

# The Way Home

Intro: This earth is not our home; we are just passing through to another land:

2 Cor. 5:1 “<sup>1</sup> For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”;

We are sojourners through this land as we go to another, 1 Pet. 2:11 “<sup>11</sup> Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;”

We sing, “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah, Pilgrim Through This Barren Land.”

God has prepared one of two places for us to go when death comes:

That place called heaven, Mat. 25:34 “<sup>34</sup> Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:”

Or that place of everlasting fire called hell, Mat. 25:41 “<sup>41</sup> Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:”

Thus, when death comes to each one of us, we will go to one or the other places, Mat. 25:46 “<sup>46</sup> And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”

## I. TO GO HOME TO HEAVEN ONE MUST DESIRE IT.

### A. Notice.

1. Abraham—Heb. 11:10 “<sup>10</sup> For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.”
2. David—2 Sam. 12:23 “<sup>23</sup> But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.”
3. Paul—Phi. 1:23-24 “<sup>23</sup> For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: <sup>24</sup> Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you.”

### B. We must desire to go to heaven as well.

## II. TO GO TO HEAVEN ONE MUST DECIDE TO GO.

### A. Life is filled with decisions.

1. We cannot have everything, we must decide what we shall have.
2. A decision not to go to heaven (obey God) is a decision to go to hell.

### B. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit plead with us to make the right decision.

1. Rom. 10:21 “<sup>21</sup> But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.”
2. 2 Pet. 3:9 “<sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”
3. Mat. 11:28 “<sup>28</sup> Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”
4. Rev. 22:17 “<sup>17</sup> And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

### C. This decision is a personal thing, no one can decide for you, live for you, or prepare for you.

1. Mat. 25:1-12 “<sup>1</sup> Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> And five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. <sup>3</sup> They that *were* foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: <sup>4</sup> But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. <sup>6</sup> And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, *Not so*; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. <sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy, the

bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.  
<sup>11</sup> Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. <sup>12</sup> But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.”

2. The five wise virgins could not divide their oil with the five foolish ones.

### III. ONE WAY TO GOD.

**A. Christ, the one way, has given: John 14:6** “<sup>6</sup> Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

1. Eph. 4:4—one body “<sup>4</sup> *There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;*”
2. Eph. 4:5—one faith “<sup>5</sup> One Lord, one faith, one baptism,”
3. 2 Tim. 3:16-17—one Bible “<sup>16</sup> All scripture *is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:* <sup>17</sup> That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”
4. 1 Tim. 2:5—one mediator “<sup>5</sup> For *there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;*”
5. Phi. 3:16—one rule “<sup>16</sup> Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.”
6. Eph. 4:5—one baptism “<sup>5</sup> One Lord, one faith, one baptism,”

**B. The way is narrow**

1. Mat. 7:13-14 “<sup>13</sup> Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: <sup>14</sup> Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”
2. Narrowness does not make a road bad.

**C. One way is not as good as another; Pro. 14:12** “<sup>12</sup> There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.”

### IV. THE WAY IS SIMPLE.

**A. Isa. 35:8** “<sup>8</sup> And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it *shall be* for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err *therein*.”

**B. Three Steps:**

1. Out of self.
  - a. Mat. 16:24 “<sup>24</sup> Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”
  - b. Mat. 18:8-9 “<sup>8</sup> Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast *them* from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. <sup>9</sup> And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.”
  - c. To step out of self we must:
    - (1) Deny self; Mat. 16:24 “<sup>24</sup> Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”
    - (2) Give up self; 2 Cor. 8:5 “<sup>5</sup> And *this they did*, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.”
    - (3) Put off the old man; Eph. 4:22-24 “<sup>22</sup> That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; <sup>23</sup> And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; <sup>24</sup> And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”
    - (4) Forsake all; Mat. 19:27 “<sup>27</sup> Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?”

2. Into Christ.
  - a. Baptized into Christ.
    - (1) Rom. 6:3-4 <sup>3</sup> Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”
    - (2) Baptism must be preceded by faith, repentance and confession.
  - b. In Christ:
    - (1) All spiritual blessings; Eph. 1:3 <sup>3</sup> Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ.”
    - (2) We must abide in Him; John 15:6 <sup>6</sup> If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.”
    - (3) We must add to the faith; 2 Pet. 1:5-10 <sup>5</sup> And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; <sup>6</sup> And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; <sup>7</sup> And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. <sup>8</sup> For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither *be* barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. <sup>10</sup> Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.”
    - (4) We must walk after the Spirit; Rom. 8:1 <sup>1</sup> *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”
    - (5) We must persevere; Mat. 10:22 <sup>22</sup> And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name’s sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.”
3. Into heaven.
  - a. This is our journeys destination.
  - b. Mat. 25:34 <sup>34</sup> Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:”

Conclusion: Are you on your way to Heaven’s home?