

Heaven Bound?

Most people believe they will go to heaven someday. Many base that hope on being a good person, attending church, or simply believing in Jesus. Yet Jesus gave a sobering warning in Matthew 7:21-23: "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

These words remind us that our relationship with Christ is about more than words or outward religious activity. The people Jesus described called Him "Lord," performed impressive works in His name, and believed they were serving Him. Yet they heard the heartbreaking words, "I never knew you; depart from Me."

What made the difference? Jesus answered that question plainly: "He who does the will of My Father."

The good news is that God has not left us wondering what He expects. Through His Word, He has revealed His will and promised eternal life to those who faithfully follow His Son. We are not saved by earning our way into heaven through perfect performance, but God's saving grace calls us to respond with trusting, obedient faith.

Heaven is real. Jesus has prepared a place for His faithful followers, and His promises can be trusted. Therefore, our greatest priority should be to seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33). Nothing in this world is more valuable than our eternal soul.

Each day provides an opportunity to examine our hearts and ask an important question: Am I simply professing faith, or am I faithfully doing the Father's will? As we keep our eyes fixed on Christ, obey His Word, and persevere in the faith, we can look forward with joyful anticipation to the day when we will be welcomed into His everlasting kingdom.

May all of us live each day with heaven as our destination and Christ as our Lord.

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