we can’t get enough of It.

Jeremiah 15:6 says, “Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your Name, O Lord God of hosts.”

Ezekiel says the same thing: “Moreover He said to me, ‘Son of man, eat what you find, eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.’ So I opened my mouth and He caused me to eat that scroll. And He said to me, ‘Son of man, feed your belly, and fill your stomach with this scroll that I give you.’ So I ate it, and it was in my mouth like honey is sweetness” Ezekiel. 3: 1-3.

God says to “fill” your stomach with His Word. Don’t nibble on It a little bit. Don’t be content reading one verse on some “promise card” you have stored on some dusty shelf in the back bedroom. To become addicted to the Word of God, you should read no fewer than ten chapters a day. This may seem like a lot, but you get out of the Word what you put into the Word. The more you grow in the Word, the more the Word will grow in you.

Make a quality decision to give yourself completely and

wholeheartedly to God's anointed Word. Carry a pocket Bible with you in your purse or lunch box. Put a Bible in the glove compartment of your car. Have one on the coffee table in your living room and on the night stand in your bedroom. And don't let those Bibles just sit there and collect dust. Read them, chew on them, and meditate on them.

The more you give yourself to God's Word, the more your desire for It will grow. Come to a place where you can't get enough of it. Let It consume your spirit, soul, and body. Get addicted to the Word of God. The more you get, the more you'll want. Job said, "I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food" Job 23:12. Oh people, "taste and see that the Lord is good" Psalms 34:8.

Another basic practice is to develop a life of prayer. How many times do we read in the gospels that Jesus went off by Himself to pray? Many people shake and tremble when faced with this important necessity to abide in Christ. That's because they don't understand what prayer really is. They think God is in some far-off place, and if they kneel on some hardwood floor long enough--until their knees become raw--then maybe, just maybe, He might listen to them. Prayer to them is burdensome, it makes a demand on their time, and they develop a contentment of praying at bedtime a prayer that begins, "Now I lay me down to sleep . . . ." People like that don't really know God at all, and they definitely don't know what prayer really is.

To pray means to talk with God. We talk to and communicate with people every day of our lives, and how we do so is determined by the type of relationship that exists between you and those to whom you direct your words.

You will say more to a spouse you are deeply in love with than to some stranger standing on a street corner. Go to a department store and there will be hundreds of other customers there whom you have never met before. How many of those strangers will you go up to and begin to share your most intimate and personal thoughts with? Probably none. But if you go into that same store and meet your best friend whom you've known for over twenty years, you will probably share with him or her every detail of what's gone on in your life since the last time the two of you talked. See the difference?

How you talk to someone and what you say to them is determined by the quality of relationship you have with them. So the

question is, what type of relationship do you have with God? Is He your best friend, or some stranger you've never met? The answer to that question determines your eternal destiny.

## Chapter Nine

### Actions Speak Louder Than Words

**Y**es, Heaven will be a great adventure. But first we must strive to have a great adventure here on Planet Earth. And it all begins with a personal one-on-one relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus made it clear that He wants to be your friend. In John 15:15 He says, “No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.”

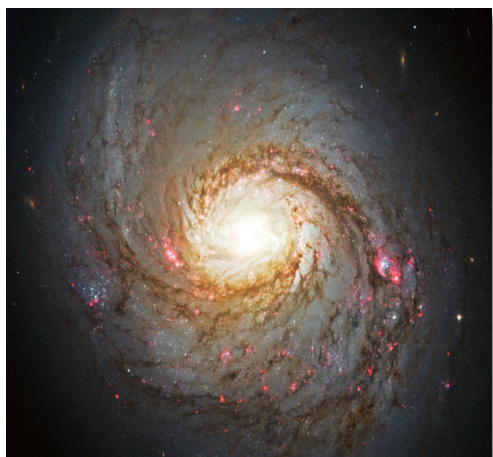
Jesus says that He is your friend--now you must decide if you want to become His friend. How does one become a friend of Jesus?

He tells us in the preceding verse, “You are My friends if you do whatever I command you” John 15:14.

The degree to which we are obedient to God is the degree to which we become friends with Him. (It’s also the degree to which we’ll receive our Heavenly rewards.) Abraham—called the friend of God James 2:23; Is. 41:8—was obedient to the point where he was willing to offer up his only son as a burnt

offering to his Lord. Nothing will bring you closer to God than your obedience to His Word.

