

Facts About Heaven **John 14:1-4**

Jesus here refers to Heaven, the focus of Christianity, the reward of those who spend their lives in faith & humble submission to His will

Everybody wants to go to heaven. Why we are gathered today.

Many say going to heaven, actors, music stars, etc

Few in our world realize certain facts necessary to gain the goal that we all seek

How sad it will be on the judgment day, for those who lived all their lives thinking they were going to heaven, but came up short in the end

Consider your own preparations, that you don't come up short of goal

Eternal Abode Of The Righteous

2Peter 3:13

Two distinct destinations after judgment - **Matthew 25:46**

unrighteous - everlasting punishment, righteous - everlasting life

No middle ground, no 2nd chances, no excuses - one place or other

What is righteousness?

Whatever conforms to revealed word of God, or whatever has been appointed by God to be acknowledged and obeyed by men. Vines

Are you conforming your life to the will of God?

Conform means to live under or live by. Lives spent conforming...

When lived at home we lived under the rules set by them.

We conform to the laws of the land.

We conform or go by requirements of employer to keep our jobs.

Why is it so hard to conform to Word of (be righteous)

Because punishment isn't immediate? don't believe? have an attitude of complacency?

To be unrighteous (not conforming yourself to the word of God) means to go away into everlasting punishment

Hope Of The Christian

Titus 1:2

The hope of heaven is why first century Christians put up with persecution, suffering, and not living a "normal" life.

What is hope? - to want or wish for, with a feeling of confident expectation. Webster

Confident of going to heaven by living according to Scriptures

The hope of heaven moves us to be saved. It is that desire which motivates us all to move forward for the Lord - **Romans 8:18,24-25**

Does everyone everywhere have the hope of heaven.

Is simple hope enough? Is this all it takes?

Put as little effort as possible - maybe do something at first and feel that's all they need to do.

But if we don't go to heaven, we have lost everything.

Is this what Paul meant when he spoke of the hope of heaven? The hope of heaven should motivate us to work for the Lord.

A Prepared Place for Prepared People

Jesus has prepared for us a place - **John 14:1-4**

In return, we need to prepare ourselves to go there.

Prepare mean to make, or get ready for some purpose, task or event.

Are you getting ready for heaven?

With difficulty - **1Peter 4:17-18**

Our faith will be tested. But if you remain faithful and prepare your life for heaven by following the Scriptures, then you will possess the hope of heaven.

The disobedient have no hope. No chance. Nothing. Just eternity in Hell - **2Thessalonians 1:7-9**

We prepare for things daily in our lives:

We prepared for the weather today: cool - cold natured brought coat

We prepare for trips. money? gas? oil? water in rad.? air in tires? what route are we taking?

We prepare for our jobs. Take test, or get some schooling, buy tools & machinery, get supplies
Full compliance with His will, not "picking & choosing" what we want to believe - **Matthew 7:21-23**

Not following His word is practicing lawlessness - **Matthew 13:36-43**

Lawlessness: dwelling outside the law.

If men dwell outside the law in our society, they will be punished.

Same with Lord's law - only His punishment is eternal.

Paradise Restored

An inheritance incorruptible. Will not deteriorate - **1Peter 1:3-5**

Machines break down; houses, barns fall down, we die return to dust.

Heaven will be the ultimate contrast with the way we know things here upon the earth.

Everything on the earth just plays out.

Everything in heaven will remain just as it was prepared - for eternity

Peter said it is reserved in Heaven for Christians who remain faithful.

Live forever praising God! Truly be paradise restored - **Revelation 22:14**

Its glories challenge our finite comprehension - **Revelation 21:4**

We can only imagine a world without and death, sorrow, or crying.

World is full of it! Has always been & will be until the Lord comes back - **Rev 21:15-22:5**

Worth The Cost

We must be willing to bear the trials & self-denials that were practiced by Christ - **Matthew 16:24-27**

Doing so will reward us with a home in heaven!

Costs of discipleship demand we live differently from the world - **Titus 2:11-15; Romans 12:1-2**

What Preparations Have You Made for Heaven?

All have the chance of salvation, but only obedient will be saved - **Hebrews 5:8-9; Revelation 21:27**

Preparations demand you become Christian to receive the hope of salvation - **Revelation 20:15**

Are you prepared for heaven?

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