



## *A Place Called Heaven*

*by Gene Easley*

There is nothing in God's Word as glorious as the heavenly destiny of His followers. All that He has given us and provided for us here on earth is wonderful and brings much rejoicing. But Heaven will "out do" any blessing that we might have here on the temporal side of life.

Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." Jesus died, rose from the dead and ascended to the Father. Those who are faithful are going to follow Him there. Jesus' trip to this world was a mission with eternal purposes. His invitation for us to follow Him also has an eternal purpose. Heaven is our final stop in that journey.

God created us with the ability to cry, and He gave us tear ducts so that the tears may freely flow. The devil has given us plenty of things to cry about, as well as has our own rebellions against God. But when we reach Heaven, God will wipe away all tears from our eyes.

Many have cried tears of sorrow and pain and for His name's sake have borne many heartaches that others never have understood. But on that day, the tears will be taken away. Nothing or no one will be able to bring the sorrows back. When Christ wipes the tears away, it will be forever. "In thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore" (Psalm 16:11).

Let no one deceive you. We are not on this Christian journey for the purpose of seeing what we can get for ourselves in this present world. Our gaze is upward. We are told to set our affections on things above. Jesus said that where your treasures are there your heart will be also. We are taught to be looking for the day of His return when He will take us away to be with Him.

At the time of His coming, it will be day in some places and night in others. Rainy, sunny, maybe some snow; it won't bother us. Our brand new body will not be affected by the elements. We will feel resurrection power as we have never felt it before.

Countless devices of deception will be employed by the enemy to prevent us from reaching this place, but we must make it to Heaven. If we complete our journey in the same manner we began it, by keeping our hand in Jesus' hand, we will make it through.

The so-called gospel, preached by many today, diverts people from the eternal end and from an interest in Heaven. But Jesus focused on the eternal, and He taught us to do so. The Apostle Paul said, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21).

I've got Heaven on my mind, and by God's grace, I plan to keep it there. I plan to be in that place that Jesus has prepared. James told us that in a space of time as quickly as the appearing and disappearing of a vapor, we will be in eternity. Let's not get too attached to this world. We aren't going to be here very long.

We need to long for Heaven! Jesus is waiting to give an eternal welcome: "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord" (Matt. 25:23b).