

“Died and gone to heaven.” is a popular expression (some even say this about their pets).
However: If you are planning to go to heaven, make sure you know the way.

If you plan to have a dwelling place (mansion) there, better prepare now!

It's often said that heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. How does one prepares? By:

KNOWING THE WAY

Jesus is the Way (Text 14:6)

The way is narrow. Mat.7:14

Know Jesus.

Jesus (who He is) God's Son. Joh.20:31

Know Jesus (what He did) Took on form on man to suffer and die for our sins.

Know Jesus (what He said). Believe in me, follow me, obey me. Joh.14:15, 15:14

BEING ON THE WAY

Believing. (Text 14:1)

Without faith one has God's wrath. Joh.3:36

Unless you believe, die in sin Joh.4:24

Serving (doing his bidding).

Can't serve two masters. Mat.6:24

Obeying. Rom.6:12-13

Obeying from heart that form of doctrine Rom 6:17-18

HOPE OF HEAVEN

One labors in anticipation of receiving pay, works hoping for results, strives to achieve. Expectation of result is motivating force.

Such perseverance needs more than “wishful thinking”: needs *hope* (reasonable expectation).

We hope for that which is to come!

Hope of a life after hereafter. Joh.14:1-3

Hope of “being caught up in the air to meet the Lord.” 1Th.4:13-18

Hope of experiencing “no more death, mourning, crying or pain.” *A living hope.* 1Pe.1:3

HOPE RESTS ON SURE FOUNDATION

Jesus is now reigning. Eph.1:20-22

Jesus will return (personal, visible at end of time).

Surety of His coming. Joh.14:3

“In clouds” Act.1:11

“Every eye shall see Him.” Rev.1:7

General resurrection. Joh.5:28-29

Such is the hope of every Christian. Tit.2:11-13

More than wishful thinking—hope based on fact. 1Co.15:1-8, 20-23

We hope, because we do not have it yet, but we will! Rom.8:24-25

THIS IS THE CHRISTIAN'S PERSPECTIVE

ur hope in Christ is based on faith which enables us to *know* and be *assured* of life after death.

Perishable earthly body to be changed (If alive at coming). 1Co.15:51-54

Victory over death. 1Co.15:54b-57

No more death and accompanying agony. Rev.21:4

Being at home with God. Rev.21:3

Crown of glory/righteousness. 2Ti.4:8 (1Pe.5:4)

New abode (new heaven and earth). 2Pe.3:10-13

ADMONITIONS

“Comfort one another with these words.” (text :18)

“Be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding.” 1Co.15:58

“Abide in Him.” 1Jo.2:28

“Everyone who has this hope ... purifies himself.” 1Jo.3:3

“Be diligent, be on guard, grow in grace, knowledge.” 2Pe.3:14-18

“He who overcomes shall inherit...” Rev.21:7

Make your plans **now**! Prepare **now**! Live for Jesus **now** in order to live with Him hereafter!