

Seeking a New Home called Heaven!

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*All Scripture in Blue

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In the Garden of Eden, the LORD God called for Adam AV Genesis 3:9 “*Where art thou? 10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid.*” God wanted to talk and have a personal relationship with Adam.

AV Isaiah 1:18 “*Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*”

God loves us and wants us to love Him. He proved His love by sending His Son to the Cross so we could be forgiven. AV Romans 5:8 “*While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*”

Jesus said AV John 14:15 “*If ye love me, keep my commandments*”—and AV Isaiah 1:19 “*If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: 20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword.*”

God calls us to *repent*—He wants us to *know* Him and to *trust* Him. God wants to *deliver* us; *heal* us; *supply* our needs; *change* our attitudes; *guide* our walk; *enlighten* our mind; and *give* us salvation—we just let Him *do* those things for us.

If we seek God, we will *find* Him—AV 2 Chronicles 15:2 “*The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.*”

God will show to anyone who is *willing* to know of His love, mercy, and power. We then will be inspired to *trust* Him in faith.

We *seek* a new home in Heaven and try to imagine what it would be like. It is, however, so much more magnificent than anything on earth, that it is like trying to understand a complex algorithm that is far beyond anything we have studied.

If we tried to explain the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains to a small child, they would *not* be able to understand what we are saying.

The apostle said that fourteen years ago he AV 2 Corinthians 12:4 “*was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.*”

Heaven is not just a *concept* or *conjecture*—but an actual *location* and *city*—like Miami, Chicago, or London. The Heaven depicted in videos—of people in white and playing harps is *not* the Heaven of the Bible being prepared for believers.

Heaven is described as a *Paradise*—it is a *marvelous* environment! Jesus promised it to the thief on the cross. AV Luke 23:42 “*Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom,*” Jesus replied: 43 “*Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.*”

Heaven is a real *place* with real *people* living there for an eternity! AV Hebrews 11:10 *Abraham “looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.*” Here on earth we have Hebrews 13:14 “*no continuing city, but we seek one to come.*”

Cities on earth have buildings, museums, food markets, entertainment facilities, and sports stadiums. We do not know if such would be in Heaven, but we know that it will *not* be anything *less* than what we have on earth.

We *do* know that it will be a most *magnificent* place to live for an eternity—and with nothing

there that is harmful, dangerous, evil, deceitful, or destructive.

Scripture mentions some things that *will* be in Heaven—like a *tree of life*; a *river*; *streets of gold*; and *gates of pearls*. Heaven has the *Book of Life*—and our names *must* be written in it.

AV Hebrews 11:16 “*But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.*”

Anything we like on earth will be 10,000-times *better* in Heaven. There is some *beauty* on earth, but the *grandeur* of Paradise cannot be compared to it.

Many good things we love and enjoy on earth that God has blessed us with—like homes and vehicles; sports and music—are all just a *copy*—Heaven is the *real deal*!

The original Temple in Jerusalem was a *copy* of the *real* Temple in Heaven. The Bible says that people on earth NLT Hebrews 8:5 “*Serve in a place of worship that is only a copy, a shadow of the real one in heaven.*”

A Bible scholar wrote: *All those things that have deeply possessed your soul, have been but hints of Heaven—tantalizing glimpses; promises never quite fulfilled; and echoes that faded away just as they caught our ear* unquote.

Heaven is so much *more*, that we cannot really comprehend its *grandeur* and *brilliance*! We can only *imagine* what it is actually like. In the meantime, we are to be committed to living a godly life of faith in Christ so that our new home is assured.

This *new* and *superb* environment called *Heaven* is promised to believers—*only*! Our decision to *follow* Jesus—*listening* to His words and

obeying His commands—*loving* Him and everyone else, is not only for our benefit and blessing *here* on earth, but it includes our living *forever* with Him in Heaven!

This new home is being prepared for anyone who choose to believe, and who will faithfully follow the Lord's directions in Scripture.

The Sermon on the Mount—Matthew 5, 6, and 7 is a guide of instructions on godly living. AV Matthew 5:3 "*Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*" Poor in spirit is being *humble in attitude* and *teachable in heart*. If we submit *our* will to be God's will, He promises us the kingdom.

4 "*Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*" God has comforted us and given His peace when we needed it so many times.

5 "*Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.*" Being meek is being humble, submissive, and lowly in spirit.

6 "*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.*" Our desires are to live a godly life of faith and trust on Jesus. We are to pursue a godly life of faith in all humility.

7 "*Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*" To show compassion, sympathy, and mercy to anyone going through a difficult time is being merciful. If we do *not* show mercy toward others, we will not be *shown* mercy!

Seeking a new city is to *thirst* for righteousness—and being righteous is *only* by a trusting *faith* in the perfect blood *sacrifice* of Christ.

We are promised the Gift of the Holy Spirit so we would be inspired to *seek* those things that are of true *spiritual* value.

AV Matthew 5:8 "*Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.*" It is increasingly *difficult* to be pure in our thoughts in an increasingly *impure* world today, but God helps us make *right* decisions concerning all things, and to *reject* impure thoughts from the devil.

9 "*Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.*" Being the person who brings peace to situations and who tries to stop arguments, makes us a child of the Father. AV Hebrews 12:14 "*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.*" He means with **everyone** every **time**!

10 "*Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*" When we are *persecuted* for our faith and it is met in a scriptural way, we are *promised* the kingdom.

11 "*Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.* 12 *Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.*"

Rather than *complaining*, we are to be *rejoicing* when *criticized* for our faith in Christ, and when we are *rejected* because of our Christian lifestyle. We are given the reward of living forever in a place called *Heaven*, where the faithful are already there and enjoying His presence forever!

God *loves* us and He *promises* to give us peace, joy, forgiveness, healing, and a place called *Heaven*—if we will choose to *believe* in His Son and *trust* on His atoning sacrifice.

Gospel means *Good News*—but to appreciate the *Good News* we need to first know the *bad news*. We are *all sinners* from birth and would *not* qualify

for *Heaven* unless there is some way to *deal* with the sin problem.

AV Romans 3:10 "*As it is written, 'There is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. 12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.'*"

Jesus came to earth for far *more* than to give us kind thoughts on December 25th. He came to deliver us from an evil nature and from the *wrath* to come *because* of that nature. He came to *save* us from *judgment* and an eternity in Hell.

Good things like happiness, peace and joy are *fringe* benefits. The big issue is *eternity*—and how to enjoy it with God and His Son Jesus.

There is a requirement—one that is easily understood, but often overlooked. It involves *more* than sending Christmas cards and giving gifts—it means *loving*; *forgiving*; *showing mercy* toward everyone; and it means *trusting* God in *faith* for real-life issues.

Seeking a New Home in Heaven involves being qualified to enter. There *is* a requirement that anyone can meet—it just takes faith and a willingness AV John 6:29 "*Believe on him whom he hath sent.*"



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1. Guidelines for living—Matthew 5:3-12
2. Heaven is a promise for believers, only!
3. Requirement to enter Heaven—John 6:29