

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: When We All Get to Heaven

SERMON REFERENCE: 1 John 3:1-3

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2113

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Not everyone is enjoying life.
 - i) Many people are living lives of quiet desperation.
- b) To know Jesus is life eternal.
 - i) John 10:10
 - ii) A rich man is poor without Jesus.
 - iii) A strong man is weak without Jesus.
 - iv) An educated man is ignorant until he comes to know the Lord Jesus Christ.
- c) If you don't know Jesus, what hope do you have?
 - i) Those without Christ have no hope at all.
- d) Without Jesus, nothing makes sense.
 - i) Man is ignorant of his past and afraid of his future.
 - (1) So, he is somewhere between mystery and misery.
- e) If you know the Lord Jesus Christ, then you have the sweetest fellowship this side of Heaven.
 - i) Just think of the fellowship we will have when we all get to Heaven.
- f) 1 John 3:1-3
- g) Today's message will focus on three things from our passage in 1 John:
 - i) The Christian's dignity
 - ii) The Christian's destiny
 - iii) The Christian's duty

2) THE CHRISTIAN'S DIGNITY: WHAT WE ARE (1 JOHN 3:1)

- a) 1 John 3:1
 - i) When the Apostle John said, "What manner," he was telling us to, "Look at that! Behold it!"
 - ii) "What manner" is a Greek phrase that means "something from out of this world."
 - (1) "What manner of love" literally means:
 - (a) What other worldly kind of love.
 - (b) What love not from this planet.
 - (c) What indescribable, unknown quality is this love.
- b) We are not just "called" sons of God, but we are sons and daughters of God.
 - i) If you are a child of God, then you are a royal blueblood.
 - (1) You are a child of the King.
- c) Hebrews 2:10-12
 - i) Everything was made for the Lord Jesus and by Him.
 - ii) The word "sanctify" means "to be set apart for God."
 - iii) Jesus is in me, and I am in Christ.
 - (1) And we are one together.
 - iv) Jesus is not ashamed of us.
 - (1) He is not ashamed to call us His brother or sister.
 - v) This passage says that they are all of one.

- (1) This means that we share the same nature.
 - (a) We are partakers of the divine nature.
 - (b) We are blood brothers of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- (2) Jesus has our nature because He took human nature.
- (3) We have His nature because we have been born of God and are sons and daughters of God.
 - (a) We are next of kin to the Holy Trinity.
- d) John 17:21-23
 - i) This passage says that God loves us as He loves His Son Jesus.
 - ii) There is nothing we can do to make God love us anymore than He already loves us.
 - (1) He loves us as much as He loves His own Son, Jesus Christ.
- e) Romans 8:29
 - i) Jesus is the first-born Son in a family of many brothers.
 - ii) We are brothers and sisters of Jesus, sons of God literally.
 - iii) Galatians 4:6
 - (1) "Abba Father" means "Daddy Father."
 - (2) As believers, we have the Spirit of God in our hearts, and we can speak to God and call Him "Abba Father."
- f) Because we are children of God and Jesus Christ is our brother, we have the Father's care.
 - i) We are not beggars.
 - (1) Our Father is obligated to take care of us, and He will.
 - ii) Matthew 6:26
 - (1) The Lord Jesus is saying in this passage, "What farmer would feed his chickens and starve his children?"
 - (2) If you are a child of God, then God is obligated to take care of you.
 - (a) Some may ask, then, why they don't have money in the bank.
 - (i) You don't need money in the bank if you have God.
 - (ii) Psalm 37:25
 - (iii) We should ask ourselves if we would rather have a warehouse full of bread or a father who owns a bakery.
 1. Matthew 6:11
 - iii) If God feeds the fowls of the air, then He will take care of us.
 - g) We have the Father's correction.
 - i) God will sometimes engineer our trouble.
 - ii) Hebrews 12:5-7
 - (1) When God chastens us, it doesn't mean that He doesn't love us.
 - (a) It means that He does love us.
 - (2) God is not rejecting us when He chastens us.
 - (a) He is rejecting the sin in our lives.
 - (b) God chastens us because He loves us.
 - h) We have the Father's compassion.
 - i) Psalm 103:13

- ii) His heart is broken when our hearts are broken; therefore, it ought to be easy to talk with Him.
 - (1) We don't talk to Him as judge.
 - (a) He is judge; but for us, He is more than judge.
 - (2) We don't talk to Him as ruler, though He is ruler.
 - (3) We don't talk to Him as King, though He is King.
 - (4) We talk to Him as Father.
 - (a) Galatians 4:6
 - i) We have the Father's companionship.
 - i) We are never alone.
 - ii) 1 John 3:1
 - iii) He is our Father, and Christ is our brother.
 - (1) The Lord Jesus is not ashamed to call us His brother.
 - (2) We are part of the family of God.
 - j) We may think at times that He has forgotten us, but He hasn't.
 - i) Our Father is watching over us.
 - ii) 1 John 3:1
- 3) THE CHRISTIAN'S DESTINY: WHAT WE WILL BE (1 JOHN 3:2)
- a) 1 John 3:2
 - b) There are some things we don't know.
 - i) This should be comforting to us to know that there are some things we're not supposed to know.
 - ii) So many of us don't witness to others because we're afraid someone will ask us a question that we don't know the answer to.
 - (1) It's okay to tell them that we don't know.
 - (2) When we're honest about what we don't know, then maybe they will believe us when we share things that we do know.
 - iii) There are many things about the future that we don't know.
 - (1) These things have been kept from us on purpose.
 - (2) 2 Corinthians 12:2-4
 - (3) John 16:12
 - (4) Daniel 12:4
 - iv) We don't know what we're going to be like when we get to Heaven.
 - (1) We don't know what we will look like.
 - (2) We don't know what age we will be.
 - (3) We shouldn't even try to answer these questions.
 - (a) We have hints and clues, but there are some things that we can't be dogmatic about.
 - (b) One thing that we do know is that we will be like Jesus.
 - (i) 1 John 3:2
 - c) There are three things that we can certainly know.
 - i) Christ is going to appear.
 - (1) Jesus Christ is coming back to this Earth.

