

Bible/College Class Notes – Studies in The Old Testament – Lesson 70

The Christian Pilgrimage – Pictures of Salvation and Heaven.

This week – We continue our lessons teaching us about how to live now, anticipating Heaven.

The Lord, He it is that doth go before thee; He will be with thee, He will not fail thee, neither forsake thee, fear not, neither be dismayed. Deuteronomy 31v8.

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Deuteronomy 31v1-14 (Moses hands over to Joshua)	
Monday	Deuteronomy 34v1-12 (Moses dies, the people mourn)	
Tuesday	Joshua 1v1-18 (God tells Joshua to be Courageous)	
Wednesday	Joshua 3v1-17 (God expects faith to cross Jordan)	
Thursday	Joshua 4v1-17 (The People enter The Promised Land)	
Friday	2 Corinthians 5v1-21 (Heaven the Believers home)	
Saturday	John 14v1-21 (The Lord promises His People Heaven)	

Important Thought for us Today: Most people desire to go to Heaven when they die. A good desire - but the devil deceives many into believing that Christ has died for everyone and therefore all will go to Heaven regardless of their sin, or whether they repent, or not. Yet Heaven is God's and He sets the rules for entry. As God is holy, so too is Heaven. To keep it eternally holy He can only accept in those who are perfectly holy. **As there are none without sin, how can anyone enter?**

See 1 John 1v8-10. We read in John 3v16, *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life”.*

Romans 5v8 tells us, *“But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us”.* God's holy wrath at our sin was fully satisfied when Jesus Christ (the sinless one) suffered Hell for us on Calvary. He did not die for everyone - only for those who repent of their sin and trust in Him. **Once forgiven and clothed in His righteousness only then can we enter Heaven.**

Hymn 618 - speaking of the joy of Heaven set before us when we know Christ as Saviour.

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| <p>1. My rest is in Heaven, my rest is not here,
Then why should I tremble when trials are near?
Be calm anxious spirit, the worst that can come
But shortens the journey, and hastens me home.</p> | <p>3. Afflictions may press me, they cannot destroy;
One glimpse of His love turns them all into joy;
Let doubt, then, and danger my progress oppose,
They only make Heaven more sweet at the close.</p> |
| <p>2. It is not for me to be seeking earth's bliss,
Or building my hopes in an age such as this;
I look for a city, that hands have not built,
A country not ruined by sin and by guilt.</p> | <p>4. Come joy or come sorrow, whate'er may befall,
An hour with my God will make up for them all.
The road may be rough, but it will not be long;
I'll walk it by faith, while rejoicing in song.</p> |

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

Home At Last! – A Picture of Heaven.

- **Background to Today's Lesson.**
 - As punishment for their unbelief all the adults of Israel had now died in the desert, and it was time for their grown children to enter The Promised Land.
 - Faithful Moses, aged 120, is to hand over the leadership to faithful Joshua.
- **A Step of Faith is Required – To Cross the Flooded River Jordan.**
 - The people obediently moved to the water's edge and the Priests stepped in with The Ark. God rewarded their faith - parted the waters – a dry crossing.
 - This encouraged the people and sent the message ahead – God is with them.
 - We too will know the blessing of God if we trust Him fully and faithfully.
- **The People's Wonderful Experience in The Promised Land.**
 - A New Home - Over Jordan. Their own Land – Flowing with 'Milk and Honey', with every Good Thing to Enjoy, including God. A New Way of Life, and the Knowledge that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had lived there before them.
- **What will Heaven be Like for Those Who Enter It?**
 - 'Crossing Jordan' is a Biblical picture of death – a 'door' that God 'opens' taking our souls from this life into the next. The timing is all in God's Plan.
 - The people moved from living in temporary tents to living in permanent houses - and so the believer will be given a new body which will last for ever.
 - New, delicious foods to eat and enjoy. Reminding us that Heaven has many new and exciting experiences for us – far better than those of this world.
 - This world's 'desert experiences' – falling into sin, sadness, illness, ageing, pain, etc. will be left behind – to be remembered and experienced no more.
 - On entering Heaven, we will be welcomed by those who have entered before us – those mentioned in the Bible and those we knew as Christians on earth.
 - Best of all we will be welcomed by our Saviour. O! What joy that will give us.
- **Heaven will only be for those sinners who are forgiven and cleansed.**
 - The Bible clearly teaches us that we have no right to enter Heaven without the guilt of our sin being removed and replaced by Christ's Righteousness.
 - Thankfully, God has come to our rescue in sending His Son – Jesus Christ, as a Perfect Man, to take our place under His Holy Wrath. Christ suffered the punishment we rightly deserved when He died on Calvary. His death was sufficient to save all His People. He presents those who repent to His father without spot or blemish. God, The Father, accepts all for whom Christ died.

The Lord Jesus prayed, “Father, I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am; that they may behold My glory, which Thou hast given Me: for Thou lovedst Me before the foundation of the world”
John 17v24.