

Why Would Anyone Want to Go to Heaven

Phil. 1:23-24

Introduction:

- A. Paul's good balance: A desire to go, but willing to stay.
- B. Why so little real interest in spiritual things in the church?
 - 1. Do only what feel *compelled* to do to miss hell – nor more (cf. Mt. 5:41).
 - 2. Yet, have not real desire to go to heaven. (Cf. Student trying to do just enough to get by)
- C. Bible gives us some good **reasons** for wanting to go to heaven:

Discussion:

I. Because of What Will Not Be There.

- A. The corruption of this world.
 - 1. Filthy conduct of the wicked. (2 Pet. 2:4-9.; Rev. 21:27).
 - 2. Death, pain and sorrow. (Rev. 20:13,24; 21:4)
- B. The Devil and his angels. (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10).
- C. The Horrors of Hell.
 - 1. Fire and torment (Matt. 13:50; 18:8; Mk 9:42-48; Rev. 14:11; 20:14,15; 21:8).
 - 2. Darkness and terrible sounds. (Matt. 25:30)

II. Because of What Will Be There.

- A. Beauty.
 - 1. Indescribable (Rev. 21:11-22:1).
 - 2. Unfailing. (1 Pet. 1:4).
- B. Rest.
 - 1. From labor and struggle. (2 Thess. 1:7; Heb. 4:1; Rev. 14:13).
 - 2. Not from service. (Rev. 7:15; 22:3)
- C. Heavenly beings.
 - 1. God (Matt. 6:9,10; 10:32).
 - 2. Christ (1 Thess 4:13-18; Phil 1:23).
 - 3. Angels (Matt. 18:10; 22:30; Mk. 13:32).
- D. Saints.
 - 1. Of old. (Matt. 22:32; 17:1-5; Heb. 12:22-23).
 - 2. Faithful Christians (Rev. 2:10; John 14:1-2; Matt. 25:34,41).

Conclusion:

- A. Cannot accidentally go to heaven – must strive (Lk. 13:34).
- B. Cannot go in defiled state – must be forgiven and stay forgiven (Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7-9).