

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Mike Davis

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Bill Brittenham Jack Calvert
Jackie Jamison Steve Rankin

Prayers

Dee Minter Cole Meador

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Mike Davis

Song Leader

Cory Easley

Lord's Supper

Bill Brittenham Jackie Jamison

Prayers

Randy Ellis Pete Rowland

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Randy Ellis

Song Leader

Cory Easley

Prayers

Jack Calvert Daniel Allgor

Invitation

Gerald Eaton

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Dave Massey

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:35-30

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16;
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

Think On These Things

Franklin Drive Church of Christ

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Issue 50

What's in Heaven for Me?

Bryan Garlock

“What’s in it for me?” This form of selfishness, which is a mindset among many, contradicts numerous biblical principles such as looking to the interest of others, loving your neighbor as yourself, etc., and is the exact opposite of having the “mind of Christ” as described by Paul in Philippians 2. Thus this self-centeredness has caused men to incrementally go from bad to worse. On the other hand, the question in the above title is essential for the saint to ask. This inquiry is not a selfish matter, but is equivalent to questions asked when an honest investigation into the validity of the Scriptures is underway. What we mean is, it is right for an individual to ask: “Why should I trust the Bible?” and “Why should I believe and follow God?” etc. The Scriptures lay open for all to search and investigate and when one is honest with the text they will respond accordingly to its demands. The same is true for the Christian. God has promised us abundant joy and blessings in Christ. He has also promised us

an eternal home with Him one day. Knowing all things in store for the saint is essential to our growth. With such information comes hope, faithfulness, love, obedience, motivation, etc. Thus we must ask: “What’s in heaven for me?”

First, the Bible teaches that our treasure is in heaven. Speaking to the rich young ruler who claimed to keep all the commands of God, Jesus said, “...If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me” (Matt. 19.21). Paul gave similar instructions to the rich in 1 Timothy 6.17-19. Giving to the poor is not necessarily the only thing we must do to lay our treasure up in heaven. Setting our minds on things above is one of the many ways we can be assured that our hearts are right and our treasure is secured in heaven (Col. 3.1-2), “where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal” (Matt. 6.19-21).

FAMILY TALK

Gladys Winters continues to improve from her recent knee surgery.

Joey Avance has a biopsy scheduled for his throat in January.

Remember **L. G. Clemmons, Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, and Max Thomas**.

A number of our family have been sick with different ailments recently. Look around and then contact those who are missing to see if they need assistance.

We frequently pray for our sick, but let us not forget when they get better. And so, we rejoice that **Mary Jamison** has recovered so dramatically

Front Page Article (concl.)

Second, Paul speaks to our hope, which is in heaven. Interestingly, the Colossians' obedience was based on their future hope. Paul penned, "...since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven..." (Col. 1.4-5). Hope will drive a man to do great things in life.

Third, Peter declared words about our inheritance, which is in heaven. "According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance

that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you..." (1 Peter 1.4). It is God who has "...qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light" because "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins" (Col. 1.12-14 NKJV). There is no greater blessing that a person will receive in their lifetime than to hear the words, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matt. 25.34).

Fourth, Paul taught that our citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3.20). Since the apostles spoke to our temporary status while on earth (see 1 John 2.17; 1 Peter 2.11), and since we inherit the kingdom, it is obvious that our citizenship is truly there.

Fifth, we have an award for us in Heaven. Jesus taught, "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" (Matt. 5.12-13). The Hebrew writer said, "...He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Heb. 11.6). Since God rewards our endurance in this world, let us see that no man cheats us of our reward (Col. 2.18) and that we do not throw away our confidence "which has a great reward" (Heb. 10.35).

Sixth, the Scriptures are replete with passages speaking to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, which are in Heaven. The apostles use different terms to describe the Godhead such as our Master in heaven (Eph.

6.9; Col. 4.1) and our High Priest in heaven (Heb. 8.1), etc. We will dwell with them forevermore!

Finally, we are enrolled, or registered, in heaven (Heb. 12.23). For those of us who have been added to the church of Christ (Acts 2.41, 47; 1 Cor. 12.13), we are registered in heaven. Therefore it can be said that we are added, enrolled, and granted citizenship. The three cannot be separated.

The saint has much to look forward to. Are you prepared for heaven? BG

The Many Faces of the Lord

Bryan Garlock

The Scriptures often speak about the face of Jesus. Unfortunately not every reference is pleasing to read. For example, Matthew, recording the events before His death, wrote, "Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him..." (26.67). Many Jews despised not only His face, but also His very being.

Luke observed, "When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem" (9.51). Jesus, knowing all things that would shortly come to pass, began to prepare Himself for the suffering, humiliation and death He would experience (cf. Matt. 16.21).

Elsewhere when Jesus was being glorified before His disciples and divine proof was manifested that Jesus was in fact the Messiah as Peter had previously affirmed (Matt. 16.13-18), we read, "And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light" (Matt. 17.2). Peter later said concerning this event, "For we did not

follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,' we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place..." (2 Peter 1.16-19). What a sight it would have been to see the face of Jesus!

Lastly, John wrote, "No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever" (Rev. 22.3-5). As saints we have the comfort of knowing that one day we will be in the presence of our Lord's face away from the darkness of this world. At that time we will fall on our faces before His throne and worship Him for eternity.

Until the revelation of our Lord, we would do well to stay within the Lord's eyesight! Peter declared, "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil" (1 Peter 3.12). BG