



The Purpose of this Relationship Is to Make Us Ready for the Celestial

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23:6

Introduction:

“The ending promise of Psalm 23 is goodness in the good times, and mercy in the bad times.”

I. The certainty of Heaven should make us ready for the celestial.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. John 14:2

A. The goodness of life speaks of the certainty of Heaven.

Surely goodness . . . Psalm 23:6

. . . the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? Romans 2:4

Heaven is an immediate promise; ***We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. 2 Corinthians 5:8***

Heaven is where God's goodness is fully revealed; ***And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. Revelation 21:4***

“The Hebrew word David used refers to goodness in its broadest sense, it covers eternal grace toward us in all its dimensions. The word good is a characteristic of God, and it refers to the essential nature of His perfection and benevolence.”

- Robert Morgan

B. The grace of life speaks of the certainty of Heaven.

... and mercy Psalm 23:6

It is in the heart and promise of Jesus to give us Heaven . . . I go to prepare a place; John 14:2
“Heaven is going to be all that the loving heart of God can conceive,
and all that the omnipotent hand of God can prepare.”
- Adrian Rogers

II. The company of Heaven should make us ready for the celestial.

A. The company of our fellow saints will make us ready.

... shall follow me Psalm 23:6

“Dare we envision a God who follows us? Who pursues us? Who chases us?
Who tracks us down and wins us over?”
- Max Lucado

B. The company of our Saviour will make us ready.

.. all the days of my life: Psalm 23:6 (This is the point where all else falls by the wayside and Christ stands sure.)

“ALL” What a Word

*“We’re told that **all** things work together for good, that the hairs on our head **all** have been numbered, that if we seek first His kingdom, **all** these things will be added to us, that He is faithful and just to forgive **all** our unrighteousness, that we can cast **all** our cares on Him, and that goodness and mercy shall follow us **all** the days of our lives.”*

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. Revelation 21:23

III. The constancy of Heaven should make us ready for the celestial.

Sheep are nomadic, they are wanderers; *By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: (V. 10) For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Hebrews 11:9-10*

A. It makes us ready, because the earthly frails in comparison.

... and I will dwell Psalm 23:6

*“The ultimate goal in David’s heart was a face-to-face relationship with His Lord forever.
Instead of vague uncertainty, he had confidence.”*

- Chuck Swindoll

B. It makes us ready, because eternity is forever in its consequences.

... in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23:6

Five Minutes After I Die

*Loved ones will weep over my silent face,
Dear ones will clasp me in sad embrace,
Darkness and shadows will fill the place,*

Five minutes after I die.

*Faces that sorrow I will not see,
Voices that murmur I will not hear,
But, where O where will my Spirit be*

Five minutes after I die.

*Not to prepare the good I lack,
Fix to the goal of my chosen track,
No space to repent, no turning back*

Five minutes after I die

*Matted forever with my chosen thorn,
Long is eternity O so long.*

Woe is me if my spirit be wrong

Five minutes after I die.

- Anonymous