



When We All Get to Heaven

SERMON NOTES

Week 1 November 10, 2024

“How Good is Good Enough?”

Romans 3:10, 20, 23; John 3:16–17



I. Introduction

- A. Most Americans (71%) believe in _____.
- B. There are two assumptions that fuel the _____ that most Americans have regarding heaven:
 - 1. Good people go to heaven.
 - 2. I'm a good person.
- C. There are _____ to this theory that “good people go to heaven” and “I'm a good person”:
 - 1. It's just.
 - 2. You make the cut.
 - 3. It supports the notion of a good God.
 - 4. The fear of not going to heaven should motivate people to be good.

II. Problems with the ‘Good People Go to Heaven’ Theory

- A. There are some _____ realities if you decide to base your eternity on the assumption that “good people go to heaven.”
 - 1. There is no established standard.
 - 2. We don't know what percentage of our actions have to be good to make the cut.
 - 3. We don't know if thoughts and motives count against us.
 - 4. You could already be out of time.
 - 5. You could miss heaven by one good deed.
 - 6. God is not good.
- B. There are _____ to the “good people go to heaven” theory.
 - 1. “God decides” view.
 - 2. “You wouldn't recognize good” view.

III. A Better Way

- A. According to Jesus, _____ people don't go to heaven.
- B. The followers of Jesus stated clearly that you can grieve with _____.
- C. Jesus didn't give us a to do list, he gave _____ and invited all of us to put our trust in him.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE November 11-16, 2024

INTRODUCTION

Most Americans believe in some sort of afterlife and there's a lot of mystery and a lot of questions around that concept. But there's a general sense that there is something beyond this life - we refer to it as "heaven," and it's a good place... and we just assume we're going to go there. But how can we be assured we are going to heaven?

Monday: Hebrews 9:27-28

People have many different beliefs regarding life after death. In Christianity, scripture passages like this one and several others remind us that immediately after death our physical bodies die, our soul separates from the body, and we will face judgment. What did you grow up believing about life after death? Has it changed as an adult?

Tuesday: John 11:25-26

Many people avoid the topic of death and don't like to think about it. We don't have to avoid the topic of death because this scripture passage gives us hope. Because Jesus lives, we too shall live. Why do you think it's so easy to live most of life ignoring what happens after we die?

Wednesday: Revelation 22:1-5, 17

*"The name of the tree of life tells us its essential meaning: it is an image of eternal or unending life. Being barred from the tree of life pictures the perfection and bliss that the human race lost through its sinfulness. If the tree of life is an image of loss and nostalgia to which we look back, it is also an image of hope to which the Bible looks forward. It reappears at the end of the Bible in the visions of Revelation. It is an image of immortality and eternal life in heaven, a reward for those who have their robes washed in the blood of the Lamb (Rev 22:14)."**

What do you most look forward to when God makes all things new?

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 2:9

Anything we know falls short of the glory of heaven. What do you think heaven will be like? What do you hope to experience when you first enter heaven?

Friday: John 3:1-18

What are your observations about this passage? What key words stand out? What was Nicodemus trying to get answered? How did Jesus answer him? In verse 16, what key words stand out? How does this verse address the question, "How good is good enough?"

MOVING FORWARD

There's some unsettling realities if you decide to base your eternity on the assumption that "good people go to heaven." This includes:

- no established standard for good
- what percentage of good deeds do you need?
- do thoughts and motives count?
- etc.

According to Jesus, good people don't go to heaven. In fact, Jesus didn't give us a to do list, he gave himself and invited all of us to put our trust in him.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) heaven, B) confidence, C) advantages. IIA) unsettling, IIB) options. IIIA) good, B) hope, C) himself.

* Ryken, Leland, et al. Dictionary of Biblical Imagery. InterVarsity Press, 1998.