



# Focused On Heaven

*Ps. 27:1-4*

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- **1** The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- **2** When the wicked, *even* mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.
- **3** Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this *will I be* confident.
- **4** One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

## Phil. 1:21-23

- 21 For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain. 22 But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labor: yet what I shall choose I wot not. 23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

# Phil. 3:8

- 8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

# Phil. 3:12-14

- 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.
- 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

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- Phil. 3:18-20
  - ...they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:
  - <sup>19</sup> Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind (“think about” –NET) earthly things.
  - <sup>20</sup> For our conversation (citizenship) is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ: (cf. Col. 1:13)
  - <sup>21</sup> Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

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- If ye then be risen with Christ, seek (“keep seeking” – NET) those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
- <sup>2</sup> Set your affection on (“keep thinking about” -- NET) things above, not on things on the earth.
- <sup>3</sup> For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
- <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. (Col. 3:1-4)

# “Heaven”

- Three meanings assigned to “heaven” in the Bible. (II Cor. 12:2)
  - Where the birds fly, from whence rain falls... (Lk. 4:25)
  - The realm of Sun, Moon, stars, planets...(Dt. 1:10)
  - The third heaven.
    - The Father’s abode. (Matt. 5:16; 5:48)
    - The eternal abode of Jesus Christ. (Jn. 6:38; Acts 1:10-11)
    - The abode of the Holy Spirit. (I Pet. 1:12)
    - The realm of the angels of God. (Lk. 2:15; 22:43; Matt. 28:2)



# *What Is Heaven Like?*

- **Heaven is a place of light. (1 John 1:5; Rev. 22:5)**
- **Hell is a place of darkness. (Matt. 25:30)**
- **Heaven is a place without suffering or death. (Rev. 21:4)**
- **Hell is a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth. (Matt. 25:30)**
- **Heaven is life eternal – glory, honor, immortality. (Rom. 2:6-7)**
- **Hell is a place of eternal punishment. (Rom. 2:8-9)**

# ***What Is Heaven Like?***

- **Heaven is the eternal reward of those who are forgiven by the blood of the Lamb. (Rev. 7:14-15)**
- **Hell is the eternal destiny of the disobedient, those who do not want God in their lives. (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 21:8; 22:15)**
- **Heaven is where God is. (Rev. 22:3-4; John 14:1-3; Phil. 1:23)**
- **Hell is prepared for the devil and his angels. (Matt. 25:41)**

# ***Is My Focus On Heaven?***

- Do I find it a joy to do the will of God? (Ps. 40:8)
- Do I delight in prayer? (Ps. 5:3)
- Do I love drawing nearer to God by spending time in His inspired word? (Ps. 1:2)
- Do I live with an attitude of thankfulness toward God? (I Thess. 5:18)
- Do I take joy in praising the Creator? (Ps. 84:1-2)
- Do I count the troubles of this life as light affliction in comparison with the glory of heaven? (II Cor. 4:17-18)
- Do I find myself tied to the things of this life? (I Jn. 2:15-17)
- Do I find joy in telling of the hope which is within me? (I Pet. 3:15)
- Does the knowledge of heaven affect the way I live? (I Jn. 3:1-2)
- Do I live with a fond anticipation of the return of Jesus? (II Tim. 4:8)