

Heaven Is Our Reward

DAY:

Monday

TITLE:

Citizens of Another Country

KEY VERSE:

Philippians 3:20 -- "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

REFLECTION:

I want to be honest with you today -- I get so caught up in the noise of this world that I sometimes forget where I truly belong. When I lost my mother as a young man, I picked up every book on heaven I could find. And something shifted in me. The more I read about heaven, the more real it became, and the less I grieved -- not because the pain wasn't real, but because I began to see where she truly was. You and I are not citizens of this earth. We are pilgrims passing through. Abraham understood this. Moses understood this. They saw something afar off and they embraced it. When I remind myself that my passport belongs to another country entirely -- a heavenly one -- suddenly the pressures of today lose their grip on me. We are just passing through, friend. And what a destination awaits us.

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, remind me today that this earth is not my final home. Help me to live with my eyes lifted toward heaven rather than fixed on the troubles around me. Thank You that I belong to You and that where You are, I am headed.

DAILY ACTION:

Write the words "I am a citizen of heaven" on a sticky note and place it somewhere you will see it throughout your day -- your mirror, your desk, or your dashboard.

DAY:

Tuesday

TITLE:

Looking to the Reward

KEY VERSE:

Colossians 1:5 -- "Because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel."

REFLECTION:

I love what the Bible says about Moses -- he chose to suffer with the people of God rather than enjoy the temporary pleasures of sin, because he looked to the reward. That phrase just grips me: he looked to the reward. Moses didn't stumble into faithfulness by accident. He made a deliberate choice, and that choice was fueled by hope -- a confident, positive expectation of something glorious waiting for him. I believe that is exactly what God wants for each one of us. Heaven is not just a nice idea for when things get hard. Heaven

is meant to be your daily motivator. Hope is not wishful thinking -- the Bible calls it a sure and certain expectation. When I know where I am going, I can endure where I am right now. So today, let that hope rise up inside you. Heaven is laid up for you. It is already prepared. Look to your reward.

PRAYER:

Father, stir up genuine hope in my heart today -- not wishful thinking, but the confident expectation that heaven is real and it is mine through Jesus. When I feel discouraged, remind me to look to my reward just as Moses did. Thank You that my hope is never in vain.

DAILY ACTION:

Read Hebrews 11:24-26 slowly and prayerfully, then ask yourself honestly: what temporary pleasures are pulling my attention away from eternal things today?

DAY:

Wednesday

TITLE:

Finishing Well

KEY VERSE:

2 Timothy 4:7 -- "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

REFLECTION:

When I read these words from Paul, I feel something rise up in me. He didn't say he had a comfortable life. He didn't say everything worked out perfectly. He said he fought -- and he finished. There is a crown of righteousness waiting for everyone who loves the appearing of Jesus, and Paul knew it. That is what kept him going. I think about my own life and I ask myself honestly -- am I running my race with that same kind of focus? Paul wasn't living for what he could accumulate down here. He was running toward something eternal. I want to be able to say the same thing when my time comes. And here is what I know about you -- you are still in the race. You have not finished yet. God still has ground for you to cover, people for you to reach, and faith for you to keep. So don't slow down. Keep running.

PRAYER:

Lord, I want to finish my race well, just like Paul. Give me the strength to keep fighting when I am tired and the faith to keep believing when things are hard. Remind me today that a crown is waiting for those who love Your appearing.

DAILY ACTION:

Take ten minutes today to journal about one specific area of your life where you need to "finish the race" -- a relationship to restore, a habit to break, or a calling you have been putting off. Commit it to God in prayer.

DAY:

Thursday

TITLE:

Heaven Is a Real Place

KEY VERSE:

John 14:2 -- "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."

REFLECTION:

I want you to hear this clearly today -- heaven is not a metaphor. It is not a feeling. It is a real place that Jesus Himself is preparing for you right now. When I think about the dimensions described in Revelation 21, the jasper walls, the twelve layers of precious jewels, the twelve gates of pearl, the river of life -- my heart just soars. God created a universe of two trillion galaxies, and if He can do that, imagine what He has built for you in heaven. I genuinely believe your mansion will be unique to you -- reflecting what God loves about who He made you to be. And here is the best part: the greatest reward of heaven is not the mansion. It is Jesus. Getting to see Him, talk to Him, be with Him forever. That is what we are running toward. Let that reality sink in deeply today.

PRAYER:

Jesus, thank You that You went ahead to prepare a place specifically for me. Make heaven more real to me today than the problems I am facing. I want my heart to be genuinely excited about coming home to You.

DAILY ACTION:

Read Revelation 21:1-5 and 21:18-21 today. As you read, let yourself imagine it as a real place -- because it is. Thank God for at least one specific detail that excites you.

DAY:

Friday

TITLE:

Don't Miss Heaven

KEY VERSE:

Romans 6:23 -- "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

REFLECTION:

I have to be straight with you today, because I care too much about you to be anything else. Heaven is real, and so is the alternative. I have heard accounts from people who have died, begun descending the wrong direction, and cried out to Jesus in desperation. And Jesus, in His mercy, stopped them. Every single time I hear those stories, it shakes me awake in the best possible way. God did not create hell for human beings -- it was made for the devil and his angels. But sin separates us from God, and separation from God has an eternal consequence. The good news -- the most wonderful news -- is that eternal life is a gift. You do not earn it. You receive it. You call upon the name of Jesus and He saves you. Then you keep living for Him with everything you have got. Don't assume you are going to heaven. Know it. And then run your race like it matters -- because it absolutely does.

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, thank You for the gift of eternal life that I could never earn but You freely gave. Keep my heart tender toward You, and give me a genuine burden for the people around me who don't yet know where they are headed. Use me today to point someone toward heaven.

DAILY ACTION:

Think of one person in your life who, if asked "do you know for sure you'd go to heaven?", would say they are not sure. Pray specifically for them by name today, and ask God to give you a natural opportunity to share His love with them this week.