

Those Who Serve

September 21

Opening Prayer

Evan Hall

Communion

Charles Hall

Assist

Colin Morrison

Assist

Olan Bacon

Dismiss Services

Kwesi Garvin

Charles Hall

Colin Morrison

Olan Bacon

Kwesi Garvin



Ellabell Church of Christ



Speaking Where The Bible Speaks; Silent
Where The Bible Is Silent

September 21, 2008

Going To Heaven

By *Ron Boatwright*

Our number one priority in this life must be to go to Heaven. Nothing else is as important. Jesus says in Matthew 6:33, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Our soul is the most precious thing we have. There is nothing that can equal its value. We read in Matthew 16:26, "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" One certainly does not profit in the tragic loss of his soul.

It is easy in today's materialistic society to get caught up in the pursuit of materialism if we are not careful. Our Lord says in Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where

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thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is there will your heart be also." Our bank account needs to be in heaven.

Everyday we need to tell ourselves that the main thing in this life is to go to Heaven. We read in Colossians 3:2, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." We should regularly think about going to Heaven.

Heaven is a prepared place (John 14:2-3) for a prepared people. It will be such a wonderful place, which is beyond our wildest dreams. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 2:9, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." There is no way that Heaven can be described so we as mortal human beings can understand how wonderful it will be.

A person will not accidentally go to Heaven. Going to Heaven is a lifelong race as we read in Hebrews 12:1, "Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us." Going to Heaven requires endurance, patience, and persistence. We must finish the race.

Email from Nigeria (rec'd September 17, 2008)

Hello dear brother Holloway,

Greetings. How is the Fall in Ellabell? We are also about transiting to another season in the Nigeria, of course in the Northern Nigeria particularly. Rain is about going and the Flowers that come along with the beginning of dry season are already out. People have started harvesting their early planted crops. That is another good news, because the prices of some of the food stuff will drop a bit.

Last week at Foron mission, six people agreed to surrender their lives to Jesus and die with him. The other Sunday, we had one baptism at Toro. All of these people are early people. The woman in Toro who was baptized is her 70s. We appreciate your prayers for these people

On a sad note, a family lost their two weeks old baby at the other congregation still in Foron. Please, keep them in prayers. My son Goodnews turns 11 years today. I almost forgot. But Godswill came to me to whisper in ear as they were leaving to school this morning that his brother is 11 today. We thank God for His grace. Goodnews has started junior high school this year, and Godswill got a transfer to another to another school. They are all happy with their new schools, even as they try to make new friends. Thanks so much for your prayers. Have a good day brother. My love to the Church.

Grace and Peace,

Tom

Announcements

Social-next Sunday after morning services

Meetings- next week after evening services

Labels-Remember the labels we are saving

Food Pantry-Remember the Pantry as you shop

Change Jar-proceeds go to the Thanksgiving Appeal for

Georgia AGAPE

Cans-save cans – we are trying to buy bicycles for the missionaries in India

Medicine Bottles-Remember to save prescription bottles for African

Christian Hospitals.

Email from Paris (Rec'd September 13, 2008)



Got the cheek today and thanks

-Roland and Rose

(Please remember Roland in your prayers-he left for Africa this past Thursday –JH)