

**Sermon Series:**           **The Hope That Encourages Us**  
**Sermon Title:**           **Our Heavenly Home for Which We Hope**  
**Sermon Text:**           **Hebrews 11:13-16**

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 distinctives.*

**The 1<sup>st</sup> was:**

- I.     **THE DESTINATION THAT IS ASSURED BY THE DIVINE PROMISE**     **8-12****
- A.     IT IS PURSUED WITH A STUNNING PROMPTNESS           8, 9
- B.     IT IS PONDERED FROM THE SUPREME PERSPECTIVE       10
- C.     IT IS POPULATED BY SUPERNATURAL PROCESS           11, 12

**II.    **THE DETERMINATION THAT IS ANCHORED IN THE DIVINE PURPOSE**    **13-16****

The patriarchal eschatological confidence. How is this determination demonstrated?

- A.     **BY ACKNOWLEDGING THEIR TRANSIENT CONDITION**           13, 14
- 1.     Their Delayed Acquisition                               13a

Meaning of dying in faith. Rev 14:13. Not in frustration, futility, failure.

Hymn: "My Faith Has Found a Resting-Place."

- 2.     Their Distant Affection                                   13b
- Note their courageous confession. See Heb 11:25-27.

- 3.     Their Decisive Admission                                 13c
- A very bold confession. Mt 7:23; 10:32; 1 Jn 1:9. Recall Gen 23:3, 17-20; 25:7-10. **Citizens of heaven are sojourners and exiles on earth.** 1 Pe 1:1

- 4.     Their Defiant Acceptance                                 14
- Defiance = make it clear, manifest. Intense yearning of the heart. Similar posture, since in Heb 13:14. Customary, consistent content of conversation.

The eschatological perspective presses into the currency of their lives with a directing, defining dominance.

Are we driven by such a perspective? If not why not? What are our obstacles?

- B.     **BY AFFIRMING THEIR TOTAL COMMITMENT**                   15, 16A
  - 1.     The Rejected Possibilities                               15
- Return to what? See Josh 24:2. Recall Gen 24:1-7. The proof, persistence, and "purification" of faith. The desire to return contradicts the nature, etc. faith.

It refuses all possibilities and pretensions to personal preferences that diminish, distract, deter, etc., our faith.

It rejects all temptations to return to our former conditions, to the way we were. No nostalgia.

Christian life = a cruciform life, Lk 9:23-26; 14:25-27. Concept, principle, meaning, etc., of a disciple of Christ is one who rejects all pretensions to, desires for, pursuits of personal glory and glamour; comforts and conveniences;

### **What in the world do we have to do with the world?**

#### 2. The Reaffirmed Priority

16a

A continuous, insistent desire, forged on the eschatological promise.

Cf. 1 Tim 3:1. The concentration, strength, and passion of their search.

The nature of this home is developed in Heb 12:22-24; 13:14.

An ardent focus and accepted fact. This world is not our home! Clear, compelling, candid conviction.

The direction of faith. The telos of biblical eschatology = living with God in heaven, in the city that he builds. From Gen to Rev. We're living in the tension between the already and the not yet.

#### C. BY ATTAINING THE TOPMOST COMMENDATION

16 B

The grand climax of it all! The crowning crescendo of it all!

##### 1. The Confirmation of Their Faith

Recall Rom 1:16. The divine confession and confirmation. Ex 3:6, 13, 15, 16; Heb 2:11.

##### 2. The Certainty of Their Future

Jn 14:1-6. In the end, Jesus is our destination! Jn 12:26; 1 Thess 4:17; Rev 21:22.