

HEAVEN

What It Means to the Christian

HEAVEN: THE PLACE OF OUR HOPE

- Our hope is *laid up in heaven* – Col. 1:3-5
- Our hope is there because....
 - Heaven ends our struggle with mortality – 2 Cor. 5:1-4
 - Heaven ends all persecution and suffering at the hands of the wicked – Mt. 5:10-12
 - Heaven ends of our struggle with sin – 2 Pet. 3:13-14; Lk. 18:13

THE HOPE OF HEAVEN MUST CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

- Heaven is to give us confidence – Heb. 12:22-23; 1 Pet. 1:3-5; 2 Cor. 5:6-8
- Heaven is to motivate us to divine purity – 1 Jn. 3:2-3; Col. 1:21-23; 2 Tim. 4:7-8
- Heaven must change the location of our citizenship – Phil. 3:17-21; Col. 3:1-4; Mt. 6:19-21

MISCONCEPTIONS OF HEAVEN

- People want *God's heaven* according to *their rules!*
 - Their view of heaven is self-centered and carnal
 - People want to determine who goes there...which is almost everyone – Mt. 7:13-14
- People want to aimlessly wander into heaven
 - Heaven is for those who diligently seek God – Heb. 11:6
 - Heaven is for those who run life's race according to God's rules – 1 Cor. 9:24-27
 - Heaven is *the logical end* of the growth of godly character in Christ – 2 Pet. 1:3-4