

THE RIPLEY BEACON

FROM

THE RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 19, 2017



“Where the Gospel is Preached and People are Loved!”

How Beautiful Heaven Must Be

Part 1

Of all the gifts God has bestowed upon His children, the gift of an eternal home with Him and our Savior surely tops the list. We sing a song sometimes which says, “How beautiful Heaven must be. Sweet home of the happy and free. Fair haven of rest for the weary. How beautiful Heaven must be.” As we think about the wonderful place, there is usually one question that comes to mind. What will Heaven be like?

Such a question has been the topic of many books, songs, and sermons. Such treatments always leave us wanting more information. For many of us, the Bible is not as descriptive as we might like when it comes to describing that faithful home for the child of God. How do you explain an eternal, infinite, God-built place with human words? But God does supply us with enough information to give us a picture of place in which we should desire to reside.

No matter what is going on in this life, no matter the number of activities in which we are engage, Christians need to keep their eyes focused on that ultimate goal – an eternity with God and Christ in Heaven. So let’s notice five characteristics of Heaven that will hopefully help to motivate us to live faithfully so that we can reach that blessed home. We will begin to notice one of the five this morning.

First, Heaven is a *real* place. This is a very logical place to start because there are many in the world today that claim Heaven is not a real place. They claim there is nothing beyond this life. They state that man has no eternal nature about him, no part that will endure after death. The humanist and atheist herald this type of nonsense to anyone gullible enough to listen. Of course, the psalmist said long ago, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, They have done abominable works, There is none who does good” (Psalms 14:1). I am making the assumption that we all believe God’s Word, and if we believe God’s Word, then we will believe what it says concerning Heaven.

Next week we will notice some of the Biblical statements concerning the realness of Heaven, and we will notice another one of these characteristics.

~Justin

Elders:

Larry Carden
Steve Carmack
Joe Hunt
David Snell

Deacons:

Pat Carmack
Tommy Climer
Gwinn Matthews
Kenneth Roark

Minister:

Justin Paschall
731-612-1196

Service Times:

Sun. Bible Study-10 AM
Sun. Worship-11 AM
Sun. Night-5 PM
Wed. Night-7 PM

Contact Information:

Address:

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Ripley, TN 38063

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“Come Worship with Us!”

The Ripley church of Christ

P.O. Box 464

1499 Highway 51 North

Ripley, TN 38063

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

- Hear the Word of God – Rom. 10:17
- Believe that Jesus is the Son of God – Heb. 11:6; John 8:24
- Repent of your sins – Acts 17:30
- Confess Christ before men – Rom. 10:10; Matt. 10:32-33
- Be baptized for the remission of your sins – Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Remain Faithful – Rev. 2:10

By The Numbers for March 12th

Attendance:

Sun. Bible Study – 68
Sun. AM Worship – 82
Sun. PM Worship – 66
Wed. Night (3/15) – 68

To Our Visitors:

We are so glad and honored that you chose to be with us today. If you have any questions please feel free to ask the elders or one of the members. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know. Thanks for being with us, and we hope to see you again real soon!

Listen to WTRB 1570 AM and

104.9 FM Radio

Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday

8:15 AM

Check us out on the web:

www.ripleychurchofchrist.org

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AM Bible Study:

Song Leader – Kenneth Roark
Audio/Visual – Jimmy Hartman
Devotional – Rusty Kennedy

AM Service:

Usher – Barry Bates/Darrell Smothers
Announcements – Larry Carden
Song Leader – David Snell
Audio/Visual – Jimmy Hartman
Opening Prayer – Robert Taylor
Lord’s Supper – (S) Rusty Kennedy
(S) John Dennison
(N) Joe Hunt
(N) Fisher Carmack
(N) Will Carmack

Closing Prayer – Joe Hunt
Security – Joel Sutton

PM Service:

