

I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. Philippians 1:23 (ESV)

Studying heaven whets our appetite for life's greatest joy.

Our relationships are in heaven.

But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me." 2 Samuel 12:23 (ESV)

For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 1 Thessalonians 4:14 (ESV)

Our inheritance is in heaven.

to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 1 Peter 1:4 (ESV)

Every spiritual blessing is ours in heaven.

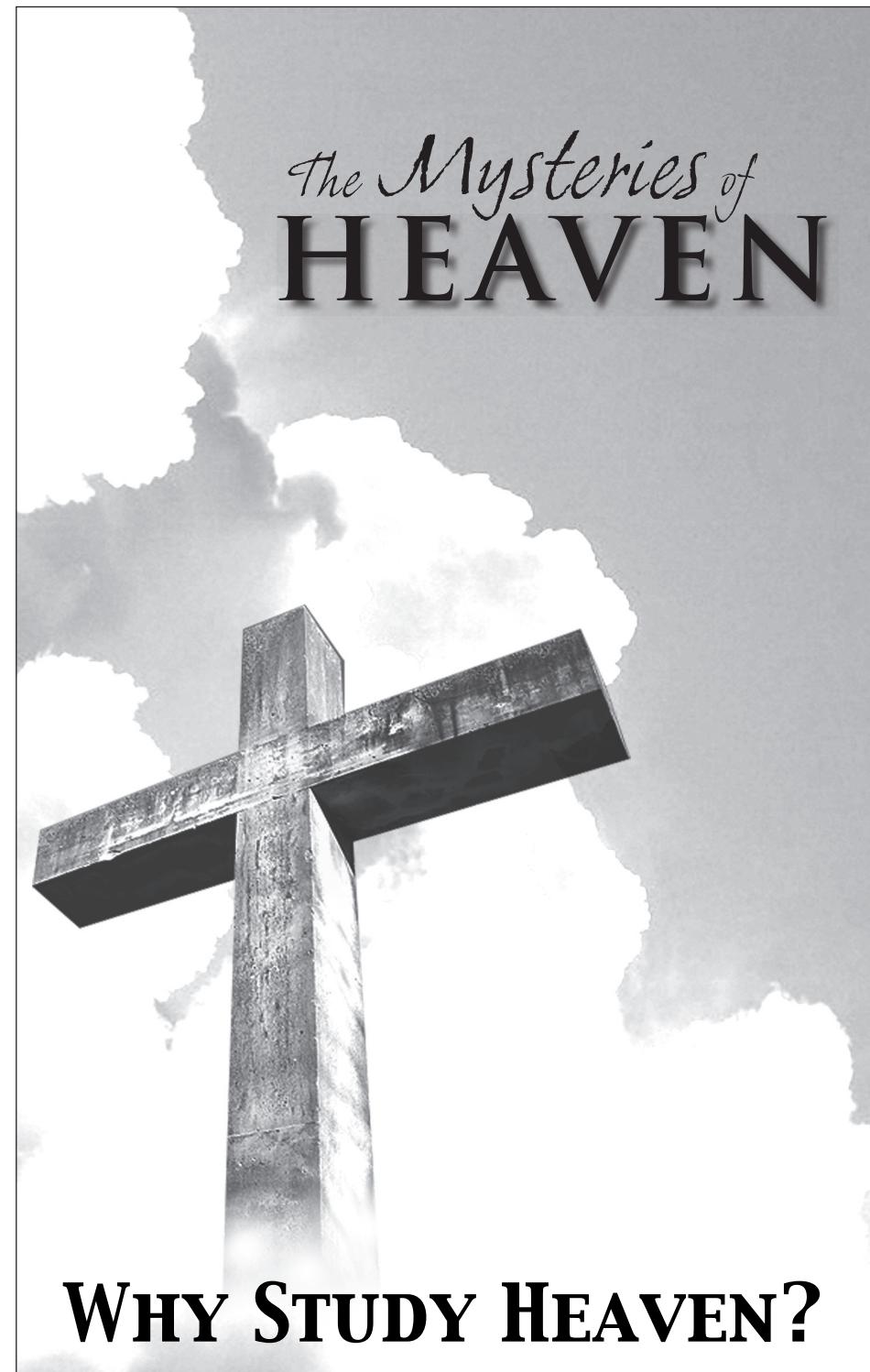
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places... Ephesians 1:3

and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:6-7 (ESV)

Want To Learn More? This handout, small group questions, sermon manuscript and the audio files of the sermon are available at:

www.faithefree.com or www.christ2rculture.com

Next Week: Graduation Sunday
Two Weeks: Luke 16:19-31 - The Present Heaven - Where are they now?



Faith Evangelical Free Church

May 16, 2010

Why Study Heaven?

Life is brief, eternity is long; live for what is most important.

How frail is humanity! How short is life.... Job 14:1 (NLT)

You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Each man's life is but a breath. Psalm 39:5 (NIV)

For my days vanish like smoke; Psalm 102:3 (NIV)

Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone. James 4:14 (NLT)

So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Psalm 39:4 (ESV)

Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered—how fleeting my life is Psalm 39:4 (NLT)



Jonathan Edwards's Resolutions on life's brevity.

- Resolved, to endeavor to obtain for myself as much happiness, in the other world, as I possibly can.
- Resolved, that I will live so as I shall wish I had done when I come to die.
- Resolved, to endeavor to my utmost to act as I can think I should do, if I had already seen the happiness of heaven, and hell's torments.

Studying heaven relieves life's greatest fear.

he (God) has set eternity into man's heart. Ecclesiastes 3:11 (ESV)

My heart is in anguish within me; the terrors of death have fallen upon me. Psalm 55:4 (ESV)

(describing death)...the king of terrors Job 18:14 (ESV)

and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. Hebrews 2:15 (ESV)

"Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" 1 Corinthians 15:55 (ESV)

What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 (ESV)

"Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Revelation 1:18 (ESV)

Death is a coming home.

Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord. 2 Corinthians 6:8 (NLT)

In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? John 14:2 (ESV)

Death is a departure.