

YOUR FIRST DAY IN HEAVEN
Message 7

INTRO: Well, in quick review, what happens at the altar? We have considered two matters that I think will be taken care of at this altar. I have said that I would not be dogmatic that it takes place here, but I think it is most likely to take place here. We have seen that which needed to go outside the camp from this altar; things we had forgotten about or done without knowing they were wrong. Then we saw that all useless works were burned up. And now the believer is clean. What an incredible moment this will be.

But there is still one more matter to take care of because, hopefully there is something left after the fire is done. And the Lord will decide what rewards will be awarded from what is left after the fire is done with all our works. Again, I would not be dogmatic that it takes place at this time, but it will take place in heaven, and this is the most likely place. You see, when someone dies, we think it is all over. Everything from then on will be bliss. No more sorrow or crying. Everything else has been decided and we go home to a mansion, and we'll all be in the same station and that is how it will be forever. We are so dull. I hear there are a good number of people who have no interest in heaven because it will be so boring there. I know what dark voice has beguiled them.

Let me just mention that a lot of what I am telling you is not new to you. What may be new, is to have these things placed as to where they may happen, and to connect them with events that happen in heaven, or even to connect them with what may happen as soon as we enter heaven. When we think of heaven, we think of eternal bliss, not judgment and loss of rewards or getting rewards; a day of reckoning, a day of being held accountable for our lives.

So we go back to 1 Corinthians 3:14, which says: *If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.* You see, when all our works are put in the fire, one of two things will happen: either they will abide the fire, or they will be burnt up. And our question now is: What is to be done with that which remains after the fire?

Now for those who are Christians I want you to think of a moment in your own existence, that will most certainly take place some day. Here is that moment. Like the athlete in the Olympics, your name is called, and you step forward to stand before a judge who has eyes like fire. He sees clear through, and he sees your whole life. All He does not see is all things that have been confessed and taken care of. And now the moment of the revelation of your works has come. Every motive will be clear and you will not be there alone with the Lord. Everything will go on the altar. And here is the question for this message: What will be the outcome of this judgment for you?

Here we must see ourselves. All our works have been put in the fire. The fire is done, and the question is: What will be done with what is left, if there is anything left at all? You see, some will be saved, yet so as by fire; but others will be rewarded. There will be Christians there that will receive huge rewards. And these rewards will be visible. Some will shine like the stars of heaven. And they will be seen forever. And now you stand there, the fire is done. What happens with what is left?

D. What Will Be The Outcome Of This Judgment?

1. Crowns

a. The fact of crowns

Let us first consider the fact that some Christians are going to receive crowns. My wife and I were not here when Rob Lindstead preached on this subject. But he gave an illustration of a long, long rope, and one end had a little section of red, and this he likened to the time of our life, and the rest of the rope to eternity. Now no amount of illustrating can give us an accurate picture of how long eternity is, but they help. And here in this short life we determine what eternity will be like for each one of us.

We have considered 2 Timothy 4:8 already. Paul said, *Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but*

also to all who have loved His appearing. So there we have one of the crowns mentioned that will be given to certain Christians. We will see other Scriptures that speak of crowns, but here we have the fact of crowns given in Scripture.

Now consider this in reality. What moment will this be for those who receive a crown? It is without doubt that this will be a very rewarding moment for many. All the toils and trials of life will dim immediately.

When I wrote these words, Mike Pence was just being inaugurated as vice President of the United States of America, and Donald Trump, the president. They were reaping the rewards of a long campaign. That is a most incredible moment for any man. But it is not worthy to be compared with the moment we are considering now.

Let me quote Leonard Ravenhill once more. He said, "Five minutes inside of eternity, everyone of us will wish we had sacrificed more, prayed more, loved more, sweated more, grieved more, wept more..."

2. The kinds of crowns

So, the facts are some will receive crowns after the fire is done with their life works. Now let me mention something about the kinds of crowns mentioned in the NT. The crown we are talking about is a *stephanos* crown. You can tell that we get our name, *Stephen* from this word. A *stephanos* crown was the crown received at such events as the Olympics. It was the kind of crown you see that is made of leaves. When Christ was to be crucified, they made Him a crown of thorns. That was a *stephanos* crown, though it was a mock crown. The *stephanos* crown given at events on earth was a perishable crown because it was made of green twigs with leaves.

Listen to 1 Corinthians 9:25. Paul says, *And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in*

all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. The stephanos crown of the Olympics winner was perishable. In a few days it was all withered away. The day of glory was past. It was time to practice for another event. But the stephanos crown of the believer will be imperishable. We will never run this race again. How do I know that these too are stephanos crowns? The elders of Revelation 4 and 5 have crowns, and they are stephanos crowns.

