

Introduction:

“If you should this moment be called to the bar of God, what sentence have you reason to suppose He would pass on you? Pause and reflect, and let conscience answer . . . will you dare offer to your Judge those vain and frivolous excuses with which you now quiet your conscience and deceive yourself? Will you dare come to the bar of God and tell Him that He was a hard master? That His law was too severe? That His word was unintelligible? That you could not learn your duty? That you were unable to repent and believe? Consider, O consider well what answer you are prepared to give. See that it be such a one as you dare rest your hopes upon and defend at the bar of a heart-searching Judge. Consider all these things, ye who are now forgetting God, lest He tear you to pieces as a lion, and there be none to deliver. Let this consideration rouse you from your lethargy to lay hold on the hope set before you. Do not stand lingering and delaying as did Lot in Sodom, but suffer me to hasten you as the angels did him. For the wrath of God is upon the state in which you now are, and the fiery storm of divine vengeance is ready every moment to burst upon your heads. O then fly, fly quickly, fly immediately! Escape for your lives; look not behind you, but hasten to the mountains pointed out, even to Christ, the eternal Rock of ages, lest ye die. As sure, O sinner, as thy soul liveth, as sure as God lives, there is but a step between thee and death. But flee now unto Christ and your soul shall live!”

—Edward Payson (1783-1827)

Resolution #22 — Resolved, to endeavor to obtain for myself as much happiness, in the other world, as I possibly can, with all the power; might, vigor, and vehemence, yea violence, I am capable of, or can bring myself to exert, in any way that can be thought of.

—Jonathan Edwards

I. Misconceptions about Heaven

a. **Heaven is not a ‘never-ending church-service’**

b. **Heaven is boring**

c. **Heaven is filled with harps and wings and clouds**

d. **Heaven is a place of ‘no fun’**

e. **Heaven will get old after awhile**

f. **No one who dies goes *immediately* to heaven—no matter how good you are.**

g. **Everyone who dies will inevitably end up in heaven**

h. **Heaven is *only* a spiritual state (a mystical, non-physical state of mind).**

i. **I’m not very interested in golden streets and pearly gates and multi-colored foundation stones in the city wall.**

II. Biblical Proof for Heaven

- a. Intro
- b. The heavens
- c. The OT
- d. The NT
- e. The *Sphere* of heaven

III. Future Realities of Heaven

- a. Be reunited with deceased loved ones
- b. Be in a state of perfection forever
- c. Serve God in perfect worship forever
- d. See the fullness of God's face

IV. Incomprehensible Perfection of Heaven

V. Contemplative Questions about Heaven

- a. *Do any of the misconceptions about heaven describe your thoughts about heaven?*
- b. *What things make heaven precious to you? What do you long for most about heaven?*
- c. *Do you think much about heaven?*
- d. *Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-5:10 and meditate on Paul's attitude about heaven and how you can apply Paul's example to your own life.*
- e. *Are you certain you're going to heaven?*

Conclusion:

"The Christians who did the most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next" —C.S. Lewis

Introduction:

Heaven is the place where God’s people are forever caught up to worship Him with complete satisfaction and awesome reverence for all eternity.

Overview of End-Times Events:

- See the handout/chart.

I. DEFINING HEAVEN

- a. Old Testament
- b. New Testament
- c. Present/Eternal Heaven

Past – Gen 1-2	Present – Gen 3-Rev 20	Future – Rev 21-22
Original mankind	Fallen mankind	Resurrected mankind
Original earth	Fallen earth	New (resurrected) earth
God in heaven visiting earth	God in heaven	God living forever w/ man on Earth
Sin unknown	Sin corrupts, pervasive	Sin forever removed
Before redemption	Unfolding drama of redemption	After redemption
Paradise	Paradise lost	Paradise regained and magnified

