

“HEAVEN”

Part 1

“Is heaven really home?”

Presented by

Pastor Ron Schafer

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Heaven – what a topic! Some believers talk about heaven a lot and many seldom mention the subject. When the idea of heaven is brought up, the reactions and comments are greatly varied.

I remember talking in a very excited way to one person about heaven and their response was, “Ron, you are too heavenly minded to be any earthly good!” Wow!

On another occasion recently, I was sharing about my love for my wife and family. Then I shared about my great desire to be in heaven with Jesus Christ and one person commented, “Are you just escaping, or running from something in your life?” Again, wow!

I like what Paul Azinger’s (professional golfer) chaplain told him when he learned he had cancer: “We think we are in the land of the living going to the land of the dying, when in reality we are in the land of the dying heading for the land of the living.”

So let’s talk about heaven.

HEAVEN AS HOME

2 Corinthians 5:1-11

Our earthly home

- This home is **earthly** and is very temporary.
- Our physical body, not our **location** on earth, is our earthly home.
- As believers, we must not concentrate **only** on our earthly home.

Our heavenly home

- This home has not been "**touched**" by human hands.
- This is the believer's "**real**" home.
- By **faith**, we highlight this home as our **favorite** home.

WHAT? OUR HEAVENLY HOME NOT A MAJOR TOPIC?!

1. Our perspective of "home" is **tarnished**.
2. Biblical teaching is absent or **false**.
3. There is a lack of **distinction** between the millennium, paradise, new heaven and new earth.
4. Believers continually **misplace** priorities emphasizing the temporal.
5. The American church emphasizes **goals** and **programs** that are temporal, not eternal.
6. Liberal theologians and our society **deny** the existence of heaven.

GOD'S HOME (HEAVEN) IS ALWAYS BEST

1. No **faith** needed – faith will become sight.
2. The **enemies** will be gone – no more strategies to defeat us.
3. No more temptation or **sin**.
4. No separation from loved ones, and most of all...our **Savior**.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- As believers, our overall **purpose** in life is **shaped** by believing we will be in heaven one day.
- Do not let **death** rob you of your thoughts of heaven.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Are you mostly "earthly" minded? Explain.
2. Who would say your thoughts are in the right place when it comes to our everlasting home?
3. Do you talk about heaven to others?
4. Are you convinced you will be in heaven one day?