Longing For Heaven

Tony Mauck · 1 Timothy 6:17–19

INTRODUCTION

- Are we longing for heaven? I know we want to go to heaven.
- So my challenge tonight is speaking to a people of great affluence.
- You should not fix your hopes on the short-lived pleasures of this world, but you should instead fix your hopes on God and fix your hopes on heaven where he dwells.

1 Revelation 21: A Relationship, Not a Place

Revelation 21

- John is told, come and I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.
- The description that we're given in Revelation chapter 21 of this perfect city is not a description of a place. It is instead a description of a relationship.
- There is no force of man that can put a dent in this relationship with God. It's an impenetrable city.
- The spirit and the bride say, Come into the city. And let him who wishes take the water of life without cost.

2 John 14: An Abode With God

John 14; John 14:23; Job 37:22

- I'm not sure that feeding a materialistic self-serving view of heaven is really the right idea. I don't believe that's even the idea in John 14.
- The New American Standard says, in my father's house are many dwelling places.
- If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my father will love him, and we will come to him and make our abode with him.
- That we would have an abode with God, and that's the good thing. That's the truly rich thing.
- Out of the north comes golden splendor, around God is awesome majesty.
- Your reservation in heaven is going to be far more than you could ever dream.

3 The Focal Point of Our Longing: The Presence of God

1 Timothy 6:16; Revelation 4; Revelation 5

- Let me tell you what should instead be the focal point of our longing. And this really should be the thing we long for more than anything else.
- Who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, which no man can see or has seen, to him be honor and eternal dominion.
- That's what heaven is all about. It's about being in the presence of the most awesome person forever.

- Do you want to know what heaven is going to be like? Revelation 4, Revelation chapter 5 is a better picture of that.
- We will be so awed by the presence of our God, so overwhelmed by the experience that we will not desire to be anywhere else.
- The focal point of heaven is not a place and how beautiful it is.

4 An Inheritance Imperishable, Undefiled, Unfading

1 Peter 1; 1 Timothy 1:17

- He's caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
- As Christians, we're in the will. The mother load is coming your way.
- It's an inheritance which is imperishable.
- Why would you fix your hopes on that which is corruptible when you can fix your hopes on that which is incorruptible and imperishable, like going to heaven to be with God.
- It's imperishable, but it is also undefiled. There isn't anything that can tarnish it.
- And it will not fade away. It's always as vibrant as the first moment that you were there.

THE CHALLENGE

Are you in Christ? Have your sins been cleansed by his blood so that you can have the hope of being in his presence forever.

MY NOTES