II. LOCATING HEAVEN

- a. The direction is upward
- b. The invisibility of heaven

III. INHABITANTS OF HEAVEN

- a. God
- b. Holy Angels
- c. Saints of all time
 - i. OT saints
 - ii. NT Saints

iii. Their bodies

IV. DESCRIBING HEAVEN (Rev 4:1-11)

4 POINTS OF FOCUS REGARDING GOD AND HIS THRONE:

- a. The focus on God's power (4:1-2)

- b. The focus on God's beauty (4:3-4)

- c. The focus on God's holiness (4:5-8)

- d. The focus on God's worthiness (4:9-11)

"If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world" —C.S. Lewis

V. THINKING ABOUT HEAVEN

a. Some concluding questions:

- i. *Believers have the hope that once we leave our present physical body, we enter the presence of God. This should free us of any fear of death (cf. Hebrews 2:14-15).*
- ii. *Ultimately, true believers will see death completely destroyed and will receive imperishable bodies (1 Corinthians 15).*
- iii. *Read Ephesians 2:1-10 and note the incredible grace that God demonstrated in saving you. Read and reread again Eph 2:7 and ponder this: 'since you have experienced the riches of God's grace in your life here, can't you look forward with great anticipation toward the greater riches of heaven?'*

Conclusion:

"Unfamiliarity with heaven makes a dull and worldly Christian"

Introduction:**UNFAMILIARITY WITH HEAVEN BREEDS APATHY.**

“We want something else which can hardly be put into words—to be united with the beauty we see, to pass into it, to receive it into ourselves, to bathe in it, to become part of it!” —CS Lewis

Nine characteristics of the New City of Jerusalem...**I. It is Carefully Crafted by God for His Children (21:2, 10)****II. It is the Epitome of Eternal Intimacy with God (21:3)**

*Just think of stepping on shore
And finding it heaven
Of clasping a hand
And finding it God's
Of breathing new air
And finding it celestial
Of waking up in glory
And finding it home*

III. It is a Perfect Place without the Pains of Our Present World (21:4)**IV. It is a Place where God's Glory Dwells (21:11, 22-23)****V. It is a City with Literal Walls and Gates (21:12-14, 18-21)****VI. It is a Huge City by Human Calculations (21:15-17)****VII. Much Activity Will Be Accomplished Outside the City (21:24-26)**

VIII. It is Very Exclusive as to Who Can and Who Cannot Enter (21:27)

a. Those Rejected from the City (27a)

b. Those Accepted into the City (27b)

IX. It is Beautiful, Pleasant, and Satisfying in Every Way (22:1-2)

The New City of Jerusalem also LACKS some things...

I. No Temple (21:3, 22)

a. Eternal access to God

II. No Light Source (21:23)

a. Eternal glory of God

III. No Security System (21:25-27; 22:15)

a. Eternal protection from God

IV. No Needs (22:1-2)

a. Eternal satisfaction from God

V. No Curse (22:3-5)

a. Eternal holiness before God

VI. No Pain (21:4)

a. Eternal joy in God

Conclusion:

“I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death; I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside; I must make it the main object of life to press on to that other country and to help others to do the same” —CS Lewis

Introduction:

“Perfection is the goal of God’s sanctifying work in us”

Thesis—Tonight we will see a number of helpful principles as to what we will be like in heaven.

I. We Will Be Perfectly Sanctified

- a. Spiritually we will be changed from the Inside Out

II. We Will Have New Bodies

- a. The necessity of our resurrection bodies

- b. The familiarity of our resurrection bodies

- c. The example of our resurrection bodies

- d. The illustrations of our resurrection bodies

III. We Will Have Perfect Bodies

- a. We will not face any more temptations

IV. We Will Have Unique Bodies

- a. The bodily makeup

b. The emotions of our bodies

V. We Will Have Perfect Desires

We will have many desires in heaven but they will be *perfect* and *holy* desires.

a. Growth in perfect knowledge

“And thus I have endeavored to show you a glimpse of the approaching glory. But oh, how short are my expressions of its excellency! Reader, if you are a humble, sincere believer, and wait with longing and laboring for this rest, you will shortly see and feel the truth of all this. In the meantime, let this much kindle your desires, and quicken your endeavors. Up, and be doing; run and strive and fight and hold on, for you have a certain, glorious prize before you. God will not mock you: do not mock yourself, nor betray your own soul, by delay or dallying”

—Richard Baxter

SO HOW DO YOU SEEK AFTER AND GET EXCITED FOR THE EVERLASTING REST AND THE GLORIFICATION OF THE NEW BODY?