Announcements – Larry Carden
Song Leader – David Snell
Audio/Visual – Jimmy Hartman
Opening Prayer – Steve Carmack
Lord’s Supper – Rusty Kennedy
Closing Prayer – Kenneth Roark
Security – Tommy Climer

Wednesday Night:

Song Leader – Kenneth Roark
Audio/Visual – Jimmy Hartman
Opening Prayer – Robert Anderson
& Devotional
Closing Prayer – David Bridges
Security – Tommy Climer

Door Greeters for March

South – Joe Hunt
Center – Steve Carmack
North – Robert Taylor

Communion for March

David and Jane Snell

March Birthdays

- Zoe Carmack – 1
- Conner Sanders – 5
- Mary Halliburton – 5
- Lauren Halliburton – 8
- Ann Carmack – 9
- Everett Presson – 9
- Betty Brogdon – 10
- June Roark – 13
- Linda Bibbs – 14
- Dorothy Bridges – 15
- Betty Sutton – 15
- Marion Morris– 16
- Patrice Perry – 19
- Randy Roark– 30



Mark Your Calendars!

- **April 1st** – Ladies’ Day at the Ripley church of Christ
- **April 30th** – Friends and Family Day at the Ripley church of Christ
- **June 4th-9th** – Reelfoot Youth Camp for ages 9-18.
- **June 19th-21st** – Vacation Bible School at the Ripley church of Christ
- **June 26th** – Summer Youth Series at the Ripley church of Christ at 7 pm.
- **July 16-19th** – Gospel Meeting at the Ripley church of Christ.

What Are My Children Studying?

- **Mar. 19th** – Lesson 31 – Jesus Meets a Samaritan Woman and Heals the Nobleman’s Son – John 4
- **Mar. 22nd** – Lesson 32 – Jesus is Rejected in His Hometown; Miraculous Catch of Fish – Luke 4:16-30, 5:1-11
- **Mar. 26th** – Lesson 33 – Jesus Heals and Prays – Mark 1:21-45

Those in Need of Our Prayers and Encouragement:

Our Regulars/Friends/Relatives:

- At any given time there are members going through different difficulties that they would rather keep private. Please say a prayer for them; God knows who they are.
- Amanda Clark had surgery on Thursday (3/16). Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.
- Lillie Dennison suffered a fall. She is doing better. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Philip Rhodes is having some health related problems. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Mike White is home from the hospital. Please keep him in your prayers as he heals and looks at possible upcoming surgery.
- Bobby Mullins (Micah’s father) will have a heart cath on the 20th. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Demetra Carmack had surgery (3/2) and everything went as planned. She will have radiation for 6 weeks. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.
- Flossie Blevins (Matt Blevins’ grandmother) passed away. Her funeral was held on Friday (2/24). Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Alan Sheckell (Synthia Gibson’s nephew) received a great report from the doctors. He is cancer free. Make sure to thank God for the wonderful news.
- David Murray (friend of the Hartman’s) suffered a collapsed lung along with pneumonia and is currently in the ICU at Dyersburg. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Julia Alley is having some problems with her arm. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Guylene Cultrer (kin of Julia Alley) has been diagnosed with leukemia. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Valencia Crook (kin of Julia Alley) has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She had surgery on Wednesday (2/22). Please keep her in your prayers.
- Marilyn Riley (former member in Gates) has been diagnosed with cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Larry Carden has finished his radiation treatments and will have tests in the coming weeks. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Johnnie Matthews: Please continue to keep her and Gwinn in your prayers.
- Robert Taylor, WL Sandlin, Betty Brogdon, Gwinn Matthews, Eunice Dobbs, Marion Morris, Ronnie Tillman, Georgia Campbell, Tim Carmack, Lille Dennison, Ted Sutton, Joyce Blakemore, Seth May, Paula Tillman, Brenda Belton, Drexel Reed, Dot Mullins, Etta Hunt, Brenda Sutton, Don Sutton, Betty Binkley, and Everett & Mary Presson: Please keep these individuals in your prayers.

“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16)