

# Week 51: Heaven, The Hope of the Righteous

A Sabbath Family Bible Study

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## Introduction

Scripture presents Heaven as a real place, prepared by God, where His people will dwell with Him forever. Throughout life, people chase temporary things, comfort, success, possessions, recognition. Yet all of these pass away as Heaven stands in contrast as eternal, unshakable, and perfect.

The hope of heaven is to remind believers that this world is not their final home. It shapes how we live, how we endure suffering, and how we prioritize what truly matters. This week teaches families that heaven is not only a destination, but the fulfillment of God's promises. It is where righteousness dwells, where sorrow ends, and where God's presence is fully known.

To understand heaven better, we will examine what Christ promised, what Scripture reveals, and how that hope should shape our daily lives.

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## Scripture Reading (KJV)

(John 14:1-6, Revelation 21:1-7, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, Colossians 3:1-4, Psalm 73:23-26)

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### John 14:1–6 - The Promise of a Place Prepared

*1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.*

*2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*

*3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

*4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.*

*5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?*

*6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

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## **Commentary**

Jesus speaks these words to comfort His disciples before His departure. Heaven is described as the Father's house, a place of belonging, and Christ prepares it. This is not a place prepared by divine action. The promise is personal: "that where I am, there ye may be also."

Heaven is about presence, being with Christ. Jesus also makes something else clear: there is only one way. And Christ is the way. Families must understand that Heaven is not attained through goodness, effort, or tradition, but entered through Christ alone.

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## **Revelation 21:1–7 - The Reality of Heaven**

*1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

*2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

*4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

*5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.*

*6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.*

*7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*

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## **Commentary**

This passage reveals the final state of heaven is not an escape from creation, but its restoration. God dwells with His people. Notice what is absent: Death, sorrow, pain, and crying. God Himself wipes away tears. "All things new" does not mean unrecognizable, but restored, perfected, and free from our corruption. Families must understand that heaven is not an abstract idea, but a real, promised future where righteousness reigns and brokenness is no more.

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## 2 Corinthians 4:16–18 - The Eternal Perspective

*16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.*

*17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;*

*18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

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## Colossians 3:1–4

*1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.*

*2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*

*3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.*

*4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*

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## Commentary

Heaven shapes how believers live now. Paul calls present suffering “light affliction”, not because it is insignificant, but because it is temporary compared to eternal glory. Believers are commanded to seek what is above, set their minds on eternal things, and to live with awareness of what is coming

This produces clarity of priority. Families that fix their focus on eternity live differently, they are less driven by fear, less attached to material things and more committed to truth and obedience. Heaven reorders life.

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## Discussion Questions for All Ages

### Young Children

- Where is heaven?
- Who will be in heaven?
- Will there be sadness in heaven?

### Older Children & Teens

- Why did Jesus say He is the only way to heaven?
- What will be different in heaven compared to earth?
- How should thinking about heaven change how we live now?

## Adults

- Are your priorities shaped more by the temporary or the eternal?
  - Do you speak about heaven in a way that builds real hope in your children?
  - Are you living with anticipation of Christ's return and eternal life?
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## Psalm Reading - Psalm 73:23–26

*23 Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.*

*24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.*

*25 Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.*

*26 My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.*

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## Commentary

This psalm reveals the heart of heaven and God Himself. “Whom have I in heaven but thee?” Heaven is not primarily about reward but about relationship. God is the portion of His people forever. Earthly strength may fail but God remains forevermore.

Families must anchor their hope not merely in the idea of heaven, but in the presence of God who fills it.

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## Hymn: “When We All Get to Heaven”

By Eliza E. Hewitt (1898)

1.

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.

**Chorus:**

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!

**2**

While we walk the pilgrim pathway,  
clouds will overspread the sky;  
but when trav'ling days are over,  
not a shadow, not a sigh!

**Chorus:**

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!

**3**

Let us then be true and faithful,  
trusting, serving ev'ry day.  
Just one glimpse of Him in glory  
will the toils of life repay.

**Chorus:**

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!

**4**

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.

**Chorus:**

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!

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## **Family Application Points**

### **1. Anchor Your Hope in Eternity**

Teach your family to look beyond temporary circumstances and trust in God's promises.

### **2. Pursue Holiness**

Heaven is pure. Prepare now by walking in obedience and rejecting sin.

### **3. Value God Above All**

Train your household to desire God's presence above comfort or possessions.

### **4. Endure with Perspective**

Present struggles are temporary. Eternal glory is lasting.

### **5. Live as Citizens of Heaven**

Let your home reflect eternal priorities in speech, decisions, and conduct.

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## **A Sabbath Feast Prayer**

Father, we thank You for the promise of Heaven and the hope of eternal life. As we sit at this table, bless this food before us and bless the loving hands that prepared it. Teach our family to set our hearts on things above and to live with eternity in view. Help us to walk in holiness and to desire Your presence above all else. Let our home be shaped by the hope of what is to come. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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## **Closing Prayer**

Lord, we thank You for preparing a place for Your people. Strengthen our faith in Your promises and fix our hearts on eternity. Guard us from becoming consumed with temporary things. Teach us to live faithfully, knowing that You will one day make all things new. May our home be marked by hope, obedience, and longing for Your presence. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

