

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. **Colossians 3:17**

## Store In My Heart Revelation 7:9-10

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

This cry of praise from the great multitude in John's vision of the eternal heaven reminds us where salvation is found, and gives us a glimpse of heaven.

This vision presents heaven as filled with praise and adoration to the Father and the Lamb. This praise is offered by those who lived for Him in this life and is an expression of the gratitude felt by one saved from damnation by Deity. We cannot save ourselves unless we put our life in the hands of God. Praise Him now and forever!



# I Want To Get Away

Though the lunar cycle and science tell us there is still over a month of spring left, we all know that Memorial Day is the recognized beginning of the summer season. In days past it was a notice that school was out and the time for summertime activities had arrived. Now it is a welcome reminder that school will be over very soon. Certainly, Memorial Day means much more than the beginning of summer. It is a time to look back and remember those who sacrificed their very lives for our freedom. On this designated day we, as a nation, should take some time to think about such sacrifices. But this is not the venue for expounding upon such things. The focus of this writer is on eternity, not our nation's past.

Even though most of us have responsibilities at our places of employment all year long, summertime is traditionally the time to take a break. Whether we take a few days off for a long weekend or multiple weeks so that we can get away from it all, each of us seem to look forward to the opportunities summer provides. Maybe it goes back to our farming roots. Maybe it is because summertime was when we got the crops settled in and ready for growth and there were a few weeks of waiting before the harvest was ready. Maybe it is because of the average school calendar in our nation that allows, about, two months for play and relaxation before entering the rigors of study for the next set of tests. Whatever the reason, we all seem to look forward to summer and the opportunity to get away.

Be careful though. There are somethings that must always be close to us. As those who have chosen to "lose our lives" for Christ, we can never leave God behind. God expects each of His children to always remain close to Him. God has promised "*never to leave or forsake*" those who put their trust in His Word. With this in mind, consider a few things with me. Is God with you when you plan your summer outings?

When deciding where to travel on that summer vacation we ought to consider what God thinks about our plans. There are some very attractive destinations in our own country and across the world. Nature's beauty is evident in our parks and forests. Entertainment can be found

at any number of theme parks. Water seems to be a very popular destination for summertime travels. Lakes, rivers, oceans, water parks, and their associated beaches seem to attract millions each year. One question for the Christian might be, "Will such a destination shine a light on my service to God or will it shine a light on my worldly desires?" Another, "Will I be in danger of enticement or desires leading to lust, or will this destination bring me closer to the Creator?"

When deciding how long you will be "away from it all" each Christian should keep in mind the obligations service to God entails. Opportunity to worship with those of like precious faith can be limited by lack of local congregations in many areas of this country, and this is even more true in other areas of the world. Where will you be when it comes time to remember the sacrifice of our Savior with your brethren? Will you be able to "come together" to fellowship in this remembrance? Will your mode of travel allow for such fellowship with brethren?

When packing for your summer excursions we also need to keep God close in our thoughts. Sometimes when we think about getting away from it all we also look forward to getting away from the eyes of those who know us, and our weaknesses. If your suitcase was searched, would they find things that you would not want your brethren to know you wore? Would your Bible look out of place beside your vacation attire? Would it seem to the one looking into your bag that you loved God or the pleasures of the world?

No matter where you go, there God is! We might be able to find time to get away from our job for a short time, but God is always near. Once you decided to follow Jesus, you decided that He would always be with you. When Jesus said *"Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness"* he made no exception for vacations.

While Memorial Day is especially for the remembering of those who died for our freedoms, we understand that we should remember such sacrifice always. The same is true, yet much more important, regarding our Lord and Savior. It is not sufficient to keep Him in mind on Sunday, we must keep Him in our mind, and in our plans, every day and always. Since He will never leave or forsake me, I ought to ensure that I do everything possible to keep myself near Him always. Make sure your focus is always on God and His Son and when your work here is finished you can rejoice with them for all eternity in Heaven. DLH

## Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

### Church of Christ

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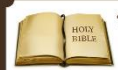
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The  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
MEETS HERE



10:20 AM • Sunday Worship Service  
5:00 PM • Sunday Night Bible Study  
7:00 PM • Wednesday Bible Study

## For Our Information

**Brenda Keisler** is recovering from a stomach bug.

**Vickie McNees** is recovering from a fall.

**Sue Soliday** is recovering from a fall.

**Paula Laubach** has an ENT appointment this month.

**Gloria Hurst** will see a doctor Thursday about fluid removal.

**Marvin Butler** is doing better.

**Deana Leshner** will have another surgery soon.

**Stanley & Gloria Hurst** are out of town.

**Shannon Soliday** is traveling to Indiana on Tuesday.

Sunday Evening – **Nehemiah 2** Wednesday - **John 3:9**