1. Be convinced of the value of heaven.
2. Endeavor to remember how near your rest is.
3. Let your eternal rest be the subject of your conversation.
4. Let your spiritual experiences increase your interest in heaven.
5. Make every object and every event remind your soul of its approaching rest.
6. Be much in the angelic work of praise.
7. Keep your soul filled with believing thoughts on the infinite love of God.
8. Cherish the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion:

Introduction:

“A great multitude of dear ones is there expecting us; a vast and mighty crowd of parents, brothers, and children, secure now of their own safety, anxious yet for our salvation, long that we may come to their right and embrace them, to that joy which will be common to us and to them, to that pleasure expected by our fellow servants as well as ourselves, to that full and perpetual felicity ... If it be a pleasure to go to them, let us eagerly and covetously hasten on our way, that we may soon be with them, and soon be with Christ!” Church Historian Bede, 710 AD

Tonight’s Bible Study will be immensely practical as this study will thrust us into practical topics such as: **WORSHIP, MARRIAGE, FRIENDSHIPS, and HOPE.**

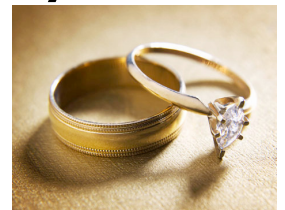
How we will relate to one another in heaven should stir our hearts to prepare **NOW** for the perfect fellowship, kindness, love, corporate worship, and perfect union with **God** that awaits us.

I. Get Ready—You Will Rejoice with the Angels!

- a. **You Will Rejoice with Them (Luke 15:6)**
- b. **You Will Commune with Them (Heb 12:22)**
- c. **You Will Be Served by Them (Heb 1:14; Heb 2:7; Rev 3:21)**
- d. **You Will Be Worshipping with Them (Rev 4:4, 9-11; 5:8-12)**

II. Get Excited—You Will Reunite with Your Family!

- a. **1 Cor 7:32-33—Marriage is a Blessed Distraction!**



- b. **Matt 22:23-30—Marriage, Sex, and Procreation is an Earthly Blessing that Will Be Far Surpassed by the Reality of Marriage, Pleasure, and Enjoyment in Heaven!**

Ephesians 5:25-33!!

- c. **I Thess 4:13-18—The Future Reunion of Family Members Who Have Died in Christ Should Comfort and Encourage Believers to Long for Heaven!**

JC Ryle said: “There would be no point in these words of comfort if they did not imply the mutual recognition of saints. The hope with which Paul cheers wearied Christians is the *HOPE* of meeting their beloved friends again.”

III. Get Prepared—You Will Relate with Other Believers!

Will we really know each other in heaven?

- a. **You Will Gather with Many Worshippers**
- b. **You Will Have an Unchanged Identity**
- c. **You Will Have a Loving Reunion**



But you may ask...will we really remember things that happened on earth while we are in heaven? I thought things will be forgotten?

Conclusion:

“Heaven, as the eternal home of the divine Man and of all the redeemed members of the human race, must necessarily be thoroughly human in its structure, conditions, and activities. Its joys and its occupations must all be rational, moral, emotional, voluntary, and active. There must be the exercise of all faculties, the gratification of all tastes, the development of all talent capacities, the realization of all ideals. The reason, the intellectual curiosity, the imagination, the aesthetic instincts, the holy affections, the social affinities, the inexhaustible resources of strength and power native to the human soul, must all find in heaven exercise and satisfaction” (AA Hodge, *Evangelical Theology*, 1976), 400).

