

Heaven in Our Hearts

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When we are saved, when we are born from above, we are delivered from Satan's domain and brought into God's domain – God's kingdom! Through the presence of the Holy Spirit, Heaven is in our hearts. "We are blessed with every spiritual blessing from above!" (Paul to the Ephesians)

In our heart dwells the King of the kingdom, the love of the kingdom, and the power of the kingdom!

Inclusion of Gentiles into the Kingdom of God

Paul bears out the great blessing bestowed upon the Gentile in the extension of their inclusion into the Kingdom of God.

"Remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." (Ephesians 2:12–13, NASB)

Israel's Unbelief for Now and Their Future Salvation

"A partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; and so, all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will remove ungodliness from Jacob." "This is My covenant with them When I take away their sins."'" (Romans 11:25–27, NASB)

Israel's Expectation of the Messiah

Isaiah's Prophecy

"Lord, You will establish peace for us, Since You have also performed for us all our works. O Lord our God, other masters besides You have ruled us; But through You alone we confess Your name. The dead will not live, the departed spirits will not rise; Therefore, You have punished and destroyed them, And You have wiped out all remembrance of them. You have increased the nation, O Lord, You have increased the nation, You are glorified; You have extended all the borders of the land." (Isaiah 26:12–15, NASB)

- To restore the kingdom.
- To deliver them from their enemies - the bondage of their foreign lords
 - Assyria, Babylon, Medes & Persians, Greece, and Rome: 1948 Israel became a sovereign Nation, yet still under the reproach and hatred of the world.
- To restore what the enemy has stolen
 - In the garden through the sin of Adam
 - In our life through personal sin

Israel's Rejection of Christ and His Kingdom

"He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:10–13, NASB)

Deliverance from Satan's Domain

(Paul's calling and commission) *"To open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me."* (Acts 26:18, NASB)

We are children of God and not Satan's. We are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. We are not of this world!

Jesus the Christ is our Lord, and He alone reigns in and over life. Heaven is in our hearts!

"But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness." (Romans 6:17–18, NASB)

The things which once ruled and reigned over us, loses its power. When we Repent and believe the gospel, Satan and sin loses their power over us. We must rebuke Satan and sin in the time of doubt, temptation, or persecution. We must declare our victory in Christ!

Our Faith is Our Victory

"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith." (1 John 5:3–4, NASB)

We overcome by the Holy Spirit and His power. By faith, we stand on the promises of God, and by faith, we obey His commandments. None of this is possible without Christ.

We must commune with God in prayer. We must seek after Him and His righteousness. We must be joined to His body, the church.

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it." (Matthew 7:13–14, NASB)

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil." (Ephesians 6:11, NASB)

"Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm." (Ephesians 6:13, NASB)

Resist! "Push Back" in Your Faith

"Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world." (1 Peter 5:8–9, NASB)

"Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (James 4:7, NASB)