Go to Revelation 19. You know this is the chapter where the Lord Jesus comes down from heaven with the Church to put down the antichrist and set up His kingdom on earth. You see, there is another kind of crown. It is the *diadem* crown. So look at Revelation 19:12. It says, *His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.* Now this crown is the diadem crown. It is the crown of kings. It is the crown of royalty.

Turn to Revelation 12. The diadem crown is mentioned only three times in the NT and only once is it mentioned in connection with Christ, which is Revelation 19:12. In Revelation 12:3 we have the diadem crown in the plural. It says, *And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.* We have this word again in 13:1 which says, *Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.* Satan is a usurper. He is a false king, a false angel, a false shepherd a false everything. He is a liar, and a father of lies and he does not care how he comes about having crowns.

Now, why do Christians receive stephanos crowns and not diadem crowns? Because diadem crowns are unbecoming to those who are not royalty, much less

are any diadem crowns becoming to Satan, but he must have his moment of self-made glory. Listen to Revelation 12:1. It says, Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. Now I have no doubt this woman is Israel, and Israel is the wife of God, and even she does not have a diadem crown, but a stephanos crown. Only the King of kings, and the Lord of lords is worthy of wearing a diadem crown.

Turn to 2 Timothy 2:5. You see, for the Christian to receive a stephanos crown, something must be true of him. We find this in 2 Timothy 2:5 which says, *And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.* You see, if we do spiritual works to be seen of men, we are not running according to the rules. Let me give you a bit of the context of that verse by reading 1-4 as well:

1 ¶ You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

5 And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.

May I ask you, have you considered the rewards Christians will receive some day? Have you considered that being strong in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, being faithful in your Christianity, and enduring hardship as a good

soldier will pay of some day? Did you know that Jesus commanded us to lay up treasures in heaven? It is not a suggestion, it is a command. Why? We will most surely know on that day when we stand before Him in judgment and reward.

3. The Christians crowns

- So let us consider what crowns some Christians will receive. The passage we looked at earlier, 1 Corinthians 9:25-27, speaks of the incorruptible crown. Now I do not know if this is a special kind of crown, or if it speaks of one of the others, but it says:

24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

Here is a crown that is received for running the Christian life by obedience to the Word of God, and being temperate in all things. A whole message could be given to that subject.

-Then there is the crown of rejoicing which we have seen earlier as well. It is given to soul-winners. Daniel 12:3 said, *Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.* Will this crown be that eternal reminder to others like the stars are to us?

I want you to consider your own rewards. Is there a possibility that you will receive this crown? What don't we do to lay up treasures on earth, but do we consider laying up things for after we go to be with the Lord?

-Then there is the crown of life. Turn to Revelation 2:10 while I read James 1:12-13. James

says, *Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to those that love him.* There is a crown for loving the Lord.

Revelation 2:10-11 says,

10 *Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. The original calls it the crown of the life.*

Look as well at 3:11. He says:

11 *Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.* The implication is clear that one may lose his crown. Along with this solemn warning listen to Revelation 3:5. It says, *He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.* Seven churches are addressed in chapters 2-3. Seven times promises are made to overcomers.

-Then there is the crown of righteousness, and we saw this earlier. Turn to 1 John 3. It is given to those who love the appearing of Christ. And the connection between righteousness and loving the Lord's appearing is that those who love the Lord's appearing, in reality, will also live righteously. It is hardly possible to live in sin and love His appearing.

1 John 3:1-3 says:

1 *Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.*

2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Now I have heard numerous complaints that I preach too much about the return of Christ. I believe if you went over all of my messages I ever preached, I do not preach nearly as much about it as the NT does. And when someone complains about too much preaching on the return of Christ, it puts a question over the quality of their Christianity. The true Christian should rejoice in the preaching of the imminent return of Christ, Amen?

I would not be surprised that there is a direct connection between the godliness of a person, and their hope in the soon return of Christ. Every man who has this hope in himself, says this Scripture, purifies himself as He is pure.

-The last crown mentioned is the crown of glory. Turn to 1 Peter 5. Let me read from verse 1 so you see to whom it is promised:

1 The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:

2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;

3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Turn to Revelation 4. Now we have been looking through that amazing window into heaven in chapter 6. But this look begins in chapters 4-5. In chapter 4 we have an interesting event with regard to the crowns believers receive. I believe, along with many others, that these 24 elders represent Church. Let us read the chapter:

1 ¶ After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.

3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.

4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.

5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle.

