

When We All Get To Heaven

(song before and after sermon: When We All Get To Heaven)

➤ = next PowerPoint

➤ Intro:

- listening to Joseph's Internet music station the other day, heard, "When We All Get To Heaven"
 - made me think about how great it will be to get to heaven
 - want to share some thoughts based on the song

- 1 Pet. 1:3-6

- vs. 3 we've been born again to a living hope, through the resurrection of Jesus
- vs. 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled
 - will not fade away
 - illus.: not like a paint job on a car
 - reserved in heaven for you
 - illus.: like hotel reservation, guaranteed with credit card, waiting for you when every you get there
- vs. 5 you are protected by the power of God, through faith, for salvation
- vs. 6 in this you greatly rejoice, even though you experience trials while upon the earth

➤ Jesus has a home for you in heaven

- illus.: read vs. 1, When We All Get To Heaven
 - sing love, mercy, grace
 - mansions, bright and blessed, He'll prepare for us a place

➤ - Jn. 14:1-6 Jesus, go, prepare dwelling place, so will come back and take us home (vs. 3)

- the way: Jesus is the way, the truth, the life – definite article: Jesus is the one and only. . . .
- 1 Th. 4:14-17 describe the day He comes back – rejoicing, sing and shout the victory (chorus)
- 2 Tim. 4:8; Rev. 2:10 rewarded a crown of righteousness, crown of life – imagine the ceremony

➤ - sing #70(s), vs. 2, Mansion Over The Hilltop

- imagine Jesus in heaven, has a home waiting for you

- soon He'll come and get you, take you home with Him, to live for eternity
- imagine what it will be like to see heaven, God, Jesus, angels for the 1st time

➤ **Trials pass away**

- **illus.: read vs. 2, When We All Get To Heaven**

- **earth:** walk the pilgrim pathway, clouds overspread the sky – trials

- **heaven:** but when traveling days are over, not a shadow or sigh – trails over

➤ - **we must suffer on earth as Jesus' disciples**

- **1 Pet. 2:21** we walk in Jesus' footsteps – as He suffered on earth, so we must suffer also

- **Jn. 13:16** a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him

- Jesus suffered, so we must also

➤ - **suffering is part of God plan for us, to teach us lessons and make us strong**

- **2 Tim. 3:12** everyone who desires to live godly in Christ, will suffer

- **1 Pet. 1:6-9** greatly rejoice, necessary, distressed by various trials, proof of your faith, more precious than gold, found to result in praise and glory and honor, at the revelation of Jesus Christ, believe in Him, greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls

- **Ja. 1:2-4** consider it all joy, encounter various trials, testing of your faith produces endurance, resulting in perfection

- **1 Pet. 4:12-13** not be surprised at fiery ordeals, testing, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation

- **illus.: imagine being persecuted during the reign of Domitian (A.D. 81) (Fox's) – imagine today**

- **during the time Revelation foretold of**

- **Rev. 2:10** do not fear what you are about to suffer, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, tested, tribulation for ten days - be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life

- **law was made, "That no Christian, once brought before the tribunal, should be exempted from punishment without renouncing his religion."**

- imagine going to court, standing before the judged, ordered to renounce Christ and church

- **Christians** were brought before the magistrates, **a test oath was proposed**, when, if they **refused to take it, death was pronounced against them; and if they confessed themselves Christians, the sentence was the same.**

- imagine being put to the test today, put to death for refusing to deny Christ – friends, family, brethren

- **Timothy** (evangelist, Bible): as the **pagans were about to celebrate a feast** called Catagogion, Timothy, **meeting the procession, severely reprovved them for their ridiculous idolatry**, which so exasperated the people that they **fell upon him with their clubs, and beat him** in so dreadful a manner that he expired (died) of the bruises two days later.

- imagine being such an evangelists today

- **suffering is part of God's plan** for us

- **sometimes we don't suffer because we don't confess Christ** – remain silent, PC

- **sometimes we don't suffer because we don't proclaim the truth to people** – remain silent, PC

- **if we obediently endure suffering and persecution**, rejoicing at the benefits derive, and growing as God designed, we'll live eternally in heaven with Him (**Rev. 2:10**)

- **Be true and faithful all your life – heaven is worth it!**
 - illus.: read vs. 3, **When We All Get To Heaven**
 - true and faithful, trusting, serving everyday
 - just one glimpse of Him in glory, will repay the toils of life

- - **suffering and pain here on earth won't be remembered once we see Jesus**
 - illus.: **Jn. 16:21-22** woman, labor pain, forgets anguish because of joy - same when see Jesus
 - **1 Th. 4:14-17** describe Jesus' coming, meeting Him in sky – joy
 - **Rev. 21:4** God, wipe away every tear from our eyes, no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away

- - **we must stay focused on goal: eternal life**
 - **Phil. 3:20-21** eagerly wait
- - **2 Pet. 3:11-13** hastening the coming – Lord come quickly
- - **Matt. 19:29-30** our reward is infinitely greater than any cost we must pay while on earth

- **remain true and faithful, trusting, serving everyday**
 - just one glimpse of Him in glory, will repay the toils of life

- **Onward to the prize!**
 - illus.: read vs. 4, **When We All Get To Heaven** (not in our song books)
 - 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.

- - **illus. pic: lyricist for “When We All Get To Heaven”**
 - lyrics: **Eliza Edmunds Hewitt** (1851-1920)
 - **After graduation from school, Eliza began teaching.**
 - **But her career was cut short by a serious spinal problem.**
 - **She partially recovered**, but was an **invalid most of her life**. She then **turned to hymn writing**, which ran in the family (NetHymnal.org).
 - **she possibly wrote “When We All Get To Heaven” as an invalid**
 - vs. 4 in heaven, “tread the streets of gold” - **possibly wrote, unable to tread the streets on earth**

- - **Phil. 3:7-11, 12-15a, 20-21** **Scripture reading**
 - **written by Paul, who** saw heaven, but it was unlawful for him to tell anyone about it
 - **2 Tim. 4:7-8** fought the good fight, finished the course, kept the faith, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing
 - **listen as he teaches** about the commitment and desire we should have for eternity in heaven

- **prayer**

Summary / Inv.
review PP

- **inv.:** like God, we want everyone to go to heaven. . . . - **When We All Get To Heaven**