

Looking Toward Heaven

I. Introduction

A. After assuring that the “day of the Lord” *will* come, the Holy Spirit through Peter notes the need to be prepared for that Day. He also notes the appropriateness for those who *are* prepared to look forward to that Day and what will become reality for the righteous at that time – eternal life in *heaven*. **2 Peter 3:10-13**

II. A Home for the Righteous

A. The passage notes a key reason heaven is something to look forward to – it will be free from sin and darkness, a place where *righteousness* dwells. **2 Peter 3:13; Matthew 7:21**

III. A Home with the Righteous

A. This is connected to a second truth about heaven that gives us reason to look forward to it – heaven is a place where the righteous of all ages will be *together*. **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

IV. A Home Where God Dwells

A. Moreover, heaven is a place where the righteous of all ages will be in *God’s* direct presence forever. **1 Thessalonians 4:17; Mark 16:19**

V. A Permanent Home

A. The word “forever” denotes another beauty of heaven to look forward to. The comfort of being with the Lord in a place free from darkness will be enjoyed for *eternity*. **1 Thessalonians 4:17; Philippians 3:20**

VI. A Home of Comfort and Rest

A. Looking forward to heaven is also appropriate when we consider that it will be free from death, mourning, crying, and pain. **Revelation 21:4; Hebrews 4:9**

VII. A Home with Ample Room

A. Furthermore, heaven is not a place like earthly homes that will run out of room. There is plenty of space there for *all* who choose righteousness. **John 14:1-3**

VIII. A Home Worth the Trials

A. Looking forward to heaven involves looking toward a home that is far more valuable than all the “treasures” the world can offer. **Matthew 6:19-20**
B. Given the value of heaven, any and all trials we must face in order to spend eternity there are more than worth it. **Matthew 5:11-12; Romans 8:18**

IX. A Home That Gives Hope

A. Heaven is the object of the faithful Christian’s *hope*. Given the beauty of heaven, we have no greater future comfort to *desire* than heaven. Given God’s faithfulness and the resurrection of His Son, we can *confidently expect* that heaven will one day be a *reality* for the righteous. The combination of these truths produces a sure and steadfast anchor for the righteous. **Colossians 1:5; Hebrews 6:19**

X. Conclusion

A. May we live in mindfulness of all that heaven offers. **2 Peter 3:13**