



SUNDAY MORNING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: Heaven is Even Better Than You Imagine

Passage: Luke 16:19-26

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: As we return to our text in Luke 16, Jesus invites us to overhear eternity—two men, two deaths, two destinies. Today, our focus is on Heaven. In plain terms: Heaven is even better than you imagine. It's not a myth, not a wish, and not a vague dream. It is a real place, prepared for a real people, purchased by a real Savior.

I. The Reality of Life After Death.

Death is not the end. In this passage of Scripture both men died, and immediately their souls are in their eternal destinies.

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." (Ecclesiastes 12:7)

The Bible is clear—the moment life here ends, eternity there begins.

"Someday you will read in the papers that D. L. Moody is dead. Don't you believe a word of it! At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now... That which is born of the Spirit will live forever." — D.L. Moody

It was not riches that damned the rich man, and it was not poverty that saved Lazarus. It was faith. One trusted God; one trusted himself. Eternity always turns on what you did with God's Son.

II. Heaven: What Is It?



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Heaven is not imaginary or symbolic or a mere “state of mind.” Heaven is a place—a real, prepared place for a blood-bought people.

“In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you...that where I am, there ye may be also.” (John 14:2-3)

God piles up pictures to help our minds grasp it:

- Heaven is a city (Hebrews 11:16)
- Heaven is a country (Hebrews 11:14)
- Heaven is a home (2 Corinthians 5:1)

Don’t anchor your heart to this world. Your best meal, your finest view, your sweetest day—pale in comparison to what’s in store for you.

III. Heaven: What Will We Do There?

The devil wants you to think Heaven is boring, but the Bible says that Heaven will be rich with joy, purpose, and holy variety.

A. We will worship

Revelation 5:9–14 shows the saints and angels singing a new song to the Lamb, falling before Him, blessing and honoring Him forever.

B. We will learn

“That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.” (Ephesians 2:7)

For all eternity, God will unfold fresh vistas of grace; we will never exhaust His goodness.

C. We will serve



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Heaven will not be burdensome; it will be the joyful use of our gifts in a world without sin, without fatigue, and without frustration.

D. We will fellowship

“...many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 8:11)

Imagine conversations with the saints of old; imagine reunions with loved ones in Christ—no more goodbyes.

IV. Heaven: How Do We Get There?

“...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6)

There is one way to salvation, and that is through Jesus Christ. Salvation is not earned, inherited, or deserved. It is received by repentance and faith in the crucified and risen Savior.

“These things have I written unto you... that ye may know that ye have eternal life...” (1 John 5:13)

Jesus died for your sins, rose from the dead, and He promises to receive all who come to Him.

Conclusion: Heaven is real—and it’s far better than you can imagine. But it’s not automatic. In Jesus’ story, the rich man lifted his eyes in torment, while Lazarus lifted his eyes in comfort. That same choice stands before each of us. Which will it be for you? If you are in Christ, take heart. For the believer, death is not a wall to fear, but a door to step through—and on the other side, you will find yourself finally home. If you need Christ, come to Him. He is ready to receive you. And if you are already in Him, rejoice. Heaven awaits, and it is more glorious than you’ve ever dreamed.



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