

# Good News of Great Joy

1 Peter 1:3-9

Part 6

## Heaven: The Cure for What Ails Us

Hebrews 11:1, 6, 8-10, 13-16

Introduction:

What does the Confident, Joyful Expectation of Heaven do?

Hebrews 11:1, 6, 8-10, 13-16

1. It Explains the Essence of Saving **Faith**.
2. It Pleases **God**.
3. It Produces Eager, Grace-filled **Obedience**.

[Also the assumption of Colossians 3:1-4, 1 John 3:1-3, 2 Peter 3:11-14, and many others]

How does a Confident, Joyful Pre-occupation with Heaven  
Uproot Sin & Motivate Faithfulness in our Lives?

1. It is the Antidote to the **Secular** Thinking of Every Age.

*“seculae”* - John Lennon “Imagine”

2. It Establishes an Eternal Measure of True **Value**.

Hebrews 11:24-26

3. It Cures the Senseless Envy of the **Prosperity** of the Ungodly.

Psalm 73:1-3, 16-26

4. It Exposes the Lie & Silliness of **Materialism**.

Solomon's Experiment

Matthew 6:19-21

5. It Diminishes the Attraction of Earthly **Praise** & **Glory**.

6. It Transforms **Discipline** & **Duty** into **Desire** & **Delight**.

7. It Infuses Present, Everyday Life with **Freedom** & Eternal **Significance**.

## How does a Confident, Joyful Knowledge of Heaven's Reality Grow an Unshakeable Security & Endurance in the Midst of Difficult Lives?

It Reveals that the Gospel:

1. Guarantees the Good Outcome of Grace-filled, Faithful **Labor**.

1 Corinthians 15:58

2. Shouts the Priceless Benefit of Fire-tested **Assurance** of Saving Faith.

1 Peter 1:5-9 - The Next Two Weeks

### Hebrews 11: 1, 6, 8-10, 13-16

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

### John Lennon

Imagine there's no Heaven  
It's easy if you try.  
No Hell below us  
Above us only sky.  
Imagine all the people  
Living for today.

You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one.  
I hope someday you'll join us and the world we be as one.