Introduction:

“I shall rise from the dead ... I shall see the Son of God, the Sun of Glory, and shine myself as that sun shines. I shall be united to the Ancient of Days, to God Himself, who had no morning, never began ... No man ever saw God and lived. And yet, I shall not live till I see God; and when I have seen him, I shall never die!” —John Donne

I. You Will Have Unhindered Fellowship with God!

a. Biblically

1 John 1:3

John 14:1-3

Revelation 21:1-3

John 17:20-21, 24

b. Theologically

c. Practically

1. Confess *all* known sins (Ps 66:18)
2. Get your marriage right (1 Pet 3:7)
3. If you're unsaved, *believe today!* And you'll have fellowship with God (1 John 1:1-4)

d. Eternally

II. You Will Have Unobstructed Vision of God!

a. Biblical Truths

b. Eternal Realities

Notice how in heaven we WILL be able to see God.

Matt 5:8

Ps 42:1-2

John 14:8-11 (esp.v.9)

Rev 22:3-5

I John 3:1-2

Ps 17:15

- c. **A THEOLOGICALLY “MEATY” QUESTION:** “will we see God with our physical eyes or have some ‘spiritual ability’ to see God?”

Recall the words of **Job 19:25-27** – see God with your own eyes!

III. You Will Have Unending Delight in God!

I Corinthians 13:12

But you may say: Geoff, I don’t have that kind of delight in God now in preparing for my delight in God in heaven. What can I do to change?

- **First**, realize that authentic joy and delight in God is a gift (Gal 5:22; Ps 51:12)
- **Second**, realize that joy must be fought for relentlessly (2 Cor 1:24; Phil 1:25; 2 Tim 4:7; 1 Tim 6:12)
- **Third**, resolve to attack ALL known sin in your life (however big or small they are!) (Rom 6:11-13)
- **Fourth**, realize that the battle for joy and delight in God is *fundamentally* a fight to see God for *Who He really is!* (Ps 34:8; 2 Cor 4:4-6; 1 John 3:2; Ps 9:10)
- **Fifth**, meditate on the Word of God day and night (Ps 23:3; Ps 19:7, 8; John 15:11; Ps 1:2-3; Rom 15:13)
- **Sixth**, pray earnestly and relentlessly for open heart-eyes and a genuine delight in God (John 16:24; Ps 90:14; Ps 85:6)
- **Seventh**, learn to preach to yourself rather than listen to yourself (Ps 42:5).
- **Eighth**, be patient in the night of “God’s seeming absence” and continue to trust in Him (Ps 40:1-3)
(adapted from John Piper, *Desiring God*, 352–64).

Therefore, “Let your souls delight in communion with God while you are on earth, since you look for your happiness in communion with Him in heaven. Let your speech and actions savor heaven; and in your manner of life, look like the country to which you are going! ... In heaven, you will have peace and plenty, profit and pleasure, and everything desirable; full satisfaction of your most enlarged desires. Let the expectations of heaven, then, lift up your heads with joy! Gird up your loins and so run that you may obtain, trampling on everything that may hinder you on your way to the kingdom. Never regard any duty too hard, nor any cross too heavy, nor any pains too great, so that you may attain the crown of glory!” —Thomas Boston

Conclusion:

Introduction:

“Our deficient understanding concerning what we will do in heaven is simply due to a general ignorance concerning the scripture's teaching on the subject of heaven.” —John MacArthur

I. You Will Be Sinless in Everything You Do in Heaven

II. You Will Serve God in Heaven (Revelation 22:3)

a. Serving God on Earth

b. Serving God in Heaven



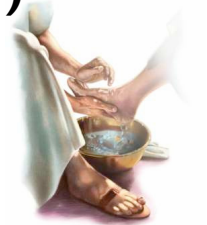
NOTE HOW THE TRINITY *IS WORKING*.

i. God the Father is not free from work—He is working:

ii. Jesus the Son is not free from work—He is working:

iii. God the Spirit is not free from work—He is working:

III. You Will Be Served By God in Heaven (Luke 12:35-37)



IV. You Will Worship God in Heaven (Revelation 4:5-11; 5:9-14; 7:9-12; 14:2-3; 15:2-4; 19:1-6)

a. Worship will be perfect in heaven.

b. Worship will define everything we do in heaven.