8 ¶ The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And

they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,

10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

Here we have believers with crowns. Here is what I see. This is not all these elders do in heaven. I propose to you that there will be many special events in heaven. And these elders will have a front row seat.

You see, verse 9 says, "Whenever..." Not forever. And at these times the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, the One who lives forever and ever. And when they do that, every emotion in these elders wells and they fall down before Him who sits on the throne and they worship Him.

Let me give you det Plautdietschet word for worship. Anybody know what it is? It is aunbäden. It is like praying towards Him. And so imagine 24 elders, maybe taking turns to worship Almighty God, expressing words that describe Him. And then they feel so unworthy to wear crowns before Him, knowing all of it is only due to Him who sits on the throne that they cast their crowns before Him. And they say, "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." We are

nothing. You are everything. All we have we owe to You!

Now, you see this moment passes. And maybe the Lord says, "I gave those crowns to you for the glory due to you. Put them back on before you go." And the next time there is another special event, this happens again. Nobody ever tires of the incredible sensations that go through them at these events.

I expect that for all eternity, these creatures reveal more and more of God Almighty, and over and over, tremendous worship wells up in those who are there. No, heaven will not be boring. And every reward won while we are here on earth is imperishable. The recognition of it will endure for all of eternity.

2. Positions

Now there is something else that we, as Christians should understand. Turn to Matthew 19. The timing of the rapture does not change this truth that we are about to look at. And that truth is this, that Christians from the Church age will reign over the entire world with Christ during the millennium.

Let us look now at Matthew 19:17-30:

17 So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

18 He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,'

19 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

20 The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?"

21 Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

23 ¶ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.

24 "And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

25 When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

26 But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

27 Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?"

Now there is a connection between the passage on the rich young ruler and Peter's question.

We are just observing a change of President in the United States. And we have observed, as much effort is exerted to find suitable people for some of the very important positions that need to be filled by capable people. The placement of these people is very important as to how things will run with the next president.

I am not sure when positions are given but they will be, I do not doubt, dependent on what we have done on earth and this will be revealed at the judgment seat of Christ. Peter said to Jesus, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" Lord, is there any benefit to us for leaving everything and following You? So look at Jesus' answer:

28 *So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.*

Now this regeneration is the same word as what we talk about as the new birth. Something is going to happen to this earth in the millennium, and that is the time in view in the regeneration. But look at this now. The twelve apostles are going to have the most prominent positions in the millennium in Israel. Each of them will be judge over one of the twelve tribes of Israel. You see, the positions being placed now in the new US government might last for 4 years. If all goes well for them, they could last 8 years, but that will be it. The apostle's positions will last for 1,000 years! And I have no doubt they will last into eternity, because Christ's reign lasts forever.

You may say, "But that is the apostles, what about us?" Now look at verse 29:

29 *"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.*

I ask you, of whom is this speaking? Every Christian who has left houses, or has left brothers or sisters or mother or wife or children or lands. And what will they have? They will reap 100 fold, over and above eternal life!

Turn to Revelation 20. We'll read verses 1-6:

1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Now I do not know when these positions will be chosen, but I have no question that they will have to do with the outcome at the judgment seat of Christ. And we see in this passage some of what will determine these positions.

We just said that those chosen to fill the various positions in the US government will be very important. But consider the ground on which these positions on earth are filled. The leader seeks those who by their life up to that point have qualified themselves for those positions. Many chosen for positions probably had no idea that some day they would be asked to fill that position. They qualified themselves by how they lived their lives up to that point. That is the principle that will hold true with regard to those who are chosen to fill certain positions in the millennial kingdom.

Turn to Matthew chapter 20. It is close to Passover time and the roads to Jerusalem are filled with travelers as probably over a million visitors will come to Jerusalem for this feast. And Jesus and His disciples are also on the way there, and at this Passover Jesus will die. And there was a strong hope among those who were traveling with Jesus that He would now set up His kingdom. So look at verse 18:

18 *"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death,*

19 *"and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again."*

20 ¶ *Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.*

21 *And He said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to Him, "Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom."*

This mother wants positions for her sons in the millennial kingdom. She does not know what Jesus knows, and that is that the kingdom will be postponed because of the Jews failure to receive Him. So look at Jesus' answer to her:

22 *But Jesus answered and said, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able."*

23 *So He said to them, "You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father."*

Jesus' question, "Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" makes me think that these head places are reserved for martyrs. I expect that at least some of them will receive the highest honor of all. When Stephen was stoned, the Lord Jesus arose in heaven to stand on His feet.

