

CrossRoads Baptist Church  
January 17, 2007 6:30 p.m.  
John 14: 1-6  
Eternity: Heaven or Hell #11

## “Heaven My Home”

How would you describe Heaven? What is your idea of Heaven? An unlimited charge card? All the chocolate you can eat without weight gain? Golf all day?

Our ideas of what Heaven is not the real issue. The real issue is, What does the Bible say about Heaven? So, let us look at the Scriptures the next two Wednesday nights to describe Heaven.

John 14 says simply, Heaven is our “Father’s House.” It is in a word, home. The home of Christ and Christians. Home carries such beautiful thoughts. A place where we are always accepted and loved. A place where the welcome mat is always out and the porch light is always on for us. A place where we are never forgotten and always loved for who we are, not what we have done or have. Home.

What makes Heaven like home?

### I. The Father – Inhabitants

Home is where our parents live when we are born. As children, home is the abode of our parents. As children of God, home is the place where our Father abides.

I am a stranger here  
Heaven is my home.  
Earth is a desert drear  
Heaven is my home.  
Round me on every hand.  
Heaven is my fatherland;  
Heaven is my home.

John 14:2 “In my Father’s house....” Heaven is the abode of God.  
Revelations 22:4 “They shall see His face....”  
Revelation 21:3 “And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He shall dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.’”

W.A. Criswell in his book on Heaven believes that the only person of the Trinity that we will see in Heaven is Jesus. Using Deu. 6:4, “Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord.” And John 14:9 “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father.” And we’ll see the scars in His hands.

We shall see Jesus!!

Just think....  
Of stepping on shore, and finding it Heaven.  
Of taking hold of a hand, and finding it God’s Hand;  
Of breathing new air, and finding it celestial air;  
Of passing from storm and tempest to an unbroken calm;  
Of waking up----and finding it home.

But God will not be there alone. “Where I am, there you may be also.” We will not be alone or neglected. Thus, to talk about home is to talk about family.

### II. The Family

Heaven will be occupied by loved one and family acquaintances. Heaven will be more occupied than Hell and I’ll tell you why next week.

But when you think of home, you think of people you know and love. So, in Heaven we will know each other.

Luke 9:30 Moses and Elijah were known by Jesus and his disciples.  
Luke 16:23 Abraham was recognized by the rich man.  
I Cor 13:12 We shall know as we are known.  
Eph 3:15 “...from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.”

The family is now split between two residences. Some on earth and some in heaven. We are all one family. We are separated, but only temporarily.

Our broken fellowship is only for a small moment, and is soon to be eternally resumed. Our eyes shall look upon them who have gone before and our ears shall hear their pleasant voices. Our meeting will be ten thousand times better than our parting.

We parted in sorrow-we shall meet in joy.  
We parted in stormy weather – we shall meet in a calm harbor.  
We parted in pain, aches, and great groaning – we shall meet with shouts.

All Christians have known the sadness of being in the company of those who care little or nothing for God and the things of Christ. There is little happiness in company unless there entire sympathy and congeniality of taste. Here on earth, it is a rare privilege to meet 2-3 occasionally to whom he can open his heart, and with whom he can speak freely, without fear of offense or being misunderstood. But that will all end in heaven.

We will be of one mind, one language, one heart, one spirit. We will not sit in the company of the unregenerated, evil mouths, but of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

“When the holy angels meet us  
As we join their happy band,  
We shall know the friends that greet us  
In that glorious spirit-land.  
We shall see the same eyes shining  
On us as in days of yore.  
We shall feel the dear arms twining  
Fondly, round us as before.”

\_ Author unknown

### III. Our Dwelling Place – Habitation

To think of home is to think of our dwelling. Our dwellings here are all different. I believe our dwellings will be different there to in the means of taste. But when we think of our dwelling place here – or home-we think of it being a permanent dwelling.

But our earthly home is never permanent. But Heaven will be. Heaven will be a lasting, permanent dwelling. We live in tents, lodges, tabernacles, here. Its like being away at school or on vacation and going home. Heaven is our home.

II Corinthians 5:1 “For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

You are not going to a foreign country-but home.

“A tent or cottage, why should I care?  
They’re building a palace for me over there;  
Though exiled from home, yet still I may sing;  
All glory to God, I’m a child of the King.”

### IV. The Desire for Home

“I will come again and receive you unto myself.”

Christ will not wait for believers to come up to Him, but He will come down to them, to take them into His presence, to raise them from their graves and escort them to their heavenly home.

Our desire will be total in:

Our spirits – to be wholly filled with God.  
Our minds – to come into our full potential.  
Our bodies – to come to wholeness and wellness.

Dottie Rambo said,  
“See the bright lines shine, its just about home time.  
I can see the Father standing at the door.  
This world has been a wilderness, but I’m ready for deliverance.  
For I’ve never been this homesick before.”

Invitation:

I conclude with a passage from “Pilgrim’s Progress.” Pliable had asked Christian about what the company in heaven would be like. He had replied about angels, walking in the presence of God, and all the redeemed.

Then said Pliable, “The hearing of this is enough to ravish one’s heart. But are these things to be enjoyed? How shall we get to be sharers thereof?”

Then said Christian, “The Lord, the Governor of the country, hath recorded that in his book; the substance of which is, if we be truly willing to have it, He will bestow it upon us freely.”

Then said Pliable, “Well, my good companion, glad am I to hear of these things. Come on, let us mend our pace.”

As we study these great truths, it is not enough to get head knowledge. But this great knowledge should result in a different pace.