“No man shall ever behold the glory of Christ by sight in heaven, who does not in some measure behold it by faith in this world.” —John Owen

V. You Will Reign with God in Heaven (Revelation 22:5)

VI. You Will Rest in God in Heaven (Revelation 14:13)

Ancient Rest:

Present Rest:

Future Rest:

“O blessed rest, where we shall never rest day or night crying holy, holy, holy Lord God of sabbaths, when we shall rest from sin but not from worship, from suffering and sorrow but not from solace. O blessed day when I shall rest with God, when I shall rest in knowing, loving, rejoicing and praising, when my perfect soul and body together shall in these perfect things perfectly enjoy the most perfect God when God also who is love itself shall perfectly love me, and yea, and rest in His love to me as I shall rest in my love to Him and rejoice over me with joy and singing as I shall rejoice in Him.” —Richard Baxter

Conclusion:

“This throws some measure of relieving light upon the painful mystery of a life brought to a sudden close in the fullness of its power. In the presence of such a tragedy we instinctively ask: “WHY this waste?” Is all the training, discipline, and culture of this choice spirit to be lost? It cannot be; for in God’s universe nothing is ever lost (or worthless or useless!). No preparation is ever in vain. There is need up there for clear heads, warm hearts, and skilled hands ... if some kinds of work are over, others will begin; if some duties are laid down, others will be taken up. And any regret for labor missed down here, will be swallowed up in the joyful anticipation of the higher service that awaits every prepared and willing worker in the upper Kingdom of the Father ... He will allow no heaven-born hope to be put to shame, but will bring to realization life’s brightest visions.” —James Campbell

“I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death; I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside; I must make it the main object of life to press on to that other country and to help others do the same!” —C.S. Lewis

Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

1. Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition!
God and heaven are still my own.

2. Let the world despise and leave me,
They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me,
Show Thy face and all is bright.

3. Man may trouble and distress me,
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.
Life with trials hard may press me;
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me
While Thy love is left to me;
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

4. Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,
Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,
With Thy favor, loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father,
I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;
All must work for good to me.

5. Soul, then know thy full salvation
Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station,
Something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,
Think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee,
Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

6. Haste thee on from grace to glory,
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee,
God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition,
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."

*Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power and Thine alone,

Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim,
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.

And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete,
I'll lay my trophies down
All down at Jesus' feet.

When We All Get to Heaven

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace.
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.

*When we all get to Heaven,
What a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
We'll sing and shout the victory!*

While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
Clouds will overspread the sky;

But when traveling days are over,
Not a shadow, not a sigh.

Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving every day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay.

Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open;
We shall tread the streets of gold.

I Will Glory in My Redeemer

I will glory in my Redeemer
Whose priceless blood has ransomed me
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails
And hung Him on that judgment tree
I will glory in my Redeemer
Who crushed the power of sin and death
My only Savior before the Holy Judge
The Lamb Who is my righteousness
The Lamb Who is my righteousness

I will glory in my Redeemer
My life He bought, my love He owns
I have no longings for another
I'm satisfied in Him alone
I will glory in my Redeemer

His faithfulness my standing place
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me
My feet are firm, held by His grace
My feet are firm, held by His grace

I will glory in my Redeemer
Who carries me on eagle's wings
He crowns my life with lovingkindness
His triumph song I'll ever sing
I will glory in my Redeemer
Who waits for me at gates of gold
And when He calls me it will be paradise
His face forever to behold
His face forever to behold
His face forever to behold

Holy Holy Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the
glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before
Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not
see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth,
and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

And Can it Be that I Should Gain?