Ex. 33:11 says, “So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.” Begin today by talking to God as if He were your friend. When you get out of bed each day begin by saying, “Good morning, Lord. Is there anything special You would like me to do today?” Get personal with Him. Talk to Him about anything and everything. He cares about the smallest details of your life. He really does. If you don’t like how your favorite ball team played on Saturday afternoon, tell Him about it. If you like a new fashion of clothing that’s recently come out, tell Him about it. If you’re on a golf



course and you've got a difficult shot ahead of you, talk to Him about it. I'm serious. God wants to get involved in every aspect of your life. He loves you so much that you can talk to Him about anything and everything. You'll be talking with Him for all eternity so you may as well get started here on Planet Earth!

The longing of His heart is to get personal with you on a daily basis. How would you feel if somebody only came to you when they needed something? Yes, Jesus will be there when you call on Him. He is the "Great Provider." He is a friend that sticks closer than a brother. Truly, a friend in need is a friend indeed. That's Jesus. Still, He wants to be closer to you than that.

Don't let an hour go by without sharing with him all that's in your heart. He truly is reaching out to you. Won't you reach out to Him as well? Equally important is learning to listen when you spend time with God. The Bible says, "Be still and know that I am God"<sup>Psalm 46:10</sup>. Before long, you will develop a special bond with Him, whereby He'll be able to talk to you "as a man speaks to his friend."

God resides inside of you, and as you remain quiet before Him "a small, still voice" will rise up out of your innermost being. Instantly you will know that this is the voice of the Lord. Soon your spirit will be energized with the magnetic flow of the Holy Spirit.

You have been still, and now you know that He is God. He is talking to you. He is telling you what's in *His* heart. He wants to be your intimate friend. A surge of joyful excitement causes you to listen intently as His voice continues to speak. "Tell me more, Lord, tell me more!" You raise your hands in praise and you tell Him how much you love Him. Tears of joy run down your face as you realize you can't contain yourself any longer.

This is Heaven on Earth, and you are having a great adventure. You jump up with glee because you are in the presence of the Lord. Soon a peaceful calm and tranquility overtakes you as you look at the clock and realize that four hours have passed. Your mind cannot comprehend what has just taken place--but your spirit can. You have been abiding in Christ, and He has been abiding in you. Whew!

We have seen that we must all give an account to Christ for the works we've done since being born again <sup>2 Corinthians 5:10</sup>. Paul says in Ephesians 2:10, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus



for good works, which God has prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” The *Message® Bible* says, “He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join Him in the work He does, the good work He has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.” God wants us to be His partner, both in Heaven and on Earth.

We must all understand that God has a specific mission for each of us individually to accomplish in our lifetime. 2 Timothy 1:9 says that God “has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.”

Before God created the Heavens and the Earth He had formed a specific mission for your life for which you will one day be held accountable. Far too many Christians are lazy and live as though they can get away with anything. They think being born again is the end of their obligation to God instead of the beginning of a lifetime of service to their Master. They live like they will never have to give an account for anything they do or say. These people are in for a rude awakening.

The Bible says that tears will be shed in Heaven <sup>Revelation 21:4</sup>, and I believe that these deceived believers will be the ones who shed the most. This is your wake-up call! We all need to conform our will to God's design for our lives. Even Jesus prayed, “Not My will but Your will be done.”

We need to put His will first in our lives instead of trying to shape and mold Him into our own. Matthew 5:6 says, “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.” God alone deserves the throne of your heart, and He is forever ready and willing to reveal His plan to anyone who will hunger and thirst for it. Matt. 7:7 says, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”

Col. 1:9 says to pray “that you might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.” Discovering your mission in life will require time and effort on your part. Even Jesus had to spend time seeking the will of the Father. He fasted and prayed for forty days <sup>Luke 4:1-15</sup>. He studied the Word and based His ministry on scripture <sup>Luke 4:18</sup>. And He developed a habit of praying for long hours on end <sup>Luke 6:12</sup>.

Jesus was not born with the knowledge of what He was supposed

to do. He was, after all, a baby born in a manger. As He “increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men” <sup>Luke 2:52</sup>. He “divined” His mission by faithfully spending time with the Father. Scripture tells us that by the age of twelve He had received revelation of His mission in life (Luke 2:49).