- (2) 1 John 3:2
 - (a) John didn't say "If He should appear," but "When He should appear."
- (3) It is like a great drama being played out in two acts.
 - (a) In Act One, there are five scenes:
 - (i) Scene One is the birth at Bethlehem.
 - (ii) Scene Two is the lad of Nazareth.
 - (iii) Scene Three is the preacher and the miracle worker.
 - (iv) Scene Four is the crucified Son of God.
 - (v) Scene Five is the buried, risen and ascended Christ.
 - (b) Now, we are waiting for the second act to begin.
 - (i) Christ is getting ready to step back onto the stage of human history.
 - (c) This drama is not make-believe, but it is real.
- (4) Jesus went to glory, and He's coming back to glory.
- (5) He is coming back to this Earth literally, visibly and actually.
- ii) We will see Him as He is.
 - (1) 1 John 3:2
 - (2) We will see Him, not as He was, but as He is.
 - (a) "As He was" refers to when He was here in His humanity walking the shores of Galilee.
 - (i) That was when He was here wearing a crown of thorns.
 - (b) We are going to see Him when He comes again and is resplendent in His glory.
 - (c) John 17:5
 - (d) John 17:24
 - (i) The Lord Jesus prayed this for us.
 - (ii) Our loved ones who have gone to Heaven are beholding the glory of Jesus Christ.
- iii) We will be like Him.
 - (1) 1 John 3:2
 - (a) In this verse, the Apostle John links together "being like Him" and "seeing Him."
 - (i) We could not bear to look upon Him right now in our current bodies without being transformed.
 - (2) 1 Timothy 6:14-16
 - (a) Jesus dwells in such glory that we could not even begin to approach it.
 - (b) The Lord Jesus dwells in light.
 - (i) 1 Timothy 6:16
 - (3) We will have to be like Him in order to see Him as He is.
 - (4) Psalm 17:15
 - (a) We do not know what Heaven will be like or what our resurrected bodies will be like, but we do know that we will be satisfied.

- 4) THE CHRISTIAN'S DUTY: WHAT WE SHOULD DO (1 JOHN 3:3)
 - a) 1 John 3:3
 - b) We ought to be looking for His coming.
 - i) The word "hope" in the Bible means "absolute certainty mingled with anticipation."
 - ii) The coming of Jesus is a divine certainty mingled with, "I can hardly wait for it to get here."
 - c) We ought to be living for His coming.
 - i) 1 John 3:3
 - ii) 1 John 2:28
 - iii) Are you ready for Jesus to come today?
 - (1) Is your heart pure?
 - (2) If you knew that Jesus Christ were coming back today, would you make some changes in your life?
 - (a) If so, then make those changes because you don't know when He is coming.
 - iv) 2 Corinthians 7:1
 - v) Some may think that it doesn't matter how they live as long as they get to Heaven.
 - (1) They think that even if they go to Heaven second class, then they'll be satisfied.
 - (a) But it won't satisfy God, and it won't satisfy them.
 - vi) As Christians, we want to live a holy life, not because we're afraid of what God may do to us if we don't, but because we don't want to hurt God.
 - (1) This is the difference between law and love.
 - d) We ought to be longing for His coming.
 - i) Some people think that they might miss out on something in life if Jesus were to come back now.
 - (1) But the best thing that could happen to any of us and all of us is for Jesus Christ to come right now.
 - ii) It is all gain.
 - (1) Philippians 1:21
 - iii) All days will pale into insignificance to the day when Jesus comes and our eyes behold the King.
 - (1) The one who opened to us the doors of grace will open to us the doors of glory.
- 5) CONCLUSION
 - a) 1 John 3:3
 - b) Those who are not saved will miss the coming of the Lord Jesus in His glory.
 - c) The only way to be a son or a daughter of God is to be born into His family.
 - i) John 1:11-12
 - d) If the Lord Jesus were to come back today, would you be ready to meet Him?
 - e) If you're unsaved, you can be saved today.

- f) Call upon Jesus today.
 - i) Ask Him to come into your life.
 - ii) Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - iii) Romans 3:23
 - iv) Romans 10:9-10
 - v) Romans 10:13
 - vi) Acts 16:31
 - vii) John 3:16