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain—
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace—
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Finally Home

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand
And cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land
Where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains
Shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns
And scatters night away.

*We will sing on that day,
"Hallelujah, Bless Your name"*

*We will bow at Your throne singing
"Hallelujah, we are finally home!"*

No chilling winds nor pois'nous breath
Can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death
Are felt and feared no more.

When shall I reach that happy place,
And be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face,
And in His safe hands rest?

It is Well with My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

*It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.*

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should
come,
Let this blest assurance control,

That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

Finally Home

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And cast a wishful eye
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When shall I see my Father's face,
And in His safe hands rest?

Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition!
God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,
They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me,
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,
Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,
With Thy favor, loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father,

I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl, and clouds may
gather;
All must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation
Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station,
Something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,
Think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee,
Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee,
God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition,
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt of life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'til He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

He is Exalted

He is exalted the King is exalted on High
I will praise Him
He is exalted forever exalted
And I will praise His name

He is the Lord
Forever His truth shall reign
Heaven and Earth
Rejoice in His holy name
He is exalted the King is exalted on high

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

When We All Get to Heaven

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace.
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.

*When we all get to Heaven,
What a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
We'll sing and shout the victory!*

While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
Clouds will overspread the sky;
But when traveling days are over,

Not a shadow, not a sigh.

Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving every day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay.

Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open;
We shall tread the streets of gold.
—Eliza Hewitt, 1898

I Can Only Imagine

I can only imagine what it will be like
When I walk by your side

I can only imagine what my eyes will see
When your face is before me
I can only imagine

*Surrounded by Your glory, what will my heart feel
Will I dance for you Jesus or in honor of you be still
Will I stand in your presence or to my knees will I
fall*

*Will I sing hallelujah, will I be able to speak at all
I can only imagine*

I can only imagine when that day comes
When I find myself standing in the Son

I can only imagine when all I will do
Is forever, forever worship You
I can only imagine
—Mercy Me

My Savior First of All

When my life work is ended, and I cross the
swelling tide,
When the bright and glorious morning I shall see;
I shall know my Redeemer when I reach the other
side,
And His smile will be the first to welcome me.

*I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
And redeemed by His side I shall stand,
I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
By the print of the nails in His hand.*

Oh, the soul thrilling rapture when I view His
blessèd face,
And the luster of His kindly beaming eye;
How my full heart will praise Him for the mercy,
love and grace,

That prepare for me a mansion in the sky.

Oh, the dear ones in glory, how they beckon me to
come,
And our parting at the river I recall;
To the sweet vales of Eden they will sing my
welcome home;
But I long to meet my Savior first of all.

Through the gates to the city in a robe of spotless
white,
He will lead me where no tears will ever fall;
In the glad song of ages I shall mingle with delight;
But I long to meet my Savior first of all.
—Fanny Crosby, 1891

Better is One Day in Your Courts

How lovely is Your dwelling place
Oh Lord Almighty,
For my soul longs And even faints
For You
Here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of
Your wings

*Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere*

One thing I ask, and I would seek,
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place Your glory dwells

My heart and flesh cry out
For You, the Living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted, and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You

By Faith

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith the church was called to go
In the power of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In every corner of the earth

By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name

Hallelujah What a Savior! (Man of Sorrows)

Man of Sorrows! what a name
For the Son of God, who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood;
Sealed my pardon with His blood.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we;
Spotless Lamb of God was He;
"Full atonement!" can it be?

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was He to die;
"It is finished!" was His cry;
Now in Heav'n exalted high.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

When He comes, our glorious King,
All His ransomed home to bring,
Then anew His song we'll sing:
Hallelujah! What a Savior!