Let me reread the illustration of the Hotel clerk I gave in another message. *There was a night clerk in a third class hotel in Philadelphia. One night a couple came in. Not knowing there was a big convention in that town they drove all over town and couldn't find a room. Well, they told the clerk their situation and said they were very tired and almost begged for a room as it was already very late. The clerk said he did not have a room, but since he was working night shift, if they wished, they could stay in his room, which they did.*

In the morning they were sitting at a table and he said he hoped they had a good night, and they said they had. Then the man said, "You are too fine a hotel man to stay in a hotel like this. How would you like for me to build a big, beautiful luxurious hotel in the city of New York and make you the general manager?" The clerk hardly knew what to say, not sure if everything was up to par. He finally said, "It sounds wonderful." So the Waldorf Astoria Hotel was built in New York, and the night clerk became the best known hotel man in the world.

Let me say this, and I have no doubt of its certainty; what we do here in this lifetime will affect all of eternity. And I expect that it will be revealed at the judgment seat of Christ.

3. An inheritance

Well, turn to 1 Peter 1 while I read Ephesians 1:11. We want to consider another thing that will become ours when we get to heaven. I am not sure where or when this will take place but it may be related to

this judgment as well. We have an inheritance in heaven. This verse says, "In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will..."

Listen to 1 Peter 1:3-5, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Note that this inheritance is incorruptible. What does that mean? That means it will last forever! Then it is undefiled! Then it is undefiled! Is it any wonder then that we need to be clean to inherit this? Third, it does not fade away. Time has no deteriorating effect on it. Then note, it is reserved in heaven for you. Again, this is given in heaven.

Now isn't this good news? You see, on earth, when you die you might leave an inheritance behind for others. But when the Christian dies, he does not leave one behind, he gets an inheritance!

Although this is not part of our subject, did you know that when we go to heaven, not only do we receive an inheritance but God receives an inheritance in us? Look now at Ephesians 1:15-18:

15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints..."

Let me explain by quoting from the series I did on Ephesians:

The second thing Paul wished for the Ephesian believers to know is what are the riches of the glory of God's inheritance in the saints. In 1:14 we have already seen that at death we receive an inheritance. We considered the difference of this inheritance with that of an earthly inheritance. In the earthly inheritance we leave an inheritance at death. In the heavenly inheritance we receive an inheritance at death.

Now here is indeed an interesting passage. So marvelous and so beyond human comprehension are the words before us that most commentators refuse to believe them and so a second view is presented by many because that which the text so plainly says is simply incomprehensible. For, you see, this text speaks of the riches of the glory of God's inheritance in the saints. D. Martin Lloyd Jones says that both views are possible and there is no proof of which is right but he takes the second view because; and here are his words, "...I am not happy with the idea of God having an inheritance. Everything belongs to God; the whole universe is God's."

Now I have to say, "Who am I to argue with such a great man of God." And yet, it seems to me that his very explanation as to why God cannot have an inheritance is wrong. He argues that everything belongs to God. I ask you, who does the person belong to that does not know Jesus Christ as personal Savior? Consider John 8:44 where Jesus said to the unbelieving

Jews, "You are of your father the devil." Surely those people do not belong to God. 1 John 5:19 says, "...the whole world lies in the wicked one..." (not wickedness as KJV). When Satan tempted Jesus he said he would give to Jesus all the kingdoms of the world (governing authorities etc...) if Jesus would fall down and worship him. Jesus did not say, "Listen Devil, that is mine already." And so we see that not all things belong to God. Oh, in order to understand the riches of the glory of God's inheritance in the saints, we need the Spirit of wisdom and revelation; we need to have the eyes of our understanding enlightened for what Paul is speaking of here is only for such people.

I have no doubt that in this text Paul is speaking, not of our inheritance in Christ, but of God's inheritance in the Saints (See Deut. 4:20; 9:29; 32:9-10).

And so in verse 18 we find that God has an inheritance in the saints. And this verse speaks of the riches of the glory of God's inheritance in the saints." End quote.

CONCL: And in conclusion, we have seen some of what may be our first experiences in heaven. And I have reminded you of the illustration of the long rope with the little piece of red on the end, which represents our life here. And I ask you, as you live, what are you living for? Do you spend as much of your life into the things of the Lord as possible?

This past week several of us were in at the lawyer's office as we signed this property into the Church's name. I can hardly express my gratitude for those of you who do so much for this congregation. May I remind you, that all you have done, is not yet done? It is not history? It is coming up again, and without doubt there will be rewards for some of this involvement.

It is good to be reminded that our life is coming up for review some day. Here is a little saying I have remembered many times: Only one life, t'will soon be past; Only what's done for Christ will last.

