Thinking About The "Destination".....Heaven

Col 3:1-2 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. ² Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

<u>1. Because it will build excitement</u>

A. We get to see Jesus

1 Corinthians 13:12 Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity.^[a] All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.

B. We will get to see my loved ones

Luke 9: 28 28 About eight days later Jesus took Peter, John, and James up on a mountain to pray. 29 And as he was praying, the appearance of his <u>face</u> was transformed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly, two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared and began talking with Jesus.

2. Because we know there is an end to our suffering and adversity

II Cor 5:1 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.

Rev 22:3 No longer will there be a curse upon anything. For the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there, and his servants will worship him.

II Cor 4:16-18 That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. ¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

In heaven we shall see that we had not one trial too many. Charles Spurgeon

3. Because it will prompt us to start a "gospel conversation"

Matt 28:19-20 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

"If you read history you will find that the Christians who did the most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next."

4. Because it will help us use our resources wisely Money

<u>Matthew 6:20-21</u> But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

5. Because it will prompt us to "behave"

Hebrews 12:1–2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. ² We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.^(a) Because of the joy^(b) awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

Close

John Newton said that when we get to heaven, there will be three wonders:

- 1. Who is there
- 2. Who is not there, and
- 3. The fact that I'm there!