

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Revelation 21,22.**
- B. This lesson is given as part of the Lectureship held at the church in Effingham.
- C. Too many people live their life in the valleys of depression, despair, negativism and loneliness.
- D. God allowed Moses to come out of the valley to the top of the mountain and see the promised land.
- E. This must have brought great joy to his heart, and if the Christian would look to the top of the mountain and see what the NT reveals about heaven joy will fill his heart.
- F. Tonight let us look into our promised land, heaven! Let us come out of the valley of discouragement and despair to see joys unspeakable.

I. WHO IS THERE? (IN HEAVEN).

- A. God is in heaven. This should be enough by itself for us to want to go there (Mt. 5:45).
- B. Jesus Christ is in heaven. This should also be enough (Ac. 1:11; 2:34).
- C. The innocent are in heaven. The flood was not unfair to the little babies killed, they went straight to heaven (Mt. 18:3,10).
- D. The faithful of both covenants are in heaven;
 - 1. The general assembly and the church of the first-born.
 - 2. The spirits of righteous men made perfect, OT faithful (Heb. 12:23; 9:15).

II. ATTITUDES ABOUT GOING THERE (TO HEAVEN).

- A. We are to lay up our treasures in heaven (Mt. 6:20).
- B. Our attitude should focus on heaven and the things above (Col. 3:1-4).
EXAMPLE: "Sing to me of heaven" is a great song because of its attitude.
- C. The apostle Paul said it is better to be with the Lord than in the body (2Cor. 5:1-9; esp. v6-8).
EXAMPLE: Sunday school boy who didn't want to go to heaven today.
- D. Heaven means joy inexpressible, because of a perfect inheritance (1Pet. 1:6-9).
- E. Remember that our citizenship (conversation, KJV) is in heaven (Phil. 3:18-20).

III. WHAT IS HEAVEN LIKE?

- A. Prophecy can have a double fulfillment. Fulfillment in the time of its writing (to the people originally spoken to) and fulfillment in the future.
- B. Revelation chapters 21 and 22 can be spoken of the same way. Let us look at the future fulfillment and speak of heaven.
- C. Heaven can be described in three attributes:
 - 1. Perfect fellowship with God (Rev. 21:3-8):
 - a. No more tears, death, mourning, crying, or pain.
 - b. He who overcomes will have God as Father and be a son (v7).
 - c. Those who practice sin will not be there (v8).
 - 2. Perfect protection by God (Rev. 21:23-27):
 - a. The city's light is God.
 - b. The doors are never locked.
 - c. Nothing unclean (sinful or common) shall enter.
 - 3. Perfect provision by God (Rev. 22:1,2).
 - a. The river gives the water of life.
 - b. The trees produce fruit all 12 months of the year.
 - c. The leaves heal all of the infirmities.

- D. This is the best we can conceive of heaven. There are not enough words or superlatives to describe this wonderful place.

IV. THE BEST PART ABOUT HEAVEN.

- A. There is one other attribute of heaven not listed above.
- B. Heaven is ETERNAL (Mt. 25:46; Rev. 22:5).
- C. The saying, "all good things must come to an end" is not true with God's heaven.
- D. All of the wonderful things spoken of will never come to an end.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. If you are living life in the valley, I hope you have enjoyed going to the mountain top, tonight.
- B. The mountain top says that life is worth living, and living for Christ.
- C. If you want:
 - 1. To be with God, JC, the innocent, and the faithful.
 - 2. Have the desire and attitude of wanting to go to heaven.
 - 3. Look forward to perfect fellowship, protection, and provision,
 - 4. For ever and ever.you can become a Christian tonight and hope to enjoy these things.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.