

“JESUS’ PATH: Living for Heaven” PART 2

Colossians 3:1-4

Pastor Jason Dennett's Notes

INTRODUCTION: Florence Chadwick & Catalina Island - *"If I only could've seen the shore, I think I could've made it."*

NKJV - *"If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. **Set your mind on things above**, not on things on the earth. **For you died**, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also **will appear with Him in glory.**"*

NLT - *"Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory."*

- I. **DIRECTION** towards Heaven.
- II. **CONTEMPLATION** about Heaven.
- III. **MORTIFICATION** for Heaven.
- IV. **GLORIFICATION** in Heaven.

I. **DIRECTION** towards Heaven. - *"If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God."*

*"If then you were **raised with Christ**,..."*
Referring back to Colossians 2...
WDJD?? "What Did Jesus Do??"

*"...**seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God."*

Greek "**zeteo**" - meaning to strive, crave, desire, long

for (*Present, Active, Imperative tense!!*)

How can we **SEEK** the things of Heaven **PRACTICALLY??**:

4 simple ways

1. Use your **TIME**: *Invest it for the Kingdom on a regular basis!*

*How do **YOU** use your day; week; month; year??*

@25 years just **working**...

@25 years just **sleeping**...

@9 years just **eating**...

@5 years just **miscellaneous**...

@2 years just **waiting at lights**...

@1 year just **tying their shoes**...

How much **TIME** is left over?? @ **3-8 years!!**

86,400 seconds per day...2 billion seconds in 70yrs!

2. Use your **TREASURES**: *Generously give to Kingdom works!*

*How do you use your **finances** in general??*

Food...Entertainment...School...Credit cards & Debt...Vacations...

We are in the **top 5%** of the worlds income!

*How do you use your finances **for the Lord**??*

Do you **regularly tithe 10%**?

Spiritual aspects of tithing...

Practical aspects of tithing...

Do you **give to others in need**?

Good Samaritan?..Single mother?..Poor family?..Teen sponsorship?

Do you support a **missions work**?

CC Center City with Pastor Dan?

3. Use your TALENTS: *Discover, develop, and deploy them!*

Natural gifts & Spiritual gifts

***Discover, Develop, and Deploy** them!*

4. Use your TOOLS: *Use the weapons of Prayer & the Gospel!*

*Tool of **Prayer**...James 4:2; Matt 7:7-8*

*Tool of the **Gospel**... Mark 16:15; Romans 1:16*

II. CONTEMPLATIONS about Heaven. - *"Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."*

*"Set your **mind on things above**,..."*

*Greek "**phroneo**" - to ponder, to think upon, to let something fill your thoughts.*

By SITTING in prayer to the LORD!

Jesus' prayer life...Matt 26:36-44..Matt 6:9,10

Public & Private

By STUDYING the Words of God!

*Psalm 1 - **Be nourished** by thinking on Heaven!*

*Psalm 119:105 - Let Heaven **illuminate** your life!*

*Romans 12:2 - **Transform** how you imagine Heaven!*

*"It is the Christian whose imagination should soar beyond the stars." - **Warren Wiersbe***

By SUFFERING thru trials in life!

***2 Cor 11:23-28** - Paul's description of his many intense sufferings and physical trials.*

***2 Cor 5:1-4 NLT** - "For we know that when **this earthly tent we live in** is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands. **We grow weary** in our present bodies, and **we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing**. For we will put on heavenly bodies; we*

*will not be spirits without bodies. While we live in these earthly bodies, **we groan and sigh...we want to put on our new bodies** so that these dying bodies will be swallowed up by life."*

Romans 8:18 NLT - *"Yet what we **suffer now is nothing** compared to the glory he will reveal to us later."*

Heb 12:2 NLT - *"...Because of **the joy awaiting him**, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame."*

An American tourist's visit to the 19th century

Polish rabbi, Hofetz Chaim: *Astonished to see that the rabbi's home was only a simple room filled with books, plus a table and a bench, the tourist asked, "**Rabbi, where is your furniture?**" "Where is yours?" replied the rabbi. "**Mine?**" asked the puzzled American. "**But I'm a visitor here. I'm only passing through.**" The rabbi answered, "So am I."*

- *"...not on **things on the earth.**"*

1 John 2:15-17 (NLT) - *"Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever."*

"There is an old legend of a swan and a crane. A beautiful swan landed by the banks of the water in which a crane was wading about seeking snails. For a few moments the crane viewed the swan in stupid wonder and then inquired: "Where do you come from?" "I come from heaven!" replied the swan. "And where is heaven?" asked the crane. "Heaven!" said the swan, "Heaven! Oh my, have you never heard of heaven?" And the beautiful bird went on to describe the grandeur of the Eternal City. She told of streets of gold, and the gates and walls made of precious stones; of the river of life, pure as crystal, and many other heavenly wonders. In eloquent terms the swan sought to describe the other world, but it didn't arouse even the slightest interest on the part of the crane. Finally the crane asked: "Are there any snails there?" "Snails!" repeated the swan; "no! Of course there are not." "Then," said the crane, as it continued its search, "you can have your heaven. I want snails!" - DL Moody

III. **MORTIFICATION** for Heaven. - **"For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."**

IV. **GLORIFICATION** in Heaven. - **"When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."**