



Heavenly Minded *for* Earthly Good



“A Happy Ending”

Lesson 1



• C. S. Lewis: “Christianity asserts that every individual human being is going to live forever... Now there are a good many things which would not be

worth bothering about

if I were going to live only seventy years, but which I had better bother about very seriously if I am going to live for ever.”



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2 Corinthians 12:2-4, 7

I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know - God knows.

And I know that this man... was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell.

To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations...

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Phil. 1:21-24

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

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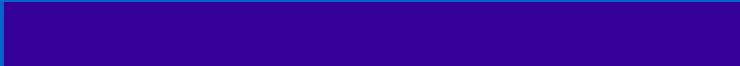
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Col 1:5

(1) Faith and love....spring from the hope that is stored up for you in Heaven.



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Ecc. 3:11 “He has set eternity in the hearts”

CS Lewis:

“If I find in myself desire which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for (2) another world.”

Augustine: “The whole life of the good Christian is a (3) holy longing.”

• Peter Kreeft :

• “Our pictures of Heaven are dull, and
• syrupy; therefore, so is our faith, our
• hope, and our love of Heaven...
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Dullness, not doubt,

is the strongest enemy of faith,
just as indifference, not hate,
is the strongest enemy of love”



Matt. 13:44-46

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

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When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

“**rejoice** because your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:20)

1 Peter 1:13

Fix your hope **(5) completely** on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:1-2

- 1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, **set your hearts** on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
- 2 **Set your minds** on things above, not on earthly things.



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Matt 6:19-21

19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

20 "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;

21 for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

(6) Fixing our hope on Heaven will keep Jesus first in our hearts.

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Luke 12:33-34

33 "Sell your possessions and give to charity;

34 make yourselves purses which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven."

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(7) Fixing our hope on Heaven will make us generous on Earth.

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Rom 8:18

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

(8) Fixing our hope on Heaven will bring us comfort and purpose in trials.

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Luke 6:22-23

22 "Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and cast insults at you, and spurn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man.

23 "Be glad in that day, and leap for joy, **for behold, your reward is great in heaven"**

(9) Fixing our hope on Heaven makes us God-pleasers on Earth.

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Heb 11:24-26

24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;
25 choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin;
26 considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; **for he was looking to the reward.**

(10) Fixing our hope on Heaven is the secret to overcoming sin on Earth.

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I Jn 3:2-3

2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.

3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him **purifies himself**, just as He is pure.

(11) Fixing our hope on Heaven will make us holy and pure on Earth.

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(12) How we live now will matter in eternity.

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How we view eternity will effect how we live
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now.

John Wesley:



**Why were we sent into the world?
For one sole end, and for no other,
to prepare for (13) eternity.**

For this alone we live...