To discover our calling, we must do as Jesus did. While we seek God, and wait for His call on our lives to be revealed to us, we must learn to be faithful just where we are. Jesus said **“He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much ...”** <sup>Luke 16:10a</sup>. God rewards faithfulness, in Heaven as well as on Earth, and our future work for Him is determined by our attitudes and actions right now.

A person who is faithful will be trustworthy, sure, reliable, and dependable. Faithfulness means doing a good job regardless of what the job may be—even when nobody is watching. Remember, what you do in secret God will reward openly <sup>Matthew 6:4</sup>. Col. 3:23 says, “And whatever you do, do it heartily as unto the Lord and not to men.” God says that if you are faithful in small things you can be promoted to bigger and better things.

Joseph was betrayed by his brothers and sold as a slave, but he still found favor by working hard <sup>Genesis 39:4,22</sup>. He worked hard caring for the household of Potiphar, and when falsely accused by his master’s wife, he worked hard, and with a good attitude for the Egyptian jailer under whom he was bound.

Joseph worked “as unto the Lord” and one day his childhood dream became a reality when he was promoted and made ruler over all of Egypt. Once the Father’s will is made known to us, we must faithfully commit ourselves to the fulfillment of our call. For this we must be willing to give up all we have. It’s a life of total surrender as you abandon all that you want for the sake of doing what God wants. Trust me, there’s no greater way to live.

When you give your all to God, He will give His all to you. Jesus said, **“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that He has, cannot be My disciple”** <sup>Luke 14:33</sup>. The *Message® Bible* says, **“Simply put, if you’re not willing to take what is dearest to you, whether plans or people, and kiss it goodbye, you can’t be My disciple.”**

The rich young ruler refused to give up all he had and he walked away saddened. He was more devoted to his wealth than he

was to God. Very rarely does God ask you to forsake all your natural resources for Him. He does, however, require a willingness to do so if this is what He requires. God asked Abraham to give up his only son; but when the old man began to slay the young Isaac, God intervened and allowed the boy to live.

Proverbs 16:3 says, “Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” Dedication is the foundation of commitment. Without it the believer is unable to offer God anything else. Commitment is the act of giving God the very best we have. It means to “surrender” or to “yield.”

Ninety percent of being a workman who is not a shamed is found in our attitude and commitment to the will of God. When you are committed, there is a transfer of authority. You cheerfully surrender your will to that of the Father. Jesus did this when He walked the Earth, and we are required to do the same. It truly is a wonderful way to live. To be committed means “to practice, to perform something repeatedly.” Don’t just say you’re committed; show it. Repeatedly.

James 1:22 says, “But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” Actions speak louder than words, and it is these actions that we will be held accountable for at the judgment seat of Christ. May we all “have a walk worthy of the calling with which you were called” <sup>Eph. 4:1</sup>, so that one day we can stand before the Lord and hear Him say, “**Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of the Lord.**” Heaven. It is indeed The Great Adventure.

I’m going.

Won’t you come with me?





**Randall J. Brewer** has been faithfully serving the Lord since the day he first bowed his knees before Him in the summer of 1974. Since that time Randall has stepped through every door that the Lord has opened for him and over time he has been involved with a children's ministry, a teenage street ministry, and has led a Christian singles ministry. He has been involved with an outreach to those in prison and many inmates have been blessed as the result of his efforts.

Randall has also managed a church bookstore, has been the substitute host of a three hour Christian radio program, and has taught Bible classes at church and hosted many home cell groups. Recently the Lord had him write the eye opening story "Heaven: The Great Adventure" with the promise that it would open doors all over the world giving those who read the message the incentive to grow closer and stronger in their own personal walk with the Lord. Since the completion of this book, Randall's work has been translated into seven languages and invitations have come in to teach all over the world.

Randall and his beautiful wife Anne Marie have been bonded together by one God, with one love, for one purpose. They know firsthand the trials and pain that come with having a sincere desire to serve the Lord. The result of going through many harsh battles is that the Lord has anointed them to lift up and exhort those who are also serving the Lord and going through similar circumstances. Their mission in life is to encourage all believers to rise up in the midst of their adversity and become all they were meant to be in and through the Lord Jesus Christ. Their heartfelt prayer is that once you read this book, your life will never be the same.

