Have We Lost Sight Of Heaven

Tony Mauck

INTRODUCTION

- I think every opportunity to look at some subject or some passage in the Word of God is the potential for great impact in our lives.
- Lord, you know we want to go to heaven. We just don't want to go right now.

1 This Was Not Paul's Attitude About Going to Heaven

Philippians 1:21–23; 2 Corinthians 5:7–8; Philippians 3:20–21

- For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain.
- Having the desire to depart and be with Christ. For that is very much better.
- Either we don't understand properly what heaven is going to be, or we have a skewed view or perspective of our life here.
- But as Christians beyond that, not citizens of the United States of America, first and foremost, we are citizens of heaven.

2 Reasons for the Delayed Desire to Go to Heaven

Mark 3:35; 1 Corinthians 7:33–34; Psalm 23:4

- We need to have the proper perspective about our families.
- Everyone who does the will of God is my mother, my sister, and my brother.
- There's something else that contributes to this delayed desire of heaven, and that is it's the fear of the unknown.
- When we get there, our response is going to be, the half has not been told me.
- But if we would look at it as merely an exodus, as merely a momentary pain and departure to what is incredible, unfathomable, on the other side.
- We have to remember how temporary all of this is, how short-lived it is, and how inferior and unsatisfying it is compared to what is promised.

3 This Is Not the Ideal Place for Us

Psalm 39:4; Psalm 42:1–2; Psalm 63:1

- You can stuff the whole world in, and it's not going to be enough.
- This is not the ideal place for us. The ideal is yet future.
- Lord, make me to know my end. Let me know how transient I am. Let me perceive just how short-lived I am.
- As the deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul pants for thee, O God.

4 We Must Come to Grips With Our Vaporhood

James 4:14; 1 Peter 2:11

- This life is a vapor that appears for a short time and vanishes away.
- There is not one earthly tie that is comparable to the relationship that heaven's going to be about.
- There's no earthly tie that's worth losing your soul.
- And no earthly joy or pleasure is comparable to heaven's reward.

5 Have We Lost Sight of Heaven? How Can I Know?

Romans 8:5–7

- What would be an indication that my mind is not set on the spirit, but on the flesh?
- You just absolutely don't get anything out of Bible study. Constantly daydreaming, hard to focus. Distracted during worship.
- When we have a choice, and we always choose mostly the company of unrighteous people, we are likely not focused on the prize.
- The person who has lost sight of heaven will become really focused on themselves.
- They will not be praying much.
- You'll find yourself committing transgression and trying to justify it.

THE CHALLENGE

And it's not very far. What if it's really close? Like really close. Are you ready?

MY NOTES