

Jesus is the way to heaven

Keith Dixon
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Gray

Introduction

1. Text John 14:1-6
2. Do you believe in heaven?
 - a. Some do not yet:
 - b. There must be intense interest in life after life.
 - c. So why so much interest?
 - d. There seems to be a desire within us for life.
3. If you believe the Bible you believe in heaven
 - a. Old Testament characters believed in heaven Hebrews 11:8-16; Psalm 23:6
 - b. Jesus taught us about life after life. Text Matthew 25:46; Luke 16; Matthew 22:29-32
4. Let us learn about heaven

II Discussion

1. The need to believe in heaven
 - a. The apostles were troubled at the thought of Jesus leaving them.
 - i. Jesus said that belief in heaven would help troubled people
 - ii. We can face and experience trouble if we know there is a better place. Hebrews 6:19; Romans 8:24
 - b. People are troubled Job 14:1-2; 2 Corinthians 1:4
 - i. Some suffer physical pain
 - ii. Some suffer mental or emotional pain
 - iii. Some suffer pain seeing a loved one die
 - c. Faith in heaven will help us cope with life's inequities Psalm 1: 1-6; 37:18-19
 - d. God's people need encouragement Galatians 6:9
 - e. God's people need strength to face death Hebrews 2:15
2. The Nature of heaven John 14:2-3
 - a. God's dwelling place, God's house
 - i. God's place is a place of peace contentment and fellowship with God. Revelation 21:3-4
 - ii. God created us for happiness
 - b. A place
 - i. It is real
 - ii. It is seen by the "eye of faith" 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
 - iii. The reality of this place is based on the reality of Jesus
 - c. A place unto which Jesus will receive us
 - i. This place has a location Acts 1:11; Hebrews 1:1-3; Colossians 3:1-2
 - ii. The place is where God abides.
 - d. All will be equal in this place
 - i. Abraham was gathered unto his people Genesis 25:8
 - ii. Our names ought to be enrolled in heaven Hebrews 12:23

3. How can we go to Heaven?
 - a. Not by our goodness Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:3
 - b. By coming to Jesus. John 14:6
 - i. We must be in Christ Galatians 3:26-27 change of address
 - ii. He must be in us Colossians 1:27
 - iii. We must obey the truth 1 Peter 1:22-23; 1:3-5
 - iv. We must receive life from him John 20:30-31

III Conclusion

1. Heaven is real
2. The poet has said
We speak of the land of the blest
That country so bright and so fair
And oft are its glories confessed
But what will it be to be there
3. A plea to be faithful to Christ Hebrews 10:34-45

Source: Bases of belief Tom Holland